



# MiQ PROGRAM GUIDE

v2.1



# MiQ Program Guide

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## 1. Introduction

This MiQ Program Guide describes the implementation of the MiQ Program, which provides for the issuance, transfer and retirement of Certificates for Certified Commodities, such as Certified Gas and Certified Crude. Such Certificates include MiQ Certificates, tradeable environmental attribute certificates that evidence the greenhouse gas intensity of natural gas and crude oil audited against the MiQ Standard and EO100™ Certificates that evidence a range of ESG attributes assessed against the EO100™ Standard for Responsible Energy Development. The MiQ Program is delivered through the MiQ Registry ([www.miqregistry.org](http://www.miqregistry.org)). The MiQ Standard is owned by the MiQ Foundation. The EO100™ Standard is owned by Equitable Origin.

### 1.1. Certificates

Certificates are tradeable instruments evidencing the ESG attributes of Certified Commodities.

An MiQ Certificate evidences the greenhouse gas performance of natural gas or crude oil produced, gathered & boosted, processed, transported & stored, liquefied, shipped or regasified at specific Facilities, and may include additional attributes associated with total greenhouse gases. An EO100™ Certificate evidences the wider ESG performance of natural gas produced, processed or transported at or by specific Facilities. A combined MiQ+EO™100 Certificates evidences the verified ESG attributes of a Facility against both Standards.

Certificates facilitate reliable reporting for a variety of requirements including scope 1 and scope 3 emissions reporting, national energy reporting and general end-user claims. Certificates allow consumers to make a conscious and evidence-based choice to purchase commodities according to their greenhouse gas emissions performance and other ESG attributes.

The recording of Certificates on the Registry is critical to ensuring that double-counting cannot occur. Double counting (also known as double claims) occurs when two different parties claim the same environmental benefits from the same unit of a commodity. Certificates that are held on a Registry help to significantly reduce the risk of double-counting in two ways. Firstly, a single Certificate is Issued against each unit of a Certified Commodity. When Certificates are used to evidence the delivery of a Certified Commodity, by design the same unit of Certified Commodity cannot be sold by the same seller to two different buyers. The Registry tracks the entire life cycle of the Certificate, from Issuance to Retirement, ensuring that each unit of the Certified Commodity only has one Certificate recorded against it. When a Certificate is sold, the unique serial number for the unit of Certified Commodity is transferred from the seller's account to the buyer's account.

Secondly, when a buyer wishes to 'use' the Certificate by making a claim for the environmental attributes of the Certificate, the Certificate is permanently Retired such that the Certificate can no longer be sold or transferred to another party.

The MiQ Program provides a robust chain-of-custody for environmental attributes from issuance to retirement.



## 1.2. Regulatory scope

The MiQ Program encompasses Services that are delivered within a voluntary commercial environment. Where Services under the MiQ Program are provided within a legislative environment, that legislation shall take legal precedence.

## 1.3. About this document

This **MiQ Program Guide** sets out the definitions, processes and procedures of the MiQ Program that govern the Issuance, Transfer and Retirement of Certificates under the MiQ Program.

How to use the Registry is covered in detail in the **MiQ Registry User Guide**, available at <https://miq.org/document/miq-registry-user-guide/>.

Certificates are issued against Audits of Facilities carried out by third-party independent Auditing Bodies under one of the Standards that is accredited under the MiQ Program, being the MiQ Standard for Methane Emissions Performance, the MiQ Standard for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Performance and the EO100™ Standard for Responsible Energy Development.

The **MiQ Standard for Methane Emissions Performance** combines several elements to provide a robust and reliable method to certify natural gas production, gathering & boosting, processing, transmission & storage, and LNG operations according to its methane emissions performance. The elements include greenhouse gas intensity, policies and procedures focused on methane emissions prevention, detection, and abatement, and deployment of monitoring technology. The MiQ Standard for Methane Emissions Performance is designed to incentivise continuous improvement in methane emissions monitoring and abatement. The MiQ Standard for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Performance defines the measurement and reporting requirements of an operator's overall greenhouse gas emissions intensity for use in the MiQ Program. The MiQ Standards are available at <https://miq.org/documents/>.

The **EO100™ Standard for Responsible Energy Development** is a set of rigorous performance standards for energy development projects. Developed through a three-year, multi-stakeholder engagement process, the EO100™ Standard is the product of extensive consultation with the energy industry, international NGOs, Indigenous organizations, financial institutions, government, and communities affected by energy projects. The standard establishes metrics and performance targets to objectively and independently evaluate the environmental, social and governance (ESG) impacts of energy development projects.



## 2. Terms and definitions

### 2.1. Defined terms

Term	Definition
<b>Account</b>	A data store within the Registry that is attributed to a single Organisation for the purpose of recording holdings of Certificates within the Registry, such Accounts being either Trading Accounts or Retirement Accounts.
<b>Account Holder</b>	An Organisation holding one or more Accounts.
<b>Accredited Entity</b>	An Organisation that has been accredited by MiQ Foundation to carry out a specific role, such as an Auditing Body.
<b>Additional Information</b>	Information that is not explicitly described in this document, but which may be requested by the Registry Operator.
<b>Applicant</b>	An Entity applying to be an Organisation on the Registry.
<b>Approved Measurement and Reconciliation Protocol</b>	A Measurement and Reconciliation Protocol for a Facility that is approved by the relevant Standard Holder.
<b>Audit</b>	The systematic, independent and documented assessment of a Facility against a Standard by an Auditing Body prior to a Certification Period, validating the information reported by the Facility Operator.
<b>Auditor</b>	An individual that has been accredited by the relevant Standard Holder to carry out Audits of Facilities against the requirements of the relevant Standard.
<b>Auditing Body</b>	An Organisation made up of Auditors that has been accredited by the relevant Standard Holder to carry out Audits of Facilities against the requirements of the relevant Standard.
<b>Audit Report</b>	A document detailing the findings of an Audit performed on a Facility by an Auditing Body.
<b>Audit Registry Data</b>	The set of data included as part of the Audit Report relevant to operation of the MiQ Program and submitted by the Facility Operator on the Registry.
<b>Beneficiary</b>	An Entity that is an end-user of a certified commodity, to which Certificates may be assigned during Retirement.
<b>Certificate</b>	A unique electronic identification of a Certificate Unit of a Certified Commodity on the Registry.
<b>Certificate Region</b>	A Certificate Region is a geographical area defined by the MiQ Program and is typically a connected gas system that may include natural gas production, transportation, trading hubs and consumption points. Within a Certificate Region, gas is co-mingled from many producers and/or transporters.



	Certificates attributed to a Certificate Region may only be Retired on behalf of Beneficiaries that consume natural gas in that Certificate Region.
<b>Certification Period</b>	A period of 12 whole calendar months during which the natural gas produced, processed or transported by a Facility is eligible for the Issuing of Certificates at a given Grade. Any variation to the duration of the Certification Period must be agreed with the Standard Holder.
<b>Certified Commodity</b>	A commodity that has been certified under the MiQ Program, such as Certified Gas or Certified Crude.
<b>Certified Crude</b>	Crude oil whose ESG attributes have been independently verified against a publicly available Standard at one or more Facilities along the crude oil supply chain.
<b>Certified Gas</b>	Fossil natural gas whose ESG attributes have been independently verified against a publicly available Standard at one or more Facilities along the natural gas supply chain.
<b>CIRIS</b>	MiQ's Certificate Inter-Regional Import System for exporting Certificates between Certificate Regions subject to the CIRIS rules set out in Section 7.
<b>Delivered Quantity</b>	The quantity of commodity produced, processed or transported by a Facility and eligible for the Issuance of Certificates.
<b>Entity</b>	An organisation such as a corporate entity registered in a recognised national register of companies.
<b>EO100™ Standard</b>	The EO100™ Standard for Responsible Energy Development, available at <a href="https://energystandards.org/responsible-energy-development/">https://energystandards.org/responsible-energy-development/</a> .
<b>Facility</b>	One or more assets where production, gathering & boosting, processing, transmission, storage, liquefaction and/or regasification takes place.
<b>Gathering and Boosting Facility</b>	Gathering and Boosting Facilities relate to assets used to compress, dehydrate, sweeten and/or transport natural gas from Production Facilities to other Facilities.
<b>Grade</b>	The grade of a Facility determined in accordance with the relevant Standard by an Auditing Body and evidenced in an Audit Report.
<b>Issue Month</b>	A calendar month of production, processing or transportation of a commodity.
<b>Issue Request</b>	A request by the Facility Operator of a Facility to Issue Certificates in relation to that Facility against a Proof of Quantity provided for a given Issue Month.
<b>Issuing</b>	The act of creating a record of one or more Certificates in an Account on the Registry in relation to an approved Audit for a specific Facility.
<b>Liquefaction Facility</b>	A Facility involved in the processing and liquefaction of



	natural gas into LNG, storage of LNG and loading of LNG onto Vessels.
<b>Vessel</b>	An ocean-going ship that transports commodities such as LNG from Liquefaction Facilities to Regasification Facilities or crude oil between ports.
<b>Methane Intensity</b>	As defined in the relevant MiQ Standard.
<b>MiQ Foundation</b>	The MiQ Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation registered in the United Kingdom and established to facilitate a significant reduction in methane emissions through the development of the MiQ Standard and the MiQ Program.
<b>MiQ Program</b>	The global environmental attributed tracking and reporting system implemented through the Registry for the Issuance, Transfer and Retirement of Certificates.
<b>MiQ Program Guide</b>	This document describing the rules and processes of the MiQ Program.
<b>MiQ Standard</b>	The MiQ Standard for Methane Emissions Performance that defines principles for an effective methane management and the measurement and reporting requirements of an operator's overall methane intensity for production, gathering & boosting, processing, transmission & storage, liquefaction and/or regasification segments of the natural gas or crude oil value chain, and/or the MiQ Standard for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Performance that defines the measurement and reporting requirements of an operator's overall greenhouse gas emissions intensity for use in the MiQ Program, both available at <a href="https://miq.org/documents/">https://miq.org/documents/</a> .
<b>Non-Compliance Event</b>	With respect to a Facility with an Audit against the MiQ Standard, an event or circumstance occurring during a Certification Period that could result in a worsening of the Facility's methane emission performance, including but not limited to an increase in its methane intensity or a change in its company practices, and where the cumulative effect of one or more such events could lead to a change to a Facility's Grade if it were to be re-audited based on such revised information.
<b>Offshore Production Facility</b>	An offshore Facility where a commodity is produced.
<b>Onshore Production Facility</b>	An onshore Facility where a commodity is produced.
<b>Organisation</b>	An Entity registered in the Registry and able to access and interact with the Registry.
<b>Platform Operator</b>	An Organisation with a third-party trading platform that has a linkage to the Registry to facilitate trading of Certificates.
<b>Processing Facility</b>	A Facility where natural gas liquids, non-methane gases and impurities are separated from produced natural gas, and/or natural gas liquids are fractionated.
<b>Program Holder</b>	MiQ Foundation



