Environmental criteria for sustainable public procurement of

Electricity

Version 8 April 2015

1. Scope/definition

The Electricity product group comprises electricity as distributed and consumed in the Netherlands via the electricity network. This electricity is generated utilising fossil, nuclear or renewable energy sources in the Netherlands or from abroad.

The following products (with their corresponding CPV codes) are part of the Electricity product group.

Products	CPV code
Electricity	09310000-5

2. Most significant environmental effects

The following tables list the sustainability themes and describe the approach to each theme for the Electricity product group. The "Approach" column presents a statement indicating the influence of sustainable purchasing and its criteria on the "sustainability" of the theme. This column also includes a reference to any requirements, award criteria or points of attention/suggestions that may be useful in implementing the approach. The product group can also have an impact on other environmental themes, but these are (at least at present) less relevant or of a much less significant level of concern, or do not as yet have a suitable set of standard criteria.

Themes:	Approach:	No. of requirement/ Criteria
Energy and climate CO_2 emissions resulting from electricity production	• Application of Trias Energetica	AS1
	• Restriction of electricity use	AS2
	• Own generation of sustainable energy	AS3
	• Purchase of 100% sustainable electricity	ME1, ME2, CB1
Supplies and Raw materials Use of fossil fuels for electricity production	• Application of Trias Energetica	AS1
	• Restriction of electricity use	AS2
	• Own generation of sustainable energy	AS3
	• Purchase of sustainable electricity	ME1, ME2, CB1

3. Points of attention/suggestions

Devoting attention to the opportunities and possibilities for the most sustainable procurement possible in the preparation phase will lead to specifications that are more ambitious or of different types than the standard minimum requirements and award criteria set out in this document. The following table presents points for attention and suggestions for promoting sustainability in procurement within this product group.

No.	Points of attention/suggestions (AS)
AS1	**Application of Trias Energetica** Trias Energetica is a concept with which the sequence of three steps towards energy supply that is the most sustainable possible is indicated: 1) Limit the use of energy by applying demand-reduction and energy-saving measures. 2) Use renewable energy sources as much as possible to generate the energy that is still required. 3) Deploy efficient technologies to generate the remaining energy consumption.
AS2	**Energy conservation** In addition to the procurement aspect of electricity, consider whether electricity consumption can be reduced by restricting use and implementing energy-saving measures in accordance with the "Trias Energetica". Energy savings can replace all or part of the procurement of electricity. Energy savings can be achieved by restructuring the process (for example, using different types of equipment) and by using more energy-efficient equipment. The highest gain can be achieved by focusing on the power consumed by a new piece of equipment or system during its entire lifespan when purchasing new electric equipment (such as electrical motors, office equipment, lighting, etc.). Any higher cost of acquiring energy efficient equipment/systems will be offset by reduced power consumption, and the time required to recover the additional cost of the equipment generally takes only a few years. Aside from this, the power consumed by existing equipment also constitutes an area for attention, particularly the unnecessary power consumed in the equipment's standby mode.
AS3	**Own energy generation** Generate energy independently. The in-house generation of renewable electricity is a possibility for wholly or partially meeting in-house electricity needs. The positive image projected by an in-house renewable electricity generation facility can be an important advantage.

4. Selection criteria

Not defined for this product group.

5. Technical specifications

No.	Technical specifications (ME)
ME1	**Sourcing 100% of electricity needs from renewable energy sources (HE-E)** 100% of the electricity supplied must be generated from renewable energy sources as described in Regulation 2009/28/EC. *Explanation* Sustainable electricity is electricity fully generated from renewable energy sources. Renewable energy sources are: wind, solar, geothermal, wave energy, tide energy, hydropower, biomass, landfill gas, sewage treatment gas and biogas (defined in article 1, paragraph 1(t), Electricity Act). The law establishes that the supplier must redeem the guarantee of origin to substantiate the sale of sustainable electricity. Where this document refers to sustainable electricity, this means "electricity for which guarantees of origin have been redeemed". Supply and consumption of sustainable electricity consists of a combination of physical delivery and

	consumption of electricity and the redemption of the guarantee of origin. There are two ways to procure sustainable electricity: 1) Source it from a supplier of electricity generated from renewable sources. In these cases, the customer purchases the sustainable electricity; the supplier handles the delivery of the electricity and redeems the guarantees of origin. 2) Another option is to purchase the guarantee of origin as customer separately from the electricity. In this case, the customer must open a guarantee of origin account (or have this done by a third party on its behalf) and purchase guarantees of origin for its own electricity, and have them credited to the guarantee of origin account. There is no framework in the law to regulate this method of procurement, so an independent audit may be necessary. One reason for opting for the separate procurement of electricity and guarantees of origin may be if the customer purchases large volumes and/or wishes to enter into a supply contract for electricity with the longest possible term. Electricity suppliers tend not to be willing to provide specific pricing, particularly for large volumes, for guarantees of origin throughout the entire period. A customer that handles the purchasing and crediting of guarantees of origin itself can have greater flexibility in its choices. *Verification* The tenderer may be asked to submit relevant documentation as dictated by the arrangements on the guarantee of origin.

6. Award criteria

Not defined for this product group.

7. Contract provisions

No.	Contract provisions (CB)
CB1	**Origin of the electricity** At the end of every contract year, the contractor must disclose the origin of the electricity supplied in order to demonstrate that 100% of the electricity originated from renewable energy sources. *Verification* The contractor may be asked to submit relevant documentation as dictated by the arrangements on the guarantee of origin. Other equivalent documentation may be accepted as an alternative. This requirement does not apply to certified suppliers of 100% green electricity (i.e. with an eco-label of ISO-type 1 which sets HE-E requirements at least has strict as Regulation 2009/28/EC). *Source EU GPP*