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Reference: Chapters C.3.3, E.8.12, E.10.7 and E.10.8 of the Domain Protocol for Finland gas and hydrogen

The instructions contain two concepts:

- A. Ex-Domain cancellation for consumption in Finland
- B. Ex-Domain cancellation for consumption outside of Finland

A. Ex-Domain cancellation for consumption in Finland

Where the transfer of guarantees of origin (GOs) is not possible between information systems (via Association of Issuing Bodies' Hub), Ex-Domain cancellation can be agreed in a situation where the GO is cancelled *from an EU/EEA territory for consumption in Finland*. GOs issued in compliance with Directive (EU) 2018/2001 in EU/EEA countries and accepted by the registrar in the national register can be used to fulfil the obligation of origin verification in Finland according to the Finnish act on GOs.

Gasgrid Finland manages Ex-Domain cancelled GOs in a separate information system, distinct from the G-REX GO register. Ex-Domain cancelled GOs are subject to the same requirements as GOs issued and cancelled in Finland, including those related to validity. The use of Ex-Domain cancelled GOs must be reported to Gasgrid Finland within 12 months from the last day of the biogas production month.

Parties to an Ex-Domain cancellation are

- the account holder in the register in the country of origin
- the Issuing Body in the country of origin
- the account holder in the register in the receiving country, i.e. the account holder in Finland's register and
- the registrar of the receiving country's register, i.e. Finland's register (Gasgrid Finland Oy).

The management of Ex-Domain cancellation data in the Gasgrid register and the submission of end-use notifications are restricted to persons registered in Gasgrid's G-REX system as AH Root-level users of their organisation. Alternatively, the person must present a valid authorisation from their company, granting them the right to act as an authorised contact person for these procedures.

The party for which the Ex-Domain cancellation is made must be an account holder in Finland's register of GOs. To agree the details of the cancellation, the account holder must contact Gasgrid Finland in good time ahead of making the cancellations. Gasgrid Finland verifies the acceptability of the GOs issued with the Issuing Body in the country of origin. The matter is processed, and verifications are made without delay but since it is manual work, the process may take several weeks.

The information of Ex-Domain cancelled and fully utilized GOs cannot be changed or deleted, except for error corrections. Error corrections follow section E.9 of the Domain Protocol. To correct errors, the account holder must submit a justified and detailed written proposal to Gasgrid Finland, specifying what is to be corrected, why it is to be corrected, and how it will be ensured that, for example, an already issued end-use certificate is not used. Gasgrid Finland will evaluate the proposal and decide whether there are grounds for error correction. The

correction must not result in undue benefit to the account holder. The correction request should be sent to customerservice@gasgrid.fi.

Ex-Domain cancellation process:

1. Contacting Gasgrid Finland

- The account holder in Finland's register must agree the cancellation and practical arrangements with Gasgrid Finland by contacting customerservice@gasgrid.fi in good time beforehand. **All details relating to the (first) cancellation are agreed before making cancellations!**
- Gasgrid Finland checks the acceptability of the GOs issued by the Issuing Body in the country of origin and notifies the account holder receiving the GOs in Finland's register that the Ex-Domain cancellation in the register of origin can go ahead.

2. Cancellation in the register of the country of origin

- The account holder in the register of the country-of-origin cancels GOs for consumption in Finland > Account holder in Finland's register as the recipient (more information in the additional information field)
- Cancellation statements are sent to Gasgrid Finland in one of the following ways:
 - i. The Issuing Body in the country of origin sends the cancellation statements by encrypted email.
 - ii. The account holder in the register in the country of origin or the Issuing Body creates viewing rights for Gasgrid Finland to the cancellation statements in the register of the country of origin, so that Gasgrid Finland can examine the correctness of the information straight from the register and store the cancellation statements in its system.
 - iii. It is also possible to agree between all the different parties that the account holder in the register in the country of origin sends the cancellation statements as an encrypted email to Gasgrid Finland. However, in this case it *must also be ensured* that Gasgrid Finland can check the correctness of the information with the Issuing Body in the country of origin.
 - If verification of Ex-Domain cancellation is carried out via a Teams meeting, a 15-minute slot shall be booked well in advance by emailing customerservice@gasgrid.fi. Teams slots can be booked for Tuesdays from 2 PM to 3 PM (EET) and Fridays from 10 AM to 11 AM (EET). **Cancellations must be made well in advance of the 12-month validity period of the GOs, and in conversion cases, two months in advance.** Also consider Gasgrid's processing times (see bullet point 4).
 - As an alternative, Gasgrid can verify the cancellation details from the registry of the country of origin via a so-called public link: During the cancellation process, the registry generates a link to the cancellation certificate, allowing holders of the link to view the cancellation details without logging into the registry. This procedure is not possible when there is a party involved in the Ex-Domain cancellation who is participating for the first time as an Ex-Domain cancellation party. It is important to ensure that the parties are aware of the eligibility of the GOs to be cancelled for the intended use and allocation in Finland.
 - The account holder is responsible for ensuring that the Cancellation Statement is delivered to Gasgrid Finland without delay.

3. Management of cancellation information in Finland

- Gasgrid Finland stores the cancellation information and cancellation statements in a separate information system, linked to the account holder's data in the Finland's registry. Account holders are responsible for keeping records of Ex-Domain cancellations and end usage to ensure that GOs do not expire.

4. Use of Ex-Domain cancellations of GOs for consumption in Finland

- The account holder in the Finnish register (Beneficiary) to whom the Ex-Domain cancellation has been allocated must notify Gasgrid Finland of the use of GOs by application and allocated by end-use including:
 - i. The cancellation statement ID from the register in the country of origin
 - ii. The quantity of GOs to be used
 - iii. Intended use (location, plant, etc.)
 - iv. End use purpose,
 - v. End use period and
 - vi. If applicable, PoS (proof of sustainability) references.
- The end use and purpose must be **precise and unambiguous** so that usage volumes per point of use can be verified and reliably demonstrated. In addition, when using GOs in emission trading, the identifiers of the sustainability certificates (PoS) related to the GOs to be used must be provided as a clearly copyable numeric sequence. **The end use notification must be submitted during the validity period of GOs.**
- End-use information shall be submitted using the notification template "Ex-Domain Cancellations – end-use notification to Gasgrid", available on the Gasgrid Finland's website. Alternatively, an Excel template provided by the operator may be used, provided that it contains the corresponding information in a format that allows direct copying to the end-use certificate.
- Gasgrid Finland stores the information in a separate information system and sends the "certificate of use" corresponding to the cancellation statement by encrypted email to the account holder. **The processing time for end-use certificates can take about one month. Take this into account when planning cancellations and end-use notifications.**

B. Ex-Domain cancellation for consumption outside of Finland

It is possible to cancel GOs from Finland as Ex-Domain, provided that the transfer of GOs between information systems (Association of Issuing Bodies Hub) is not possible. In the Finnish GO registry, the target country is selected, and any additional information is added to the additional information field. In principle, all EU/EEA countries are available for selection in the Finnish registry. However, it is important to note that not all countries have a gas GO system in accordance with Directive 2018/2001/EU, and countries have varying attitudes towards Ex-Domain cancelled GOs, which may not be accepted for origin verification. The account holder must investigate the practices of the target country. Gasgrid Finland is not responsible for the use of GOs in other countries.

At the request of the account holder in Finland's register, i.e., the register in the country of origin, Gasgrid Finland may send the cancellation statements by encrypted email to the Issuing Body in the receiving country. GOs cancelled from Finland are stored in Finland's register for GOs.

More information from customerservice@gasgrid.fi