<b>Proof of Quantity</b>	Evidence of the Delivered Quantity of natural gas provided by the Facility Operator to facilitate Issuing of Certificates.
<b>Proof of Transport</b>	Evidence of loading of a Delivered Quantity of LNG or crude oil onto a named Vessel at a named Liquefaction Facility or port and unloading of the Delivered Quantity at a named Regasification Facility or port.
<b>Regasification Facility</b>	A Facility involved in the unloading of LNG from Vessels, storage of LNG and regasification of LNG into natural gas.
<b>Facility Operator</b>	An Organisation that registers Facilities on the Registry and provides information to the Registry Operator relating to Facilities.
<b>Registry</b>	The electronic register of Certificates that records the full chain of events from Issuing to Retirement.
<b>Registry Operator</b>	The operator of the Registry that has been accredited and contracted by MiQ Foundation to operate the Registry. The Registry Operator is responsible for onboarding Facility Operators and Account Holders, registering Facilities, Issuing Certificates.
<b>Reportable Quantity</b>	A single emissions event additional to an operator's reported inventory that exceeds or is believed to exceed a flow rate of 25 kg/hr and a duration of at least 24 hours, or a single methane emissions event greater than 600 kg.
<b>Reporting Methane Intensity</b>	The methane intensity used on Certificates, calculated as set out in Section 8.1.
<b>Retire or Retirement</b>	The act of permanently assigning a Certificate to a Beneficiary for the purpose of making a disclosure statement, whereby the Certificate is removed from circulation on the Registry and may no longer be Transferred.
<b>Retirement Account</b>	An Account that can only hold Certificates that have been Retired.
<b>Retirement Statement</b>	An electronic, non-transferrable receipt attributable to a single Beneficiary that provides evidence of the Retirement of one or more Certificates and associated environmental attributes.
<b>Sample Proof of Quantity</b>	A sample of the Proof of Quantity that is agreed with the Registry Operator prior to a Facility's first Issuance.
<b>Segment</b>	<p>The part of the commodity value chain in which a Facility operates. Certain segments may only apply to certain commodities. Segments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Production (Onshore or Offshore)</li> <li>- Gathering and Boosting</li> <li>- Processing</li> <li>- Transmission and Storage</li> <li>- LNG Liquefaction</li> <li>- Shipping</li> </ul>



	- LNG Regasification
<b>Service</b>	The activities provided by the Registry Operator
<b>Standard</b>	A Standard for certified gas, being either the MiQ Standard or the EO100™ Standard.
<b>Trading Account</b>	An Account that can hold Certificates that have not been Retired, receive transfers of certificates from another Account, and make transfers to another Account.
<b>Transmission and Storage Facility</b>	A Facility that transports a commodity in a pipeline and/or stores the commodity for managing fluctuating supply and demand.
<b>Certificate Unit</b>	The unit of a Certificate, for example one MMBtu for Certified Gas and one barrel for Certified Crude.
<b>User</b>	An individual that has been provided with access credentials to the Registry and is authorised by an Organisation to access the Registry on its behalf. A User is linked to a single set of contact details.

## 2.2. Interpretation

Except for definitions expressly defined in the text, the terms in this MiQ Program Guide that are identified by capitalisation have the meanings assigned to them in Section 2.1.

The singular of a term defined in Section 2.1 include the plural and vice versa.

Where a word or phrase is given a particular meaning in Section 2.1, other parts of speech and grammatical forms of that word or phrase have corresponding meanings.



### 3. Principles

This section outlines the principles that underpin the MiQ Program and how the Standard holder and Registry Operator structure their activities and relationships with agents to provide a transparent and robust service consistent with the requirements of the MiQ Standard.

#### 3.1. Organisational Principles

##### 3.1.1. A Consumer's Right to Information

The Beneficiary of any Certificate has a right to obtain detailed information concerning the associated origin and attributes of certified natural gas sufficient for it to be able to evidence the methane emissions profile of the natural gas for reporting purposes. This right is reflected within the MiQ Program Guide and its associated documents.

##### 3.1.2. Collaboration

Wherever possible, the Standard Holder will engage with governments and relevant non-governmental organisations to implement the MiQ Program, ensuring open and fair access to the market.

The Registry Operator will be collaborative with other similar attribute-tracking systems to help ensure that all such systems can provide full and accurate information for consumers and minimise potential for double-counting of similar attributes. The Registry Operator structures and maintains its relationships with all service providers to ensure compliance with this principle.

Information held by Registry Operator will be subject to applicable laws and the Registry Operator's privacy notice.

##### 3.1.3. Independence

The Registry Operator is independent from the market it serves. It has no role in the natural gas supply chain or its regulation, nor in the natural gas market. The Registry Operator will neither engage in any trade or exchange of Certificates, nor enter any transaction that is based on the price of Certificates, except for the purchase of Certificates for its own use as a Beneficiary. The Registry Operator will maintain confidentiality and not provide privileged or otherwise private information to other parties otherwise than in accordance with its legal responsibilities and this MiQ Program Guide.

Independence from the market allows the Registry Operator to operate in a clear, transparent and equitable manner, offering a Service in which customers and stakeholders can trust.

##### 3.1.4. Flexibility

The Registry Operator recognises that technologies, markets and laws are subject to evolution and change. Where appropriate, Services provided may accommodate flexibility in how compliance can be demonstrated with the relevant Standard.



## **3.2. MiQ Program principles**

### **3.2.1. Immutable Statement of Fact**

A Certificate is a statement of verified historical fact relating to a Facility in the natural gas supply chain. All attributes of a Certificate at Issuing are immutable, other than for earlier versions of the MiQ Standard where the Grade is subject to change upon Final ('Ex-Post') Audit.

### **3.2.2. Uniqueness**

A Certificate is a unique statement representing the evidenced attributes associated with a specific event or activity during a specified period and for a specified quantity (1 Certificate Unit).

No Certificate may be Issued where another certificate or similar instrument relating to any attributes included within the Certificate specification for the respective Certificate Unit of currently exist. This is to ensure the avoidance of double counting of any certified attribute(s).

A Certificate may exist sequentially from another attribute-tracking methodology recording the same attributes in relation to the same event or activity such that only one evidence statement has effect at any point in time.

A Certificate is considered used when it is Retired and it can only be Retired once.

A Retired Certificate ceases to be transferable to another Entity. The Retirement of a Certificate is permanent.

The use of a Certificate can only be verifiably assigned to a Beneficiary upon Retirement.

### **3.2.3. Possession and Ownership**

The clear and uninterrupted chain of possession of Certificates from original holder to Beneficiary is fundamental. Records of possession of all Certificates are recorded within the Registry.

The unique record of a Certificate will only exist within an Account on the Registry but agreements for the transfer of Certificates between parties may be made elsewhere, including on third-party trading platforms.

### **3.2.4. Evidence Based**

Certificates can be Issued only against independently verified evidence of historical throughput at a specific Facility.

## **3.3. Infrastructure Principles**

### **3.3.1. Operational Reliability**

The Registry utilises a bespoke general-purpose activity accounting engine, which provides the secure storage and management of Facilities and Certificates that are essential to the correct and trusted operation of a Registry Service.



The Registry is continuously monitored and developed to ensure consistent and reliable operation.

### **3.3.2. Data Integrity and Security**

The Registry is designed with referential integrity, full transaction logs and double-entry bookkeeping protocols to ensure that data integrity is maintained within the Registry and in transfer with other systems.

Security protocols are implemented to prevent unauthorised access to records and the Registry codebase.

### **3.3.3. Cost Effectiveness**

The Registry is designed to enable operation over low bandwidth internet connections and general-use specification computer platforms requiring no additional paid-for software.

### **3.3.4. Accessibility**

The Registry is accessible via the internet and maintained to be compatible with current versions of both Microsoft Windows and Mac OS. User interfaces are designed in line with best practice for such systems.



## 4. Organisational and Service Structure

*To clearly assign responsibilities to Entities within a best practice environment, the MiQ Program is based around a structure and set of requirements designed to be transparent and auditable. This section sets out the high-level definitions of roles and responsibilities and the structure within which the Service is delivered.*

### 4.1. Overview of Responsibilities

The MiQ Program is designed to enable simple and clear engagement for Facility Operators and Account Holders.

For any event to take place an associated Organisation must be registered with the Registry. An Organisation can register to hold one or more roles at the Registry. Examples of roles include Account Holder (able to hold Trade Accounts and Retirement Accounts), Facility Operator (able to register Facilities and create Issue Requests) and Auditing Body (able to perform Audits of Facilities). Other roles may be created by the Program Holder as required. Note that an Organisation that is an Auditing Body cannot perform any other role.

An Organisation may have multiple Users. Users are individuals that have been provided with access credentials to the Registry and are authorised by an Organisation to access the Registry on its behalf.

#### 4.1.1. Standard Holders

Standard Holders own and manage their respective Standards for emission and ESG performance of oil and natural gas facilities.

The Standard Holder for the MiQ Standards is the MiQ Foundation (<https://miq.org/>). The MiQ Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit organisation that has the goal of rapidly reducing methane emissions in the oil and gas sector through the creation of the MiQ Standard and the implementation of a global system for the certification of natural gas Facilities that have been audited against the MiQ Standard.

