

RFA publication schedule 2008-2009

Publication of data

The Renewable Fuels Agency (RFA) is committed to open and transparent operations.

The RFA has a statutory requirement to report annually to Parliament on the biofuels supplied under the Renewable Transport Fuels Obligation (RTFO). However, it is our intention to publish data and commentary on the carbon and sustainability (C&S) performance of biofuels as soon as is practical to do so. The RFA is legally obliged to recognise and protect the commercial sensitivity of information, such as individual suppliers' sales volumes or data from which sales volumes may be derived*. We do not expect this to detract from the usefulness of the information we publish.

On a monthly basis, we will publish a report of the information provided to us by fuel suppliers. Each **monthly report** will contain comprehensive C&S data on all of the biofuels supplied under the obligation, including the volumes by fuel type, feedstock, and country of origin to date. Graphs and charts will also incorporate information representing performance to date for the relevant obligation period. Company specific information will be included in the RFA's **quarterly reports**.

These will additionally provide data on individual company performance including against targets for data capture, proportion of biofuels meeting an environmental sustainability standard, and for greenhouse gas savings. This will help motorists make informed choices about where they purchase their fuel.

The data provided to the RFA is cross-checked internally and with HMRC and our own C&S checks. Additionally, annual published figures will be independently audited. The RFA will draw comparisons between the best and worst performers. We plan to illustrate examples of good practice and where suppliers are undertaking activities to improve performance, based on the information provided. By supplying data on absolute and relative performance of different suppliers the RFA aims to encourage responsible and sustainable sourcing of feedstock.

The format of these reports will be in a downloadable spreadsheet, accompanied by graphical illustrations and notes and commentary where appropriate, designed to make the information readily

understandable and accessible. We are committed to listening to feedback about the format used and encourage comments from users.

The fourth quarter's report will contain information relating to the C&S performance of both the RTFO and individual companies based on a full year's data. We intend to publish a **Provisional Data Report** for the year. This will not include the final, audited annual carbon and sustainability figures, data on redemption of certificates, notification of intention to 'buy out', or 'Buy-out' payments recycled, as these do not become available until later in the year[†].

The Annual Report to Parliament will be published in January 2010. The first year will cover the obligation period 15 April 2008 to 14 April 2009. The data it includes will distinguish between the performance of different suppliers, as well as indicate the performance for the RTFO overall.

Also included in the report will be details of:

- the compliance by each obligated supplier in relation to its obligation, including whether they have 'bought out' or supplied certificates;
- the effects on the following issues which the RFA considers to be associated with the production, supply or use of renewable fuel supplied under the RTFO:
 - carbon emissions,
 - agriculture,
 - other economic activities,
 - sustainable development, and
 - the environment generally;
- and the effectiveness of the RFA in carrying out its duties, covering various aspects including the effectiveness of its advice and the time taken to provide responses.

Notes

*This includes the specific requirements set out in sections 14(5) and 15(3) of the [RTFO order](#).

[†]The reporting system requires suppliers to provide an independent auditor's statement regarding the information they have supplied on an annual basis.

2008-2009 publication schedule¹

Reporting period for suppliers	Reporting deadline for suppliers	RTFCs ⁵ released	RFA monthly report	RFA quarterly report	RFA annual report
15 Apr-14 May 08 ² or 15-30 Apr 08 ³	16 Jun 08	14 Jul 08	1st week of Aug 08		
15 May-14 Jun 08 ² or 1-31 May 08 ³	14 Jul 08	14 Aug 08	1st week of Sep 08		
15 Jun-14 Jul 08 ² or 1-30 Jun 08 ³ or 15 Apr-30 Jun 08 ⁴	14 Aug 08	15 Sep 08		1st week of Oct 08	
15 Jul-14 Aug 08 ² or 1-31 Jul 08 ³	15 Sep 08	14 Oct 08	1st week of Nov 08		
15 Aug-14 Sep 08 ² or 1-31 Aug 08 ³	14 Oct 08	14 Nov 08	1st week of Dec 08		
15 Sep-14 Oct 08 ² or 1-30 Sep 08 ³ or 1 Jul-30 Sep 08 ⁴	14 Nov 08	15 Dec 08		2nd week of Jan 09	
15 Oct-14 Nov 08 ² or 1-31 Oct 08 ³	15 Dec 08	14 Jan 09	1st week of Feb 09		
15 Nov-14 Dec 08 ² or 1-30 Nov 08 ³	14 Jan 09	16 Feb 09	1st week of Mar 09		
15 Dec-14 Jan 09 ² or 1-31 Dec 08 ³ or 1 Oct-31 Dec 08 ⁴	16 Feb 09	16 Mar 09		1st week of Apr 09	
15 Jan-14 Feb 09 ² or 1-31 Jan 09 ³	16 Mar 09	14 Apr 09	1st week of May 09		
15 Feb-14 Mar 09 ² or 1-28 Feb 09 ³	14 Apr 09	14 May 09	1st week of Jun 09		
15 Mar-14 Apr 09 ² or 1 Mar-14 Apr 09 ³ or 1 Jan-14 Apr 09 ⁴	14 May 09	15 Jun 09		1 st week of Jul 09	By 31 Jan 2010

¹At July 2008.

^{2,3,4} Our reporting period for suppliers ties in with the duty reporting timetable for HMRC (² typically large fossil fuel suppliers, ³ or ⁴ typically biofuel suppliers that report to HMRC monthly or quarterly, respectively).

⁵ Renewable Transport Fuel Certificates – one certificate is awarded per litre of biofuel.