Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

FAQ for Firewood Producers/Importers

What are the Solid Fuel Regulations that I need to be aware of?

The current regulations on solid fuels for domestic heating in Ireland took effect on October 31st, 2022. The primary focus of these regulations is on improving air quality and improving people's health chances and outcomes, by restricting the retail, online and commercial sale of smoky fuels, including smoky coal, turf and wet wood. These fuels are proven to be a major contributor to air pollution in Ireland.

The regulations are known as the Air Pollution Act 1987 (Solid Fuels) Regulations 2022. They may be found online at S.I. No. 529/2022 - Air Pollution Act 1987 (Solid Fuels) Regulations 2022 and S.I. No. 389/2025 - Air Pollution Act 1987 (Solid Fuels, Moisture Content) (Amendment) Regulations 2025

What are my main responsibilities as a producer or importer of firewood and/or other wood products?

The key obligations on producers/importers are that they register with the EPA and that they only sell or distribute a solid fuel product that:

- Is an approved solid fuel.
- Is certified as per the regulations.
- Is labelled as per the regulations.
- Relates to a fuel activity in respect of which the producer is registered on the Fuels Register.
- That appropriate documentation is provided to merchants and retailers.
- That the required information travels with the fuel while being transported.

In addition to registration and certification, the producers are responsible for the conformity assessments of their products.

I simply import firewood and sell it on exactly as I receive it. What is required of me under the regulations?

Even if you only import rather than produce firewood, you are required to register with the EPA. To do so, you will need to provide appropriate certificates of compliance, to demonstrate that the fuels you are importing meet the requirements of the regulations.

Are firelighters and kindling covered by the regulations?

Firelighters and kindling are not subject to the regulations as they are used for ignition only and not prolonged burning. However, fire logs and fire bags are subject to the regulations.

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Registration

How do I register as a producer or importer of firewood?

You are required to fill out a registration form and have the required certification. Details of the process and a link to the form are available on the EPA website. Relevant queries may be addressed to fuelregistration@epa.ie

Once you have your EPA registration number you will be required to include it on all documentation and packaging and must provide updated documentation to a retailer if requested.

Certification

What certification schemes are accepted by the EPA?

Producers are now responsible for engaging and paying a certification body to ensure the certification scheme demonstrates compliance with the regulations on an annual basis.

Examples of certification schemes include:

- WFQA and Ready to Burn certification will be accepted for 100% biomass, wood products and wood logs.
- HETAS Approved solid fuel certification - subject to an annual certificate being provided.
- The Irish Standard IS-311, which was approved by the NSAI in late 2022.

Or

(a) a relevant standard or code of practice of a national standards body or equivalent body in another Member State, an EFTA country, the United Kingdom or Turkey;
(b) any relevant international standard recognised for use in another Member State, an EFTA country, the United Kingdom or Turkey;
(c) any relevant technical regulation with mandatory or de facto mandatory application for marketing or use in, another Member State, an EFTA country, the United Kingdom or Turkey;
(d) any relevant quality assurance scheme approved by the Minister,

insofar as the standard, code of practice, technical regulation, scheme or process in question enables the requirements of Regulation 5 to be certified in an equivalent manner.

Other important points to note include:

- The onus will be on the producer to prove the certification scheme demonstrates compliance with the regulations.
- Producers will now have to engage and pay for certification themselves as this will not be carried out under contract by the EPA.
- Eco-design certificates will not be accepted as they are based on the fuel being used in a specific eco-designed appliance type. The eco-design obligations only came into

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force in January 2022 and the evidence to date indicates that the majority of appliances were installed in Ireland before this date.

Labelling

Do I need to label my products in any particular way?

Yes. Approved solid fuels must be labelled with the words “contents comply with the Air Pollution Act Regulations” and packaging must also include the EPA producer registration number and a product code. This is to give the retailer and the householder confidence that the product is an approved fuel.

If the fuel is imported and does not have the required wording, then this wording needs to be secured to the packaging.

The label of the packaging of manufactured part biomass products shall include the percentage of biomass used in the product blend as set out in Regulation 11 (3) of the regulations.

Furthermore, wood sold in volumes of two cubic metres or more must be accompanied by a notice containing the statement specified in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 529/2022 - Air Pollution Act 1987 (Solid Fuels) Regulations 2022 and as amended by . S.I. No. 389/2025 - Air Pollution Act 1987 (Solid Fuels, Moisture Content) (Amendment) Regulations 2025

What is the product code mentioned above?

The product code is the unique code assigned to each product upon production, such as a barcode or any other unique identifier on the packaging. If you do not have a unique identifier on the packaging, you must supply the EPA with a code that is unique to each product. This is for each producer to determine, but applications will not be processed by the EPA without it.

Transportation

Are there additional record-keep requirements when transporting solid fuel?

Yes. The owner or operator of any vehicle which is used for the transport of solid fuel shall retain on the vehicle and provide to an authorised officer, if requested:

(a) A record of the quantity of each type of solid fuel on the vehicle and the name and address of the person or body who supplied the fuel,
(b) A record of the destination or destinations of the solid fuel and the name and address of the person or persons purchasing the fuel, and
(c) A record demonstrating that the solid fuel is an approved fuel, such as an invoice, credit note, or dispatch or delivery documents detailing the products purchased from a registered producer which must include the registration number issued to the producer by the EPA.

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You should ensure that these documents are provided to the driver of any vehicle being used for the delivery or other transport of solid fuel.

Please note that under SI 529 of 2022 it is an offence to transport unapproved solid fuels. Please see our FAQ on transportation for more details.

Other requirements

In relation to the threat of harmful pests and diseases to trees and forests suppliers and importers of Fuel Wood (firewood, kindling, wood chip) are also subject to the provisions of the EU Plant Health Regulation (2016/2031) and the related Official Controls Regulation (2017/625).

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) is responsible for the implementation of these Regulations in Ireland, including the plant health registration of suppliers and importers (this is a separate registration process to the above new Regulations on solid fuels). A notice issued by DAFM on how the Plant Health Regulations relate to Fuel Wood may be found here, and further information on the EU Regulations may be found on the DAFM website. Queries in relation to the EU Plant Health Regulations may be addressed to fuelwood@agriculture.gov.ie

Disclaimer

This document provides information to assist firewood producers and importers to comply with regulations which came into force on the 31st of October 2022.

It represents the most up to date information possible and is not a legal interpretation of the regulations. It is a working document and subject to update and change at any time as new information becomes available. Any additional queries can be directed to solidfuels@dcee.gov.ie

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