The MiQ Foundation owns, develops and maintains the MiQ Standard. The MiQ Foundation is responsible for accrediting the Registry Operator and Auditing Bodies against the MiQ Standard and the MiQ Program. The actions and processes of the MiQ Foundation set out in this document may be carried out by its affiliates.

The Standard Holder for the EO100™ Standard for Responsible Energy Development is Equitable Origin Inc. (<https://energystandards.org/>). Equitable Origin is a stakeholder-based, independent, voluntary standards system designed to enable higher social and environmental performance, greater transparency and more accountability in energy development. The Equitable Origin System applies to energy development sites like oil and gas wells, wind farms, and solar installations. Equitable Origin works with a variety of stakeholders, including communities, companies, governments, and investors to foster dialogue, benchmark performance and promote best practices through the EO100™ Standard.



#### 4.1.2. Program Holder

The Program Holder is responsible for defining and evolving the MiQ Program, maintenance of procedures and governance arrangements relating to the MiQ Program, contracting the Registry Operator, and change management of the MiQ Program, the MiQ Program Guide and any associated documents.

#### 4.1.3. Registry Operator

The Registry Operator is responsible for delivering the Services and ensuring the quality of the Registry. The Registry Operator's roles include:

- onboarding Organisations onto the Registry
- processing Facility registrations, Issuing Certificates, reviewing Facility Reports
- providing the ability to Transfer and Retire Certificates
- providing support to Organisations and Users and
- overseeing the management of complaints by Entities.

The Registry Operator may delegate or subcontract some or all of these tasks to another entity, including MiQ Foundation.

#### 4.1.4. Platform Operators

A Platform Operator is an Entity responsible for the provision and operation of a platform that provides functions that extend the scope of a Registry, for example through providing a marketplace or trading platform for Certificates. The Registry Operator is working with a number of providers to integrate their platforms into the Registry (see <https://miq.org/trading/> for updates). Note that such platforms do not constitute a primary record of the custody of Certificates but may remotely initiate actions within a Registry and hold details of legal title to Certificates.

#### 4.1.5. Auditing Bodies

An Auditing Body is an Accredited Entity responsible for carrying out Audits of Facilities as defined in the relevant Standard and as described in the MiQ Program Guide. Only Auditing Bodies that have been Accredited by the relevant Standard Holder may undertake Audits of Facilities. A full list of Auditing Bodies accredited by MiQ Foundation can be found at <https://miq.org/auditors/>. Auditing Bodies may not hold the role of Facility Operator or Account Holder on the Registry.

#### 4.1.6. Facility Operators

A Facility Operator is the owner of a Facility or has the authority of the owner of a Facility to undertake relevant activities. Facility Operators can register Facilities, submit Audits and make Issue Requests in relation to their registered Facilities. For each of its registered Facilities, a Facility Operator nominates a Trading Account into which the Certificates will be Issued.



A Facility Operator can also be an Account Holder.

*Facility Operators may be owners or operators of Facilities, or any other third party authorised to act as such on behalf of the owner.*

#### **4.1.7. Account Holders**

An Account Holder can hold Trading Accounts and Retirement Accounts within the Registry. An Account Holder can receive and hold Certificates, transfer Certificates to other Account Holders' Trading Accounts, and Retire Certificates on its own behalf or on behalf of other Entities (Beneficiaries).

An Account Holder can also be a Facility Operator.

#### **4.1.8. Beneficiaries**

Beneficiaries are end-users of natural gas or classes of consumers under a common natural gas tariff to which Certificates may be assigned as part of a Retirement transaction.



## 5. Organisation onboarding

### 5.1. Facility Operators and Account Holders

#### 5.1.1. Application process

Account Holders hold Accounts within the Registry and can hold Certificates, transfer Certificates to other Account Holders' Trading Accounts, and Retire Certificates. Facility Operators are (or are contracted to), the owner or operator of Facilities. Facility Operators register Facilities, submit Audits and make Issue Requests for Certificates in relation to a Facility. An Organisation may apply to be both a Facility Operator and an Account Holder.

Applicants must be Entities. Proof of identity will be required as supporting evidence to an application. To apply, the Applicant must complete the application form on the Registry website. Details must be completed in English and appropriate supporting evidence provided where requested.

#### 5.1.2. Know Your Customer Checks

The application will be reviewed by the Registry Operator. The Registry Operator must satisfy itself to the legal identity of the Applicant. The Registry Operator will carry out *Know Your Customer* checks on the Applicant. The Registry Operator may request Additional Information from the Applicant to carry out the *Know Your Customer* checks. The Registry Operator's review may consult national and international anti-fraud and anti-money-laundering authorities and other relevant procedures as part of the review. Approval of the *Know Your Customer* check is at the sole discretion of the Registry Operator.

Where the Registry Operator is unable to verify the Applicant and/or has reason to doubt the authenticity of the evidence provided, it has the right to refuse the application.

#### 5.1.3. Registry Agreement

Facility Operators and Account Holders are required to enter into an agreement with the Registry Operator to access Services. The contract will be in the Registry Operator's standard form. An example is published at <https://miq.org/documents/>. *The most recent template contract will be provided by the Registry Operator during the application process.* Variation of the standard terms is only permitted in exceptional circumstances and is subject to the agreement of the Registry Operator and (if relevant) MiQ Foundation.

An Applicant that wishes to become both a Facility Operator and an Account Holder may enter into one agreement with the Registry Operator to cover both roles.

#### 5.1.4. Access to Registry

Satisfactory completion of the Registry Operator's *Know Your Customer* checks and execution of the Registry Agreement by both the Applicant and the Registry Operator is required before access to the Registry is enabled.



Confirmation that the application has been approved will be sent to the Applicant by email.

Following approval of the Applicant, an Organisation with access to the Registry as an Account Holder can create and operate Accounts on the Registry. Accounts are required to hold or Retire Certificates. An Account Holder may hold multiple Accounts on the Registry.

## **5.2. Auditing Bodies**

### **5.2.1. Application process**

Auditing Bodies audit Facilities against a Standard for the purposes of the MiQ Program. Auditing Bodies must be Accredited by the Standard Holder. Such Accreditation will be confirmed by a written Accreditation notice issued by the Standard Holder. An Organisation may not be both an Auditing Body and a Facility Operator or Account Holder.

Applicants must be Entities. Proof of identity will be required as supporting evidence to an application. To apply, the Applicant must complete the application form on the Registry website at <https://www.miqregistry.org/register>. Details must be completed in English and appropriate supporting evidence provided where requested.

### **5.2.2. Know Your Customer Checks**

The application will be reviewed by the Registry Operator. The Registry Operator must satisfy itself to the legal identity of the Applicant. The Registry Operator will carry out *Know Your Customer* checks on the Applicant. The Registry Operator may request Additional Information from the Applicant to carry out the *Know Your Customer* checks. The Registry Operator's review may consult national and international anti-fraud and anti-money-laundering authorities and other relevant procedures as part of the review. Approval of the *Know Your Customer* check is at the sole discretion of the Registry Operator.

Where the Registry Operator is unable to verify the Applicant and/or has reason to doubt the authenticity of the evidence provided, it has the right to refuse the application.

### **5.2.3. Accreditation**

Once the review has successfully been performed, the Registry Operator will transfer the Applicant's application and the associated evidence to MiQ Foundation for Accreditation under the MiQ Standard.

The MiQ Foundation will contact the Applicant to request any information that it needs to carry out its accreditation procedure on the Applicant. The MiQ Foundation will assess the Applicant and its Auditors in relation to their competencies in auditing, methane management practices, GHG accounting and use of methane detection and quantification technologies. The MiQ Foundation will notify the Registry Operator and the Applicant upon Accreditation of an Auditing Body.



#### 5.2.4. **Access to the Registry**

Auditing Bodies are not provided with access to the Registry. To the extent that further information is required from an Auditing body, the MiQ Foundation or the Registry Operator, as appropriate, will contact the Auditing Body directly.



## 6. Facilities, Audits and Certificate Issuance

### 6.1. Facility Registration

Before Certificates may be Issued in relation to a production, gathering & boosting, processing, transmission & storage, liquefaction, or regasification asset, the asset must first be registered as a Facility on the Registry. Registration is requested by the Facility Operator on the Registry website and is approved by the Registry Operator. The registration of a Facility on the Registry must be completed before an Audit can be submitted or an Issue Request made for the Facility.

*A Facility Operator can have more than one registered Facility.*

Following Facility registration, the Facility Operator must inform the Registry Operator of any changes to the Facility information held on the Registry.

#### 6.1.1. Facility Segments

Facilities in the commodity value chain fall into distinct Segments. When a Facility is registered on the Registry, its appropriate Segment is provided by the Facility Operator. Once a Facility is registered to a specific Segment, it cannot be changed.

Some Segments may only be relevant for the supply chains of certain commodities. Supply-chain Segments include:

- Onshore production and Offshore production – assets where a commodity is produced, e.g., extracted from below the ground or seabed
- Gathering and boosting – assets that compress, dehydrate, sweeten and/or transport natural gas from production Facilities
- Processing – assets where natural gas liquids, non-methane gases and other impurities are separated from produced natural gas
- Transmission and storage – assets such as physical pipelines that transport a commodity such as natural gas or crude oil between two different locations and/or where natural gas is stored for managing fluctuating natural gas demand
- Liquefaction – LNG liquefaction terminals that process and liquefy natural gas into LNG, store LNG and load LNG onto Vessels
- Vessels – transport a commodity from a loading port to an unloading port (e.g., LNG from Liquefaction Facilities to Regasification Facilities).
- Regasification – LNG regasification terminals that unload LNG from Vessels, store LNG and regasify LNG into natural gas.

Some Facilities may cover more than one single segment of the supply-chain (integrated facilities). An example of an integrated facility is one where natural gas production, gathering & boosting and processing are essentially operated as a single unit. In such cases, it is possible to register an integrated facility under a combined segment of, for example, Onshore Production, Gathering & Boosting and Processing.



