



REAL'S CERTIFICATION SCHEME FOR QUALITY DIGESTATES

BCS Newsletter December 2024



Operators' Forum and TAC

BCS held its latest Operators' Forum on 2 October, which took place online. Several key topics were discussed at the meeting with particular focus around developments within the AD Resource Framework (ADRF), with the Environment Agency (EA) outlining changes to waste codes and the removal of market restrictions for digestate.

During the TAC, CBs and other stakeholder representatives were then given the chance to ask questions about specific elements of the RF, its implementation, and interpretation. The responses from the EA provided clarification regarding the RFs that will inform the RF implementation guidance material that BCS is looking to publish in 2025.

Other topics raised at the Forum included laboratory testing in relation to invalid E. coli results, which was also addressed during the TAC, where a final report of the investigation was delivered concluding the investigation with positive findings, with no further challenges. The Research Hub also provided updates on ongoing projects, including the Plastic Method Assessment Report.

These discussions reflect the ongoing commitment of BCS to address

Certification Body telephone numbers

OF&G

+44 (0)1939 291 800

NSF

+44 (0)1993 885 610

ACL

+44 (0)1984 624 989

Approved Laboratory telephone numbers

NRM

+44 (0)1344 886338

Eurofins

+44 1902 955300 (General) /
+44 (0)1449 721 192
(Chemistry) / +44 (0)1449 721
637 (Microbiology)

AD Quality Protocol/Resource Framework

The Anaerobic Digestate (AD) Quality Protocol is being revised into the new AD Resource Framework (ADRF). In October, the Task & Finish Group met to confirm the final drafts of the new ADRF and to set out the process of final internal review and publication by the Environment Agency (EA).

Once the details have been confirmed internally, the EA will

scheme-related challenges and drive quality of waste-derived products.

Updated scheme documents

BCS is undertaking a comprehensive update of its scheme documentation, with the BCS Scheme Rules progressing to its 7th edition, in preparation for the new ADRF. As part of this process, several key guidance documents are being revised to align with the ADRF.

inform the Task & Finish Group stakeholders of the date of publication and will distribute the final ADRF.

Over the last months, we have been engaging with the Environment Agency on the implementation of the ADRF and how the BCS can be as prepared for this date. We will continue to have these discussions to ensure a smooth transition between the