

# ISCC Canada CFR

Version 1.0

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## 1 Introduction

On June 21, 2022, the Canadian government registered the *Clean Fuel Regulations* (CFR), aimed at gradually reducing the lifecycle carbon intensity from liquid fuels used in transportation. The CFR sets carbon intensity reduction targets for fuel producers and importers, that should lead to an approximately 15% reduction in the carbon intensity of liquid fossil fuels by 2030, compared to 2016 levels.

Gasoline and diesel producers and importers can comply with their annual reduction requirements by undertaking projects that reduce the lifecycle carbon intensity of liquid fossil fuels, by supplying low carbon intensity fuels such as ethanol or biodiesel, or by supplying fuel or energy to advanced vehicle technology (e.g., electricity or hydrogen in vehicles). The feedstock used to produce these low carbon intensity fuels must meet specific sustainability criteria, referred to as the Land Use and Biodiversity (LUB) criteria of the CFR.

Third-party certification systems are accepted to demonstrate compliance with these sustainability criteria. After an application process, ISCC Canada CFR was recognized by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) as an eligible certification system to demonstrate compliance with the LUB criteria under the CFR.

*Clean Fuel  
Regulations in  
Canada*

*Land Use and  
Biodiversity  
Criteria*

*ISCC Canada  
CFR recognised  
by Canadian  
government*

## 2 Scope and Normative References

This Document is mandatory for Certification Bodies conducting audits and System Users who want to handle sustainable feedstock under the framework of the CFR in Canada. It outlines the specific additional requirements for Certification Bodies and Economic Operators for the purpose of certifying eligible feedstock sourced from farms or plantations and forest biomass in accordance with the applicable Land Use and Biodiversity criteria of the CFR.

The ISCC Canada CFR is based on the ISCC EU and ISCC PLUS requirements. Therefore, certification requirements according to ISCC PLUS and related ISCC System Documents must be followed. Additionally, Certification Bodies and System Users need to ensure alignment with this Document, which introduces additional requirements necessary to meet the certification and sustainability criteria established under the CFR.

Certification Bodies and System users must ensure compliance with the CFR and the *CFR: Methods for Verification and Certification* (MVC). The MVC is a document incorporated by reference in the CFR and it provides information on the regulatory requirements and guidance for their implementation by verification and certification bodies, certification schemes owners, and other interested parties. The purpose of the MVC is to ensure uniformity and conformity in the implementation of the verification or certification requirements of the CFR.

*Scope*

*ISCC Canada  
CFR  
requirements  
apply*

*Compliance with  
CFR and MVC*

### 3 Specific Provisions for Certifying eligible feedstock under CFR Framework in Canada

To align with the specific provisions outlined under the CFR framework for certifying eligible feedstock, adjustments are necessary in several ISCC System Documents. These changes ensure compliance with Canada's regulatory requirements and reflect updates in the ISCC's certification process for agricultural and forest biomass. Some specific requirements in the following ISCC normative documents were adjusted to meet the CFR requirements: *"ISCC EU 102 Governance,"* which governs the general framework of the ISCC certification system; *"ISCC EU 202-1 Agricultural Biomass: ISCC Principle 1"* and *"ISCC EU 202-2 Agricultural Biomass: ISCC Principle 2-6"*, which cover the sustainability criteria for agricultural feedstock; as well as *"ISCC EU 202-3 Forest Biomass: ISCC Principle 1"* and *"ISCC EU 202-4 Forest Biomass: ISCC Principles 2-6"*, which address sustainability standards for forest biomass. For the traceability and chain of custody, adjustments were also made to the *"ISCC PLUS System Document"*.

*Adjustments in  
ISCC System  
Documents*

#### 3.1 ISCC Canada CFR Certificate Validity

Certificates are valid for a period of twelve months. The validity of a certificate starts on the date the last audit took place. The beginning and end of the validity period must be clearly indicated on the certificate.

*Twelve months  
validity after  
audit*

#### 3.2 Major Non-conformity

A major non-conformity for System Users occurs when more than 5% of the evidence that is provided to the Certification Body and included in a representative sample contains discrepancies or errors.