### 6.1.2. Registering a Facility

The Facility Operator must either be the owner or operator of the Facility or be authorised by the owner or operator of the Facility to act as the Facility Operator in relation to the Facility. Proof of this status may be requested as part of the Facility registration process.

To register a Facility, the Facility Operator must provide high-level details of Facility on the Registry website. A summary of the required information is set out in Annex A.

All information submitted to the Registry Operator must be complete and accurate, to the Facility Operator's best knowledge, information, and belief at the time of submission. Any changes to the information should be communicated to the Registry Operator as soon as possible.

### 6.1.3. Certificate Regions

In general, Facilities will be assigned a Certificate Region by the Registry that reflects the physical location of the Facility.

A Transportation and Storage Facility may be connected to more than one Certificate Region, in which case it may be associated with more than one Certificate Region.

Certificates will be Issued with the Certificate Region of the relevant Facility.

The Registry may from time to time make new Certificate Regions available, such as when a new Facility is registered that is located outside the existing Certificate Regions.

### 6.1.4. Processing of Registration Details

The Registry Operator will seek to verify that:

- a) The Facility Operator is authorised to register the asset for the purposes of the MiQ Program;
- b) The information provided at registration is a true representation of the physical assets being registered; and
- c) The assets being registered are not already registered.

The Registry Operator will also seek to verify that the assets are not likely to be receiving environmental attribute certificates under any other standards that would risk double-counting of Certificates. If such a risk exists, the Registry Operator will raise this with the Facility Operator and, to the extent possible, seek to determine whether any protocols or processes can be put in place to allow registration but ensure that double-counting cannot occur.

The approval of a Facility registration is at the discretion of the Registry Operator and subject to the satisfaction of its requirements.

On approval of the Facility, the Registry Operator will confirm by email to the Facility Operator that registration has been completed.



## 6.2. Certification Period

A Certification Period is a 12-month period during which the natural gas throughput of a Facility is eligible for the Issuing of Certificates at a given Grade, as evidenced by an Audit Report. The attributes of a Facility evidenced by the Audit Report will define the attributes of Certificates Issued to such a Facility during that Certification Period.

The Certification Period of a Facility must:

- Start on the first day of a calendar month;
- Be an uninterrupted period of 12 whole calendar months;
- End on the last day of a calendar month;
- Start on or after the month in which the relevant Audit Report is submitted by the Facility Operator to the Registry Operator; and
- Be confirmed in the relevant Audit Report where possible.

Any variation to these requirements must be agreed with the relevant Standard Holder and the Registry Operator.

*To ensure minimal disruption to issuance, it is recommended that Audits for renewal are commenced before the end of the Certification Period.*

*To have an uninterrupted eligibility for Certificate Issuance, the start date of the new Certification Period must be the day directly following the end date of the previous Certification Period.*



### 6.3. Audits

Before Certificates may be Issued in relation to a Facility, an Audit of the Facility must be completed by an accredited Auditing Body and the results must be submitted to and approved by the Registry Operator.

The Audit process is the systematic, independent and documented assessment by an Auditing Body prior to a Certification Period, validating the information reported by the Facility Operator against the relevant Standard. The requirements and process of the Audit are set out in the relevant Standard.

It is the responsibility of the Facility Operator and the Auditing Body to agree commercial terms for carrying out the Audit. The Auditing Body must notify the Registry Operator or MiQ Foundation when it has agreed to carry out a new Audit.

*Auditing Bodies and Facility Operators should refer to the requirements and procedures outlined in the relevant Standard to perform an Audit. Further information can be obtained from MiQ Foundation directly.*

Audits must be conducted in compliance with the criteria set out in ISO 19011, Section 6 – Conducting an audit, specifically Section 6.4 (International Organization for Standardization. (2018). ISO 19011:2018, Guidelines for auditing management systems), or an equivalent standard agreed in advance with the relevant Standard Holder.

The results of an Audit, including the Grade to be associated with Certificates related to natural gas throughput during a Certification Period, are evidenced by an Audit Report that is provided to the Registry Operator.

The Registry Operator will only accept Audit Reports from Auditors and/or an Auditing Body that has been accredited by the relevant Standard Holder for the relevant supply-chain Segment.

The Facility Operator must provide a requested start date of the Certification Period associated with the Audit, which should be confirmed in the Audit Report where possible.

In addition to the Audit Report, the Facility Operator must provide the Audit Registry Data (high-level details of the results of the Audit), as required by the Standard Holder, on the Registry website. A summary of the required information for each Standard is set out in Annex B.

All information submitted to the Registry Operator must be complete and accurate, to the Facility Operator's best knowledge, information, and belief at the time of submission. Any changes to the information should be communicated to the Registry Operator as soon as possible. In the case of documentation provided (such as the Audit Report), such documentation must be provided in English and legible.

If a range is presented in an Audit Report in relation a data item for which the Registry requires a specific value, the conservative end of the range will be used in the Registry.



### 6.3.1. **Approval**

The Registry Operator will review the Audit submission to ensure that all required information has been provided and that the application contains a true and accurate representation of the Facility for the requested Certification Period.

Once complete and satisfactory, the Registry Operator will approve and activate the Audit in the Registry for the requested Certification Period and will notify the Facility Operator by email.



## 6.4. Issuance of Certificates

Before Certificates can be Issued to a Facility, the Facility to which the Issue Request relates must be registered, the Audit must have been approved by the Registry Operator and the Account for receiving the Certificates must also exist on the Registry.

Only the Facility Operator of a Facility can make an Issue Request relating to a Facility. An Issue Request contains a declaration of facts and associated Proof of Quantity that is submitted to the Registry Operator for review. The Facility Operator provides the Trading Account that it wishes Certificates to be Issued into.

*The Trading Account where Certificates will be Issued may be the default Account set at Facility registration but can be amended on each Issue Request by the Facility Operator if required.*

The Registry Operator will assess the Issue Request and may return it to the Facility Operator for resubmission if there are any omissions, inconsistencies or errors in its content.

### 6.4.1. Making an Issue Request

*The Facility Operator can make an Issue Request at any time within the Registry. The submission of an Issue Request must be complete, accurate, and legible. Partial, inaccurate, or illegible submissions may delay processing or invalidate a request made to the Registry Operator.*

It is the Facility Operator's responsibility to satisfy the Registry Operator that the Issue Request is valid and that the Delivered Quantity of the Production Facility is eligible for Issuance of Certificates. The Registry Operator may request any Additional Information it deems necessary to verify the admissibility of an Issue Request.

Certificates will always be Issued in monthly blocks. An Issue Request refers to the quantity of natural gas a Facility produces during the entire monthly Production Period.

For an Issue Request to be valid, the following criteria must be satisfied:

- A Proof of Quantity has been submitted to the Registry Operator for the Issue Request
- The Facility has a current registration
- The Issue Month must be within a single valid Certification Period
- No existing Issue Request for the same Facility, commodity and Issue Month has previously been Issued unless such Issued Certificates have been withdrawn
- The date of submission of the Issue Request is prior to the last day of the fourth calendar month following the Issue Month

*For example, an Issue Request with an Issue Month of January 2025 must be submitted on or before 31 May 2025 (last day of the fourth calendar month following the Issue Month). If the Registry Operator does not receive the complete monthly data by the deadline, the Registry Operator has the right not to Issue Certificates for the Issue Month.*



### 6.4.2. Proof of Quantity

It is important for the robustness of the MiQ Program and for the credibility of the Certified Gas market that issuance of Certificates is based on accurate information. For this reason, the Registry Operator requires Facility Operators to provide evidence of the monthly throughput at the time of the Facility Operator's request for issuance of Certificates. An Issue Request must, therefore, be supported by a Proof of Quantity that evidences the quantity of production or throughput at the Facility during the Issue Month.

The Proof of Quantity must include data for the full Issue Month and must clearly identify the Delivered Quantity exclusively related to the Facility during the Issue Month.

*The item of Proof of Quantity may also show quantities related to other Facilities or equipment that is not at the Facility or quantities for periods other than the Issue Month, provided that the Delivered Quantity for the relevant commodity, Facility and Issue Month is clearly set out and separately identifiable.*

The Proof of Quantity should be provided to the nearest whole Certificate Unit.

#### 6.4.2.1. Sample Proof of Quantity

To be approved by the Registry Operator, the Proof of Quantity provided by the Facility Operator on each Issue Request must conform to the format of the Sample Proof of Quantity approved by the Registry Operator prior to the first Issue Request. Not doing this may result in a delay to the first month's issuance.

The Sample Proof of Quantity must be agreed prior to the first Issue Request for a Facility. The Sample Proof of Quantity must state the name of the Facility, the name of relevant parts of the Facility that are separately identified in the Proof of Quantity (e.g., pads/metering points), the Issue Month, and the Delivered Quantity.

The Delivered Quantity should be expressed in Certificate Units. If the Delivered Quantity is not expressed in Certificate Units, then the units of measurement and necessary information to allow the conversion to Certificate Units should be clearly set out in the Proof of Quantity.

If applicable, a translation of the necessary sections for evidencing volumes in occidental characters must always be provided with any Sample Proof of Quantity to ensure clarity.

#### 6.4.2.2. Basis of information

The MiQ Program Guide observes a hierarchy of acceptable data for the Proof of Quantity:

- a) For a Facility which is directly connected to a commercial pipeline network, the Proof of Quantity should use market settlements metering data where possible.
- b) Where such market settlement data is not available, appropriate metering data originating from identified metering points should be used.
- c) Where metering data is not available, measured volume documentation for the periodic commercial transfer from the Facility owner to another Entity may be used.



The quantity on which the issuance of Certificates is based must be equivalent to the sales quantity at the relevant metering point. The metering point will generally be the exit point of the Facility, but for Production and Boosting and Gathering Segments it may be the pipeline entry point or other appropriate sales point downstream of gathering and processing, after accounting for any gas consumed as fuel in gathering and processing facilities.

