



**Environmental criteria for sustainable public
procurement of**

Gas

Version 26 January 2016

1. Scope/definition

The Gas product group comprises all gas that is obtained from the public gas grid and through conveyance over the road by an end user. The gas is extracted from gas production fields nationally and abroad and/or from biomass.

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

Products	CPV code
Gaseous fuels	0912000-6

2. Most significant environmental impacts

The following tables list the sustainability themes and describe the approach to each theme for the 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, for now at least, these are less relevant, 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/ Criterion
Energy and climate CO ₂ emissions from consumption of natural gas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compensation of greenhouse gases from fossil gas 	ME1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of renewable gas 	GC1, CB1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of Trias Energetica 	AS1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restriction of gas use 	AS2, AS3, AS4
Supplies and Raw materials Use of fossil fuels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of renewable gas 	GC1, CB1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of Trias Energetica 	AS1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restriction of gas use 	AS2, AS3, AS4

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 which differ from 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	<p>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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<p>Energy conservation Explore whether gas consumption can be reduced by limiting demand and implementing energy-saving measures. Energy savings can replace all or part of the procurement of gas. Saving issues are often viewed as a different project within a contracting agency. Additionally, possible cost-cutting measures that can be implemented are often building-related. These measures are further described in the criteria for the "office buildings" (management and maintenance, new build, renovation, etc.) product group.</p>
AS3	<p>Acquire energy-efficient equipment On all equipment acquisitions, particularly when buying new equipment, consider energy-efficient variants. Energy-efficient equipment is often somewhat more expensive to buy than less energy-efficient equipment, but this is compensated by lower gas consumption and, consequently, a lower gas bill.</p>
AS4	<p>Draft an energy conservation plan Consider drafting an energy compensation plan. If an institute's gas consumption exceeds 75,000 m³, it may be a legal requirement (via the Environmental Management Act permit) to have an energy conservation plan.</p>

4. Selection criteria

Not defined for this product group.

5. Technical specifications

No.	Technical specifications (ME)
ME1	<p>Compensation of greenhouse gases from fossil gas <i>If the contracting authority itself has concluded a CO₂ compensation contract for this activity/service, this minimum requirement lapses.</i></p> <p>The greenhouse gases that are released by the gas consumption of the contracting authority will be compensated by 100%.</p> <p>Climate compensation is deemed to mean the following: compensating for greenhouse gas emissions (translated into CO₂ equivalents) by offsetting CO₂ emission with the planting of trees or preventing CO₂ emission by investing in sustainable energy and/or energy saving. No further requirements are set for how compensation takes place.</p> <p>Based on the monitoring protocol of the Dutch emission authority, CO₂ emissions from combustion of natural gas are calculated as follows: $E_{CO_2} = B_{\text{natural gas}} * 31.65 * 10^{-6} * 56.1 * 0.995.$ Emissions from natural gas are 1.767 tonnes of CO₂ per 1000Nm³ natural gas.</p>

	<p><i>Explanation</i></p> <p>If considering procurement of renewable gas for some or all of the contract, this criterion for the renewable gas section does not apply. The emissions from renewable gas are set at 0 tons of CO₂ per Nm³. Award criteria no. 1 can be used for the purchase of the proportion of renewable gas.</p> <p><i>Issue for attention:</i></p> <p>Potential double-counting of CO₂ rights is a point of attention. The risk of this happening can be reduced by following an existing standard. The recommendation is to ask for CO₂ credits for which the CO₂ reduction has been achieved in accordance with the guidelines of the <u>CDM methodology</u>.</p> <p>The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) sets requirements on the establishment of the baseline situation and the monitoring of a CDM mitigation project with the object of determining the amount of Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) generated by the project. This methodology is also applied to Verified Emission Reductions (VERs) and Emission Reduction Units (ERUs).</p> <p>The Gold Standard Certificate, for example, meets these requirements.</p> <p><i>Verification</i></p> <p>The tenderer may be asked to submit the contract with a supplier of CO₂ emissions rights to demonstrate that the gas consumption of the contracting authority will be fully (100%) compensated by the tenderer. If the tenderer is awarded the contract and does not yet have such a contract for the compensation of greenhouse gases, it must have signed one no later than [x] months after the start date of the contract awarded.</p>
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6. Award criteria

No.	Award criteria (GC)
GC1	<p>Assign virtual discount for renewable gas</p> <p>Assign a virtual discount on the offered price in proportion to the percentage of renewable gas. The higher the share of the delivered gas that has a gas certificate, the higher this component of the tender will be rated.</p> <p>The contracting authority values the supply of renewable gas with a bonus of €[x]/Nm³.</p> <p>A "gas certificate" is deemed to mean the following: a statement from a certifying body that the gas producer has added a specific quantity of renewable gas to the grid with the producer's system and/or has delivered this renewable gas to the purchaser of the gas with other means of transport.</p> <p>This means that the tenderer delivering (in this tender: [volume_renewable] Nm³) of renewable gas in accordance with the requirements below, will be given a virtual discount of [volume_renewable] times €[x]/Nm³. This virtual discount is used for assessing tenders.</p> <p>To limit the risk of exceeding the budget, the contracting authority must consider setting a maximum to the virtual discount to be allocated.</p> <p>The gas certificate meets the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is issued by a gas-certifying body 2. The renewable gas producer has submitted the application 3. At least the following will be stated on the gas certificate: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The source where the gas has been produced b. A unique gas certificate identification number <p>The gas-certifying body meets the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The gas-certifying body is independent from gas production, trading and supply activities 5. The gas producer will give the gas-certifying body the guarantee that a gas certificate has been applied for once for the produced gas

	<p>6. The gas-certifying body guarantees that a gas certificate will be issued once for the produced gas</p> <p>7. The gas-certifying body ensures that the gas certificate will be issued, transferred and redeemed</p> <p>The gas-certifying body may be located either in the Netherlands or abroad. The gas-certifying body will only accept gas certificates from issuing authorities if they meet the above 7 requirements.</p> <p><i>Explanation</i> Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplier A offers a total gas price of €0.40/Nm³ without renewable gas • Supplier B offers a total gas price of €0.406/Nm³ including the supply of 10% renewable gas <p>The contracting authority assigns a virtual discount to the supply of renewable gas of €0.07/Nm³. The virtual discount must be based on the market price related to climate compensated gas and the renewable gas ambitions in relation to the available contracting authority's budget.</p> <p>On a contract volume of 10 million Nm³, the assessment will be the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplier A: (10 million Nm³ x €0.40) - 0 = € 4,000,000 • Supplier B: (10 million Nm³ x €0.406) - (1 million x €0.07) = €3,990,000 <p>The contract will be awarded to Supplier B.</p> <p><i>Verification</i> Vertogas and Vertogas gas certificates will be assumed to meet the above requirements set for gas-certifying bodies and gas certificates.</p>
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7. Contract provisions

No.	Contract provisions (CB)
CB1	<p>Renewable gas On an annual basis, the contractor will submit an overview of the gas certificates redeemed when the annual settlement is submitted to the commissioning authority that will specify the gas certificates recorded for that period.</p> <p><i>Explanation</i> An overview of redeemed gas certificates cannot yet be issued when a contract has not been awarded or an agreement has not been concluded since gas certificates are only redeemed when the gas is actually supplied. Consequently, proof must be submitted after the supply of gas based on both a statement and the above contract condition.</p>