*5% margin of  
error in evidence*

#### 3.3 Additional Sustainability Criteria for Agricultural Feedstock

It is not permitted to harvest feedstock from lands that have any of the following conditions:

- (a) The land has an area greater than 1 hectare and, at any time on or after January 1, 2008, was
  - (i) a forest that contains trees that are or are capable of reaching a height of 5 m and provide or are capable of providing a canopy cover of more than 10%,
  - (ii) a wetland that is periodically saturated with water for a period that is long enough to promote biological activity that is adapted to a wet environment, or
  - (iii) a grassland that is dominated by herbaceous or shrub vegetation that has not been cultivated for 10 years or more; or



- (b) the land was never cultivated before January 1, 2008, and was, at any time on or after that day, in a riparian zone. A riparian zone is understood as *“land that is located within 30 m, measured on a slope distance following the topography of the land, of the high-water mark of a watercourse that is more than 3 m wide or the shores of a lake or permanent wetland that has an area greater than 5 ha”*.<sup>1</sup>

Under the ISCC CFR framework, compliance with the ISCC cut-off date of January 1, 2008, is mandatory for all land use and biodiversity criteria.

*ISCC cut-off date*

## 4 Specific Provisions for Certification Bodies and Auditors

To ensure that Certification Bodies and auditors can conduct audits and certify eligible feedstock under the CFR framework, it is necessary to implement changes in the System Document *“ISCC EU 103 Requirements for Certification Bodies and Auditors”* (version 4.0). These changes are essential for aligning the roles, responsibilities, and competencies of certification personnel with the specific provisions of the CFR.

### 4.1 Auditor Rotation Policy for System User Audits

Certification Bodies must implement procedures ensuring that the same auditor does not perform audits (including certification and surveillance audits, where applicable) for the same System User for four consecutive years. After completing three consecutive audits, a waiting period of at least three years must pass before the same auditor can audit the same System User again.

*Waiting period after consecutive audit*

### 4.2 Auditor Qualification and Experience Criteria for ISCC Canada CFR Audits

All auditors must meet ISCC’s general requirements and qualifications to conduct ISCC Canada CFR audits. Additionally, auditors conducting audits for certification under the CFR framework must have at least four years of relevant work experience within the last ten years.

*Auditor’s years of work experience*

### 4.3 Professional Designation of Auditors on Farms, Plantations and Forests

In addition to the qualifications for conducting audits on farms, plantations, or forests, auditors must be recognised as a forestry engineer, professional forester, agricultural engineer, or agrologist by a relevant national authority or professional association of the country in which the forestry or agriculture occurs. In case forestry or agriculture occurs in Canada, the auditor must be recognised by a Canadian professional association.

*Accreditation or recognition by National Authority*

<sup>1</sup> Subsection 51(2) of the CFR.

## Annex 1: Information Requirements for Self-Declarations

By signing the self-declaration, a Farm/Plantation declares compliance with all legal obligations under the CFR framework and the relevant ISCC Canada CFR requirements, confirms the type of raw material (feedstock) provided as sustainable, and confirms that they will give external auditors access to the premises to verify conformity with the ISCC Canada CFR and CFR requirements.

This annex outlines additional information requirements for ISCC Canada CFR Self-Declarations related to the delivery from Farms/Plantations of agricultural or forestry biomass under the CFR framework.

The self-declaration must be completed and signed by the owner, legal representative or authorised agent of the Farm/Plantation for each individual delivery of feedstock. The self-declaration must fully comply with the mandatory content requirements specified in subsection 58(1) of the CFR.

### General information:

- > Date on which the declaration is made
- > Unique identifier number for the declaration (indicating the lot number of the feedstock to which it applies, and used in all records related to feedstock balances at the site to which it applies)
- > Name of Grower/Harvester, legal representative or authorised agent of the Farm/Plantation
- > Trading name of Farm/Plantation
- > Address of Farm/Plantation including postal address
- > Telephone number and email address (if any)
- > Total size of Farm/Plantation
- > Geo-coordinates of the Farm/Plantation to the fifth decimal place

### Required Confirmation on Documentation and Information:

- > Documentation is available to prove compliance with ISCC Canada CFR requirements, including maps of all fields, their sizes, legal right to farm, contractual agreements with subcontractors, first gathering points, and delivery notes/weighbridge tickets for first gathering points.
- > No land conversion since January 01, 2008 (entirety of the owned and leased land)
- > No land with high biodiversity value, high carbon stock, or peat land has been converted to farmland since January 01, 2008