This means that the Delivered Quantity:

- Must **exclude** any processing shrink prior to the metering point;
- may **include** fuel consumed in gathering systems and processing plants prior to the metering point;
- must **exclude** liquids or other hydrocarbons removed from the commodity stream in processing steps prior to the metering point;
- must **exclude** any production or throughput that is marketed under other environmental attribute certifications or standards during that Issue Month; and
- must **exclude** production or throughput from any assets that have been divested (or production must be pro-rated to include production during the period of ownership/operatorship only).

#### 6.4.2.3. Format of Proof of Quantity

The Proof of Quantity will be provided in the form of a monthly consolidated report setting out the sales quantity at the relevant metering point(s), adjusted for the parameters set out above. Facility Operators must ensure that they have included settlement data from relevant third-party statements and ensure that the relevant adjustments have been made.

Facility Operators must ensure that the information used in the monthly consolidated report is reasonably settled, such that they do not expect any significant variation to the data used to create the consolidated report. Typically, operators receive the required information during the latter part of the month following the Issue Month from their downstream partners. Facility Operators must ensure that they have received all the required information, and that they have a high level of confidence in it, before finalising the monthly consolidated report that is sent to the Registry Operator as a Proof of Quantity.

Where possible, third-party evidence (such as screenshots or PDFs of third-party settlement statements) should be provided in the Proof of Quantity to substantiate the information provided.

The monthly consolidated report must show the aggregate Delivered Quantity for which the Issue Request is being made, the aggregated quantity of adjustments listed above for the Issue Month, and the production or throughput by month for the relevant breakdown as evidenced by the third-party information (e.g., pad, gathering system, cargo, or other appropriate apportionment).

The monthly consolidated report must also include any new prior-period downward adjustments that have been made to prior Issue Months during the current or previous Certification Period. Typically, there should not be any prior period adjustments, but to the extent that adjustments have been made to prior months' production or throughput data, then



these should be reported to the Registry Operator as part of the Proof of Quantity. Such prior-period adjustments will be reflected in the current month's issuance.

Operators may choose to provide the monthly consolidated report in one of two formats, either:

- The operator can construct the monthly consolidated report by including all relevant source data such as screenshots of each relevant gathering or processing statement and the calculations used to calculate the aggregated quantity for which the monthly issue request is being made; or
- The operator may use a report generated from the operator's own internal systems that conforms to the requirements set out in this document, provided that the operator has provided to the registry operator evidence of third-party statements for a single example Issue Month in the Sample Proof of Quantity and a reconciliation between such sample statements and the Facility Operator's Sample Proof of Quantity.

In both cases, by making an Issue Request the Facility Operator is deemed to be confirming that the Proof of Quantity and the Delivered Quantity conform to the requirements of this Program Guide and that the required adjustments have been made.

The registry operator retains the right to request backup evidence on an ad-hoc basis in respect of any issue request.

In extreme circumstances, where data in the form of the Sample Proof of Quantity is not available, the Registry Operator may agree with the Facility Operator an alternative Proof of Quantity or an appropriate form of alternative independent verification.

#### 6.4.3. Approval

When an Issue Request is submitted on the Registry, it will be reviewed by the Registry Operator. To the extent possible, the Registry Operator will check that the measured volume has not been presented to any other system for the purposes of environmental attribute tracking.

When the Registry Operator is satisfied that Certificates Issued in respect of the Proof of Quantity provided will be a unique representation of the environmental attributes of the Delivered Quantity, it will create a record on the Registry signifying that the appropriate number of Certificates have been Issued into the Trading Account stated on that Issue Request.

The Certificates will be assigned the Grade current at the time of Issue for the Certification Period to which the Issue Month relates. Certificates will be assigned the Certificate Region of the Facility.

*A Facility Operator is able to view the current status of all Issue Requests it has created within the Registry. Issue Requests that have been successfully processed will have the status 'Completed'.*



*The Account Holder holding the Account into which Certificates have been Issued will be able to view the Issued Certificates in the relevant Trading Account in the Registry.*

### *Service Timing*

If no further information is required, the Registry Operator will normally Issue Certificates within 10 business days of receiving a complete Issue Request with appropriate Proof of Quantity. Unless otherwise agreed in the agreement between the Facility Operator and the Registry Operator, the service level stated in this section is indicative and non-binding.

#### **6.4.4. Eligibility for Transfer and Retirement**

Once Certificates have been Issued into an Account Holder's Trading Account, they can be transferred to another Trading Account or Retired immediately.

*Although Certificates are Issued in monthly blocks, once in an Account, individual Certificates within the monthly blocks can be transferred separately.*



## 6.5. Quarterly Verification Reporting

### **Applies to Facilities with MiQ Audits only.**

To demonstrate an operator's continued compliance with the MiQ Standard during the Certification Period, Facility Operators that have Facilities with MiQ Annual Audits must submit a **Quarterly Verification Report** to the Registry every three months during the Certification Period.

*Facility Operators that must submit Quarterly Verification Reports are those with Annual Audits for their Facilities, i.e., Audits against MiQ Standard Versions 1.0 or higher, or Audits against an earlier MiQ Standard Version but that have been migrated to an Annual Audit.*

Quarterly Verification Reports are self-attestations that the Facility is still within the scope of its Audit and allow for early flagging and remediation of any issues during the Certification Period.

Quarterly Verification Reports are submitted directly on the Registry.

Quarterly Verification Reports cannot be made before the end of each three-month period, but when available must be made prior making any further Issue Requests.

*For example, if a Facility's Certification Period runs from November 2024 to October 2025, the first Quarterly Verification Report must be submitted for the three-month period November 2024 to February 2025. This report can be submitted at any time from 1 March 2025. From 1 March 2025, the Facility Operator cannot make any further Issue Requests until it has submitted the Quarterly Verification Report.*

Facility Operators are sent email reminders and dashboard notifications of upcoming Quarterly Verification Reports.

On receipt of a Quarterly Verification Report, the Registry Operator, in consultation with MiQ Foundation, will review the submitted information and determine whether any follow-up with or remedial action by the Facility Operator needs to take place before Issuance of Certificates in relation to the Facility may continue.



## 6.6. Reporting of Non-Compliance Events

### **Applies to Facilities with MiQ Audits only.**

A Non-Compliance Event is any event or circumstance during the Certification Period that exceeds the Reportable Quantity or might result in a deviation from the results of a Facility's Audit, as set out in the relevant Audit Report and that could result in a worsening of the Facility's methane emission performance, including but not limited to an increase in its methane intensity or a change in its company practices, and where the cumulative effect of one or more such events could lead to a change to a Facility's Grade if it were to be re-audited based on such revised information.

It is the responsibility of the Facility Operator to record and communicate to the Registry Operator when it becomes aware of any potential Non-Compliance Event(s), as outlined in Section 6.6.3.

### 6.6.1. Non-Compliance Events

The following scenarios are to be considered Non-Compliance Events. Note that this is not an exhaustive list, and if the Facility Operator is in any doubt, it should contact the Registry Operator to discuss.

#### 6.6.1.1. Variation to the Facility's Audited Methane Intensity

Scenarios that may cause a significant increase in Methane Intensity at the Facility:

- Operator-reported or third-party-reported emissions events not captured by the operator's emission calculation methodologies used in their active audit. These events could be intentional or unintentional sources or activities in which an operator does not currently have a methodology incorporating it into their active methane emissions inventory. Additionally, emission events that an operator detects may be poorly estimated by a non-specific site emission factor in the audit's methodologies, in which case more site-specific treatment of a reported emission event may have a material impact on an operator's emissions inventory.
- Examples of intentional or unintentional sources or activities that may affect an operator's Methane Intensity include:
  - Unlit or poorly operating flares discovered by an operator that does not have a robust methodology for including the impact of these operating states in their inventory
  - Loss of primary containment of a major pressurized vessel or other piece of equipment in which the operator's emissions inventory does not capture comparable impact for a comparable event
  - Repeated or systematic occurrences from pressure relief devices or other pressure-relieving outlets (e.g., leaking/open thief hatches)
  - Normal breathing, flashing and working losses from tanks that are significantly higher than the estimated totals in the operator's bottom-up inventory



- Repeated malfunctioning of gas-driven pneumatic controllers or other pieces of equipment designed to emit methane that are expected to release more gas than estimated
- Malfunctions of emission control devices that emit more methane than design.

#### 6.6.1.2. Variation to Company Practices

Scenarios that may indicate a worsening of Company Practices at the Facility:

- multiple (greater than 3) delays in repair or replacement of identified leak sources or emissions events;
- deviation from a mandatory policy or procedure which leads to the misrepresentation of Emission Sources (training, identification, and reporting); and
- significant downtime (greater than 25% for the total Certification Period) or deviation from any quantifiable Improved Company Practice (e.g., re-route practices for venting).

#### 6.6.1.3. Variation to Monitoring Technology Deployment Plan

Scenarios that may indicate a worsening of emissions monitoring at the Facility:

- A reduction in the planned frequency or scale of monitoring technology deployment from the audited Facility Scale inspection for Super-Emitter events (including exemption clauses) and/or Emission Source Level inspection for leaks (LDAR) plans.

### 6.6.2. **Non-Compliance Notification and Recordkeeping**

The Facility Operator shall record all Non-Compliance Events, such as those outlined in Section 6.6.1.

When a Non-Compliance Event is determined to have occurred, the Facility Operator must:

- initiate resolution of the issue and document the event;
- implement, as soon as practicable, the necessary steps to correct underlying causes of non-compliance, and to the extent practicable, prevent a recurrence of the cause of the non-compliance;
- maintain a written record of the corrective actions taken in response; and
- notify the Registry Operator where required (see Section 6.6.3).

### 6.6.3. **Notification of Non-Compliance Events**

Where a methane emissions release event (by size and/or duration, or accumulation) exceeds or is believed to exceed the Reportable Quantity and/or has likely downgraded the original Grade set out in the relevant Audit Report (based on the Methane Intensity in the Audit Report plus the additional methane emissions volume the new event and any other events during the Certification Period), the Producer must follow the notification procedure outlined in Table 1.

Where notification to the Registry Operator is required, the information set out in Annex C must be provided on the MiQ Reportable Quantity Event Form provided by the Registry Operator.



Any changes to the estimation of the emission resulting from a Non-Compliance Event must also be notified to the Registry Operator within 30 days of the Facility Operator becoming aware of such change.

**Table 1 – Procedure for Non-Compliance Events relating to a potential change to Methane Intensity**

Non-Compliance Event – potential change to Methane Intensity	Notification procedure
<p>Non-Compliance Event(s) would likely downgrade the Grade determined in the original Audit by <b>one or more grade bands or to 'Fail' grade</b> if the Audit were to include the Non-Compliance Event</p>	<p>Notify the Registry Operator within 30 calendar days of identification of the Non-Compliance Event.</p> <p>Submit relevant documentation at the time of notification (to the extent possible), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• estimated quantity of methane emissions resulting from the event, the calculation procedure including rate and duration bases and the description of the source and/or location of the event; and</li> <li>• corrective actions taken.</li> </ul>
<p>Single methane emission release event that exceeds or is believed to exceed the <b>Reportable Quantity</b></p>	<p>Notify the Registry Operator within 30 days calendar days of identification of the Non-Compliance Event.</p> <p>Submit relevant documentation at the time of notification (to the extent possible), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• estimated quantity of methane emissions resulting from the event, the calculation procedure including duration and description of the source and/or location; and</li> <li>• corrective actions taken (in line with methane management protocols and repair program, e.g., repair the emission sources within the maximum days specified for final attempt at repair according to company policy).</li> </ul>

#### 6.6.4. Emission event calculation methodology

Calculation methodologies will differ depending on the type of method and technology is used to detect an emissions event or elevated site-wide emissions rate. Typically, an operator will need to determine an average emissions rate and representative time duration for each event. To estimate the average emissions rate the operator should typically use these data sources in the following order as applicable: emission rate provided by the detection and quantification technology, engineering calculations using best available pressure, flow or other relevant process data, or emissions factors deemed representative of the event type. To estimate time



duration, operators should first determine if the emissions event is continuous or intermittent; most reportable emissions events will be intermittent. For intermittent cases, the time duration should be estimated from observations or assumptions from other sources of relevant data which can include corroborating process data, continuous monitoring sensors, LDAR or AVO inspections that would likely also catch the event, or other effective controls.

Facility Operators should refer to the relevant MiQ Standard for further guidance on emission event calculation methodologies.

#### 6.6.5. **Publishing**

Subject to approval by the MiQ Foundation, the Registry Operator has the right to publish information relating to Non-Compliance Events on the section of the Registry website relating to the relevant Facility.



## 7. Certificate Inter-Regional Import System (CIRIS)

As described in Section 1, the goal of the MiQ Program is to provide buyers of certified gas and crude oil with as much information as possible about the emissions and ESG characteristics associated with the natural gas or crude oil that they are buying. The MiQ Program does this by certifying evidence-based Facility-level data on emission intensities along the supply chain. Certificates carry emissions attributes, including intensity grades.

Certificates are held by Account Holders in a Registry and are fully tradeable. Registry users can package sets of Certificates that relate to Facilities along a specific supply chain if they wish to demonstrate full supply-chain emissions.

Under MiQ's Certificate Inter-Regional Import System (CIRIS), the Account Holder holding Certificates can export a Certificate from one Certificate Region to another Certificate Region subject to meeting the requirements outlined below.

### 7.1. Certificate Regions

Each Certificate Region is a geographical area consisting with a single legislative framework or a gas/crude system connected whereby natural gas or crude oil is commingled from the system entry points (such as production sites) to their exit points (such as buyer offtake points, LNG liquefaction plants or crude oil terminals).

A Certificate Region can include natural gas/crude production, processing, transportation and storage, trading hubs and consumption points. Within a Certificate Region, gas/crude is typically commingled from many producers and/or transporters.

Certificates are tagged with the Certificate Region of the Facility where the certified gas/crude was produced, processed, transported, stored or liquefied. Certificates may, in general, only be **Retired** in relation to consumption that occurs in the same Certificate Region as that of the Certificates. This means that the consumption must be located in the same Certificate Region as the production and issuance of the Certificates, **unless** transferred (see Section 7.2).

Examples of Certificate Regions include the US and the EU, as well as countries such as the UK, Norway, Japan, or Algeria. The full list of current Certificate Regions is available on the Registry.

#### 7.1.1. Adaptability of the Certificate Inter-Regional Import System to future developments

The concept of Certificate Regions and inter-regional transfer of Certificates has been developed to be adaptable over time as the market and frameworks evolve. For example, as methane technology advances, if tracking or tracing systems are more widely implemented, or trading patterns evolve, Certificate Regions and Certificate transfer rules could be redefined to adapt to such changes.

MiQ will seek feedback from market players, key stakeholders and regulators, and allow for transition periods if such changes are considered in the future.



## 7.2. Certificate Inter-Regional Import System (CIRIS)

In cases where gas/crude is physically exported from one Certificate Region and imported into another Certificate Region, corresponding Certificates can be debited/credited between Certificate Regions subject to MiQ's CIRIS rules.

In such a case, the Certificate Region importing the certified gas/crude will be credited with a correlating number of Certificates and the exporting Certificate Region will be correspondingly debited. This allows the import and retirement of Certificates for consumption located in the new Certificate Region, while still avoiding any possibility for multiple use of the same Certificate.

The MiQ Program requires that for Certificates to be exported from one Certificate Region to another they must comply with the following inter-regional mass-balancing rules:

- **Volume correlation:** No more Certificates may be exported than the physically exported gas/crude volumes;
- **Time correlation:** Only Certificates issued within the 6 Issue Months (i.e., the date of gas/crude production) preceding the month of export may be claimed in relation to exported gas/crude volumes;
- **Legislation or gas/crude system correlation:** In a given Certificate Region the Production Facility and the export terminal or pipeline must (i) be within the same legislative framework (as e.g. the case in the US or in the EU) or (ii) the gas/crude can be transported from the production facility to the export terminal; and
- **Inter-region certificate correlation:** Certificates from an exporting Certification Region may only be credited in an importing Certification Region if gas/crude has actually been physically exported to the destination, supported by relevant documentation.

The above requirements establish a much more restrictive methodology than do many unrestricted book-and-claim systems, such as for renewable energies. Such systems allow Certificates produced in any location to be matched to consumption in any other location regardless of whether physical connection or energy flow or transport exists between those locations, reducing the incentives for good emission management in the production and consumption locations.

MiQ's CIRIS system's requirements enable, for example, EU importers presenting Certificates to EU authorities to demonstrate that an LNG cargo imported from the US has been physically loaded with correlating volumes of natural gas produced in specific production facilities in the US that comply with EU MRV emission management requirements.

CIRIS can be characterized as an "inter-regional mass balancing system" whereby book-and-claim is allowed only *within* a Certificate Region (as defined in Section 7.1), but mass-balancing and chain of custody is compulsory *between* Certificate Regions.

MiQ's certification program and CIRIS system facilitates the industry in meeting its methane abatement objectives today, without requiring new regulations or extra-territorial requirements, or awaiting the development of globally agreed tracking methods and systems.



MiQ's CIRIS system aims to evolve a framework for global markets that can be adopted today, creating methane-abatement signals in the market. Changes in technology, society, along with market pressures and regulations, may require revisions to the CIRIS system in the future (see Section 7.1.1).

In summary, MiQ's CIRIS system requires that producer and consumer are either located in the same Certificate Region, or that natural gas/crude has physically been transported from the producer's Certificate Region to the consumer's Certificate Region.

#### **7.2.1. How Account Holders can transfer Certificates to another Certificate Region using CIRIS**

Under MiQ's CIRIS System, the Account Holder holding Certificates can export a Certificate from one Certificate Region to another by making a request on the MiQ Registry. When making such a request, the Account Holder warrants that the gas/crude has been physically transported from the exporting Certificate Region to the importing Certificate Region.

The request must be accompanied by supporting documentation ("**Proof of Transport**") evidencing the transport of gas/crude between the source and destination Certificate Regions.

The exact form of the Proof of Transport will depend on the nature of the physical transport. Typically, LNG shipments, for example, may be evidenced by a Bill of Lading and pipeline flows may be evidenced by nominations to flow gas to the transmission system operator. For example, a Bill of Lading used for these purposes must include information allowing the Registry Operator to confirm the inter-regional transport of gas such as the vessel name, the loading terminal, the dates of loading, the unloading terminal, the dates of unloading and the quantity of LNG delivered at the unloading terminal.

For the purpose as defined above, the Account Holder is not necessarily the original producer of the certified gas. Under the CIRIS system, an importer of gas/crude into Europe can thus directly purchase certificates originating from a gas/crude exporting region (and have such certificates transferred to its Account on the Registry), and subject to the demonstration of Proof of Transport, request the export of certificates from the exporting Certificate Region to the importing Certificate Region. This also means that the exporting terminal does not necessarily need to provide any information in the case of production-only import requirements (such as the EU's EUMR). This means, for example, that an EU importer of gas/crude can purchase Certificates directly from a US producer to evidence producer-level information to the relevant authorities.

#### **7.2.2. Evidence of export provided by the MiQ Registry for Retirements**

A confirmation of the export of a Certificate from one Certificate Region to another will be provided by the Registry Operator. This confirmation can be used in conjunction with Retirement Statements to evidence the flow of gas/crude from the Production Facility identified on Certificates to the Beneficiary's Certificate Region.

#### **7.2.3. Evidence of export provided by the MiQ Registry for regulatory compliance, e.g. EUMR**

A confirmation of the export of a Certificate from one Certificate Region to another will be provided by the Registry Operator to be used to evidence the source and emissions intensity of



gas for regulatory import requirements, such as the European Union's methane import regulations.

#### **7.2.4. Certificates with additional information provided by the MiQ Registry for regulatory compliance such as the EUMR**

To the extent that more information is required for regulatory approvals than stated on standard MiQ Certificates, and MiQ holds such information, MiQ can provide Regulatory Attestations with more extensive data, provided the information owner (such as the relevant certified Facility operator) approves the release of such information.