- > No land that was a forested area with 10%-30% canopy cover has been converted to farmland since January 01, 2008
- > No land that was a grassland dominated by herbaceous or shrub vegetation that had not been cultivated for 10 years or more has been converted to farmland since January 01, 2008
- > No land located in an area that provides a habitat for any rare, vulnerable, or threatened species has been converted to farmland
- > Agricultural and/or forest-based feedstock/crops sourced from farm/plantation adheres to the applicable Land Use and Biodiversity criteria set out in sections 48 to 52 of Canada's *Clean Fuel Regulations*

**Information of Buyer:**

- > Name
- > Address including civic and postal address

**Information of Feedstock/Crop sold**

- > Type of the feedstock/crop
- > Quantity of the feedstock/crop that is sold, expressed in kilograms or cubic metres



## Annex 2: Information Requirements for Feedstock Sustainability Declarations

*Further  
information  
requirements*

Sustainability information of the feedstock is forwarded within the supply chain through Sustainability Declarations. A Sustainability Declaration is always linked to a specific batch of feedstock. The Sustainability Declaration covers the sustainable amount of feedstock in a delivery.

Sustainability Declarations must contain the information that is stated in this document. However, no provisions are made with regard to the form or layout of the Sustainability Declarations. Economic operators can develop a template for a delivery note which includes all the required sustainability information.

For further explanation on Sustainability Declaration can be found in the ISCC PLUS System Document.

This annex outlines additional information requirements for ISCC Canada CFR Sustainability Declarations related to the delivery of agricultural or forestry biomass to the Canadian market under the CFR framework.

The Sustainability Declaration must be completed and signed by the owner, legal representative, or authorised agent for each individual delivery of the feedstock. The Sustainability Declaration must fully comply with the mandatory content requirements in subsections 58 (4) of the CFR.

In case of the individually certified farm/ plantations/ forest sourcing area issuing Sustainability Declaration, every information listed under CFR's subsection 58(1), including the GPS coordinates of the site where the feedstock was harvested, must be listed in the additional information section.

The recipient of the Sustainability Declaration must check whether all relevant information according to this standard is available and consistent. Sustainability Declarations that are obviously lacking information or containing incorrect or inconsistent information should not be accepted by the recipient.

### General information:

*General  
information*

- > Name and address of the grower/harvester, supplier, or other person (or of the authorised agent), including both civic and postal address
- > Telephone number and email address (if any)
- > Certificate number of supplier
- > Name and address including both civic and postal address of the recipient
- > Related contract number of delivery
- > Unique identifier number of sustainability declaration (the identifier must indicate the lot number of the feedstock to which it applies and it must be used in all records related to feedstock balances at the site to which it applies, throughout the entire value chain)

- > Date of physical dispatch of the sustainable feedstock (i.e. the date when the feedstock physically leaves the site of the supplier)
- > Date of issuance of sustainability declaration

**Specific information on about the feedstock:**

*CFR Statement*

- > Quantity of sustainable feedstock that is removed from the site, expressed in kilograms or cubic metres, and/or that is intended to produce low-carbon-intensity fuel
- > Outgoing sustainable feedstock, indicating the type of raw material (feedstock)
- > Geo-coordinates to the fifth decimal place and address (if any) where the mixing, processing or division of the quantity of the feedstock was carried out or of the site where the quantity was obtained
- > A confirmation that agricultural and/or forest-based feedstock sourced from farm/plantation adheres to the applicable Land Use and Biodiversity criteria set out in sections 48 to 52 of Canada's *Clean Fuel Regulations*
- > If any portion of the sustainable feedstock was removed from the feedstock source or was mixed, divided or obtained at that site, a confirmation that the requirements set out in subsection 47 (1) of the CFR were met, and that the person who mixed, divided or obtained the feedstock has retained evidence of compliance at that site
- > In the case of a declaration made by the person responsible for obtaining all or any portion of a quantity of the feedstock from its first point of use or disposal, a confirmation that they have retained at the site (where the mixing, processing or division was carried out or where the quantity was obtained), delivery records, contracts and invoices that describe the location where that feedstock was first used