The EU Methane Regulation, for example, requires EU importers to report or demonstrate to EU member state authorities more information about methane emission management measures at the level of production Facilities than is included on a standard MiQ Certificate. MiQ has therefore developed a Regulatory Attestation that provides the data required by EU member state competent authorities and can provide this Regulatory Attestation to relevant parties on request. A template Regulatory Attestation is available for discussion purposes. Please contact MiQ to discuss further.

#### **7.2.5. Example – transporting gas from the US to Europe by LNG**

If an Account Holder, such as an LNG importer into the EU, has procured Certificates from an Account Holder with a Production Facility in the US, the importing Account Holder may make a request on the Registry by identifying the Certificates that it has procured and by providing the relevant Proof of Transport.

The Registry Operator will verify that the correlation requirements are being adhered to, including checks that:

- The loading LNG terminal is in the exporting Certificate Region;
- The unloading LNG terminal is in the importing Certificate Region;
- The dates of loading correspond to the Issue Month of the Certificates (i.e. Certificates issued within the 6 Issue Months preceding the month of export may be claimed in relation to exported gas volumes); and
- The quantity of LNG delivered is sufficient to cover the requested transfer of Certificates from one Certificate Region to another.

Once the Registry Operator's checks have been completed to the satisfaction of the Registry Operator, the Registry Operator debits and credits the corresponding Accounts in the Certificate Regions in the US and the EU and issues a confirmation statement of the change of Certificate Region to the Account Holder.

On request, the Registry Operator can make available to the Account Holder a Regulatory Attestation for the purposes of satisfying the EU's methane regulation importer requirements, over and above the standard attributes and information included on the MiQ certificates.



## 8. Certificate Transfer

Certificates held in a Trading Account can be transferred to other Trading Accounts on the Registry.

Transfer of Certificates between Trading Accounts is initiated and completed by the holder of the source Trading Account. Confirmation by the holder of the destination Account is not required for the transaction to be completed.

An Account Holder can transfer any quantity of Certificates from one of its Trading Accounts into any other Trading Account held by itself or another Organisation.

The process for the transfer of Certificates to Retirement Accounts is explained in Section 9 (Certificate Retirement and Expiry).

The act of transfer is irreversible and cannot be cancelled.

### 8.1. Attributes reported on Certificates

The following attributes are reported on standard Certificates and are available to holders of Certificates and to Beneficiaries on Retirement Statements:

- The **Facility** against which the Certificate was Issued
- The **Issue Month** of the Certificate
- The **Segment(s)** of the Facility
- The **country** in which the Facility is located
- The **operator** of the Facility
- The **Grade**
- The **Certificate Region** in which Certificates may be Retired
- For Certificates issued against an Audit under the MiQ Standard, the **Reporting Methane Intensity** of the Facility in gCH<sub>4</sub>/MMBtu.
- For Certificates issued against an Audit under the MiQ Greenhouse Gas Intensity Standard, the CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O intensities of the Facility in gCO<sub>2</sub> and gN<sub>2</sub> per MMBtu.

The Reporting Methane Intensity is the estimated quantity of methane emitted in grams of methane per MMBtu that will be used on the Certificates and in Retirement Statements. The Reporting Methane Intensity for Certificates issued against an Audit under the MiQ Standard is calculated as follows.

For Segments where the MiQ Foundation requires an Approved Measurement and Reconciliation Protocol for the estimated Methane Intensity stated in the Audit Report to be used directly:

- For Certification issued against an Audit under the MiQ Standard that **confirms** that a measurement-informed inventory in compliance with an Approved Measurement and Reconciliation Protocol was used, then the estimated Methane Intensity stated in the



Audit Report will be used as the Reporting Methane Intensity, converted to gCH<sub>4</sub>/MMBtu.

- For Certification issued against an Audit under the MiQ Standard that does **not** confirm that a measurement-informed inventory in compliance with an Approved Measurement and Reconciliation Protocol was used, then the Reporting Methane Intensity will be the Methane Intensity equal to the higher end of the Grade band for the Facility's Grade that is stated in the Audit Report, converted to gCH<sub>4</sub>/MMBtu.

For all other Segments (i.e., Segments that the MiQ Foundation does **not** require an Approved Measurement and Reconciliation Protocol for the estimated Methane Intensity stated in the Audit Report to be used directly, the estimated Methane Intensity stated in the Audit Report will be used as the Reporting Methane Intensity, converted to gCH<sub>4</sub>/MMBtu.

Currently, the only Segment that the MiQ Foundation does **not** require an Approved Measurement and Reconciliation Protocol for these purposes is Vessels.

Conversion from percentage Methane Intensities (unitless % of methane emitted per unit of methane produced, processed, or transported) to grammes of methane per MMBtu uses a conversion factor of 57.019 tonnes/MMBtu. This conversion factor is derived from:  $MI (g CH_4/MMBtu) = MI (unitless \%) * 0.0192 (mt CH_4/mcf CH_4) * 0.95 (mcf CH_4/mcf NG) / 1.04 (MMBtu NG/mcf NG) * 10^6$

- the density of methane of 0.0192 kg/ft<sup>3</sup> for CH<sub>4</sub> at 60°F and 14.7 psia<sup>1</sup>;
- the typical heat content of natural gas consumed of 1.04 MMBtu/mcf natural gas<sup>2</sup>; and
- the typical methane content of pipeline natural gas of 95%<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-40/chapter-I/subchapter-C/part-98/subpart-W/section-98.233>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.eia.gov/dnav/ng/ng\\_cons\\_heat\\_a\\_EPG0\\_VGTH\\_btucf\\_a.htm](https://www.eia.gov/dnav/ng/ng_cons_heat_a_EPG0_VGTH_btucf_a.htm)

<sup>3</sup> See, for example, [https://www.naesb.org/pdf2/wgq\\_bps100605w2.pdf](https://www.naesb.org/pdf2/wgq_bps100605w2.pdf).



## 9. Certificate Retirement and Expiry

### 9.1. Retirement of Certificates

For claims to be made against their attributes, Certificates must be removed from a Trading Account and placed in a Retirement Account, from which they cannot be transferred. This process is known as Retirement. All Retirements must be recorded within the Registry.

Retirement of Certificates is initiated by the Account Holder. No confirmation is required by a third party.

*The Account Holder is the only Entity that can Retire Certificates that it holds in its Trading Accounts. An Account Holder may Retire Certificates on behalf of itself or its clients. In each case, the party that is named on the Retirement Statement is the Beneficiary of the Retirement. Only the Beneficiary may then make claims relating to the retired Certificates.*

Once Retired, a Certificate cannot be transferred to any other Entity. Retirement Statements are available and can be provided as evidence of the Retirement (see Section 9.4).

The act of Retirement is irreversible and error-correction is only permissible upon demonstration to the Registry Operator that the Retirement details have not been used for any other purpose. Error-correction of Retirements is at the sole discretion of the Registry Operator and may be subject to payment of a fee, to be agreed in advance, to cover any work involved.

The attributes reported on Certificates are described in Section 8.1.

#### 9.1.1. Beneficiaries

A Beneficiary is an Entity (or a class of Entities) that will be claiming the use of Certificates as evidence of its sustainability commitment. A class of Entities can be a Beneficiary, for example if united by a single tariff product of a gas utility.

In order to Retire Certificates for a Beneficiary, details of the Beneficiary must exist on the Registry. Account Holders can add new Beneficiaries on the Registry. A Beneficiary can be an Account Holder, or an Entity that is not an Account Holder. If the Beneficiary is not an Account Holder itself, then another Account Holder must Retire Certificates on their behalf.

*A Beneficiary listing is held by each Account Holder. This listing is not visible to other Account Holders.*

A unique Certificate Region will be assigned to each Beneficiary, based on the location where the relevant Entity consumes natural gas.

#### 9.1.2. Retirement

The Certificates to be Retired must exist in a Trading Account held by the Account Holder making the Retirement. Likewise, the destination Retirement Account to be used for the Retirement must also belong to the Account Holder making the Retirement.



*It is not possible for Account Holder 'A' to Retire Certificates into Account Holder 'B's Retirement Account. The Certificate must first be transferred to a Trading Account held by Account Holder 'B'.*

At Retirement, the Account Holder identifies the Certificates being Retired and the Beneficiary. Once a Retirement has been processed these details may not be amended. Other information relating to the Certificates will automatically be included in any Retirement Statements generated.

Certificates can only be Retired on behalf of a consumer or class of consumers if that consumer or class of consumers has been set-up by the Account Holder on the Registry as a Beneficiary.

*Beneficiaries can be passive and are not required to have their own Registry Account.*

*Once a Certificate has been Retired, it cannot be transferred or assigned to another Beneficiary.*

The Certificate Region on the MiQ Certificates to be Retired must be the same as the Certificate Region associated with the Beneficiary assigned upon Retirement.

*Certificates must only be used in the sustainability reporting of entities consuming natural gas in the Certificate Region where the natural gas has effectively been delivered. By making a Retirement, the Account Holder attests that this is the case.*

For Beneficiaries with several consumption sites, it is possible to identify the site in the Beneficiary information if required.

*For example, the Beneficiary information may state "Meat Processing Company LLC, North Dakota Processing Facility" or "Meat Processing Company LLC, New York State operations" rather than just "Meat Processing Company LLC".*

To allocate Certificates to a class of consumers under a single product tariff of a commodity utility or similar, details of the tariff must be included in the Beneficiary information so that it is clear that the Certificates are being matched to customers' commodity use and not to commodity used in the operations of the utility or supplier.

*For example, the Beneficiary information may state "Natural gas supplied to customers of XXXX Utility LLC – Q1 2020" and not simply "XXXX Utility LLC".*

It is the responsibility of the Account Holder making the Retirement to understand the nature of commodity consumption by the Beneficiary that will be named on the Retirement Statement, and to ensure that sufficient commodity has been consumed to match the Certificates being Retired.

Retired Certificates will be removed from circulation on the Registry and placed into the Account Holder's selected Retirement Account. It will be locked uniquely to the selected Beneficiary upon Retirement.



## 9.2. Claims of Certificate attributes

Once a Certificate has been Retired, only the Beneficiary may make claims relating to the underlying attributes of that MiQ Certificate.

*Account Holders may generate a Retirement Statement on the Registry, which can be used by the Beneficiary as a disclosure statement.*

*A claim over the environmental attributes associated with a Certificate can only be made after Retirement.*

The rights to any associated claim vest solely and irrevocably in the Beneficiary assigned to the Certificate at Retirement.

## 9.3. Expiry of Certificates

Certificates will automatically be expired by the Registry if they have not been Retired 36 calendar months (three years) after the last day of their Issue Month.

A Certificate that has expired cannot be Retired or claimed. No Retirement Statement may be generated from an expired Certificate.

## 9.4. Retirement Statements

A Retirement Statement is a uniquely verifiable report confirming the Retirement of Certificates and their assignment to a Beneficiary.

*Although not mandatory to provide to Beneficiaries, the Retirement Statement provides confirmation for the Beneficiary of the Retirement and the evidence the Beneficiary needs to back up its ESG reporting.*

*Account Holders are encouraged to use the Retirement Statement produced through the Registry as this also provides a link and code for the recipient to securely view the details directly on the Registry for independent verification.*

Only Retirement Statements produced within the Registry are valid for disclosure purposes. Transaction copies and extracts do not constitute evidence of Retirement.

Account Holders may not create or use alternative forms of Retirement Statements.

*A Retirement statement can be produced in pdf format for the consumer on the Registry website.*



## **10. Error Management**

### **10.1. Context and General Provisions**

If the Registry Operator becomes aware that the provenance of any Certificate is suspect, it may suspend the Certificate from Transfer or Retirement until any required investigation has concluded.

### **10.2. Process Overview**

Errors are unplanned occurrences and the handling of errors is therefore bespoke to the encountered circumstance.

Where an Entity identifies an error it should immediately notify the Registry Operator by email to the helpdesk email address provided on the Registry Operator's website at <https://miqregistry.org/>.

The Registry Operator will respond promptly to all notified errors seeking to remedy the situation with minimal impact.

In the event of an error being identified after the Issue of a Certificate and before it has been Retired, the Registry Operator will amend the details of a Certificate, when it has been confirmed that such an error exists. Where it becomes clear that a Certificate has been Issued in error, it will be Withdrawn by the Registry Operator.

Following withdrawal, replacement Certificates may be issued by the Registry Operator.

### **10.3. Record keeping**

The Registry Operator will keep a record of all notified errors, investigations conducted and remedial actions taken.

### **10.4. Corrective and Preventive Action Process**

The Registry Operator will seek to minimise the recurrence of errors where practicable, identifying and implementing process or system improvements to prevent the recurrence of all notified errors.



## **11. Complaint Management**

### **11.1. Context and General Provisions**

Any Entity may submit a complaint to the Registry Operator or Standard Holder. They will review all received complaints and determine, acting reasonably, the most appropriate process for resolution. To be considered, complaints must relate only to the subject matters covered by the MiQ Program Guide, including but not limited to:

- Accredited Entities, their service performance, or their standard terms;
- Facility Operators and Account Holders, or their actions; or
- Regulations of the MiQ Program Guide or their interpretation.

On submission of a complaint, the notifying Entity should indicate if it believes the situation to be such that an urgent investigation is required to minimise potential impact. The reason for the urgency of the investigation as well as the identified potential impact(s) must also be clearly stated upon submission of such a complaint.

### **11.2. Complaint Handling**

Following receipt of a complaint, the Program Holder will record the basis of the complaint and details of any associated Entities.

Based on the Program Holder's opinion of the urgency of the complaint, the Program Holder will establish an appropriate process through which the complaint can be further evaluated, informing affected Entities if deemed necessary.

The Program Holder may request that the Entity notifying the complaint and or other Entities respond to questions in relation to the complaint to enable effective resolution of the matter. The Program Holder may at its discretion implement further investigatory procedures, including the relation to any Entity materially affected by the complaint.

The Program Holder may elect to constitute formal or informal discussions with any affected Entity with the goal of resolution.

### **11.3. Determination**

Once the complaint has been evaluated and the Program Holder has determined a resolution or response it will notify affected Entities.

The Program Holder is not required to provide a resolution in relation to the complaint.



## **12. General Regulations**

### **12.1. Rights to and Suspension of Services**

Access to Services and Accounts, the processing of Facility registrations and the approval of Audits and Issue Requests is at the discretion of the Registry Operator and subject to the standard terms of agreement.

Account Access, Registration and Issuing may be permanently or temporarily withdrawn or withheld in cases where a Facility Operator or Account Holder is suspected to have acted fraudulently committed any offence under the laws applicable to their place of domicile or trade or is in breach of the MiQ Standard or the MiQ Program Guide.

The Registry Operator may at any time and without notice suspend/cease provision of Service through an Accredited Entity suspected of fraudulent activity, breach of the MiQ Program Guide or any requirement enacted by the MiQ Program Guide.

Registry access and registration may be permanently or temporarily withdrawn or withheld in cases where a Facility Operator is suspected to have acted fraudulently or committed any offence under the laws applicable to their place of domicile (or trade), and/or is in breach of its agreement with the Registry Operator, the requirements of the MiQ Standard and/or the MiQ Program Guide.

### **12.2. Additional Information**

Accredited Entities may require Additional Information beyond that specified in this document before approving submissions. Any Additional Information will be limited to what is considered necessary for the validation of required information or completion of the related request.

### **12.3. Change Management**

Any Accredited Entity, Facility Operator or Account Holder may raise a change request for the MiQ Program Guide.

Proposed changes are considered by the Program Holder. All changes to the MiQ Program Guide will be subject to approval of the MiQ Foundation.

Unless urgent, implementation of approved changes will be no more frequent than every six months. Urgent changes may be released with immediate effect once approved.

### **12.4. Access to Data**

The Registry Operator may publish aggregated and anonymised data relating to Facilities and the Issuance, transfer or Retirement of Certificates, as well as summary information relating to Facilities. The use of such data will at all times be subject to the confidentiality restrictions set out in the legal agreement between the Registry Operator and the relevant Facility Operator or Account Holder.



The General Data Protection Regulations established under European Union and/or UK law apply to the Registry Operator



## **Annex A – Facility information requirements**

**The following information is required for facility creation:**

- Facility Name
- Segment (e.g., Onshore Production)
- Facility address
- Facility location (drawn on map)
- Main operator details (name, address, contact), if different to Facility Operator



## **Annex B – Audit information requirements**

**The following information is required for MiQ Audits:**

- Facility
- Standard version
- Audit type
- Grade
- Start date of Certification Period
- Auditing Body
- Lead auditor
- Total Company Practices points
- Total Monitoring Technology Deployment points
- Total annual estimated methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) emissions for facility
- Annual estimated methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) emissions allocated to only gas stream
- Annual gas production or throughput
- Methane content of gas exiting the facility
- Methane intensity
- Whether a measurement-informed inventory in compliance with an approved measurement and reconciliation protocol was used

**The following information is required for EO100 Annual Assessments:**

- Facility
- Standard version
- Audit type
- Grade
- Start date of Certification Period
- Auditing Body
- Lead auditor
- Score for each of the five Principles that were scored in the Annual Assessment
- Annual gas production or throughput
- Carbon intensity (optional)
- Methane intensity (optional)



## **Annex C – Non-Compliance Event information requirements**

**The following information must be reported in the case of a Non-Compliance Event:**

- Site (e.g. pad name, compressor station name)
- Description of event (e.g., leaking flange on GPU bypass line)
- Emissions type (select from incomplete combustion, flaring, venting, fugitive, other)
- Method of identification (e.g., flyover, continuous monitoring alert, OGI)
- Corrective actions undertaken (e.g., leaking flange tightened)
- Estimated start time and date of emission event
- Time and date detected
- End time and date of emission event (if known)
- Time zone
- Emission rate (kg/hr)
- Emissions rate calculation methodology (select from measurement, engineering calculation, emission factor, other)
- Total Emissions (mt CH<sub>4</sub>)



## Annex D – Document status

### Document Development

The MiQ Foundation and the Registry Operator have developed this Program Guide through extensive experience of operating the MiQ Program in combination with stakeholder review.

The MiQ Foundation and the Registry Operator reserve the right to make updates to the Program Guide on a periodic basis to conform with updates made to the Registry and the MiQ Program.

### Version History

The following table captures key changes made to the Program Guide.

Version	Publication date	Summary of changes
1.0	August 2021	First publication
2.0	July 2023	<p>Major update. Changes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion of EO100™ Standards and Certificates</li> <li>• Section 5.2 – Changes to Auditing Body applications and access</li> <li>• Sections 6.1 and 6.3 – Updates to processes for submitting Facilities and Audits</li> <li>• Section 6.4.2 – Inclusion of guidance on Proofs of Quantity</li> <li>• Inclusion of new MiQ Annual Audit process</li> <li>• Sections 6.5 and 6.6 – Inclusion of ongoing reporting requirements for Facilities with Audits under the MiQ Standard, including Quarterly Verification Reports and Non-Compliance Events (previously set out in v0.9 of the MiQ Standard, but now transferred to the Program Guide).</li> <li>• Section 8.1 – Description of attributes published on Certificates.</li> <li>• Section 7 – Revised Supply Chain process.</li> </ul>
2.1	January 2024	Updates and corrections. Changes include:



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Removal of references to Initial Audits since all Certificates on the Registry must now be Annual Audits.</li><li>• Inclusion of crude oil as a commodity under the MiQ Program.</li><li>• Major revision of Section 7, setting out the CIRIS process.</li><li>• Section 8.1 – Update to the conversion factor used to convert from percentage Methane Intensities to g/MMBtu Methane Intensities.</li><li>• Section 9.1.2 – updates relating to Certificate Regions (previously detailed in a separate ‘Certified Supply-Chain’ section)</li></ul>
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