

Press release

Granular Energy and VUE naturemade launch Pilot Project for enhanced transparency and real-time Matching of renewable and ecological energy

The software company Granular Energy and VUE, the Association for Environmentally Sound Energy, have initiated a pilot project to enable hourly transparency in the origin of renewable and ecological energy.

Paris and Zurich, December 2024. Switzerland's energy landscape is undergoing a fundamental transformation. The Association for Environmentally Sound Energy (VUE)–holder of the “naturemade” certification–has been actively advocating for an accelerated transition to a 100% renewable and ecological energy supply. This commitment extends to both energy production and supply mix within Switzerland. A crucial component of this vision is the Guarantee of Origin (GO) system, which verifies the production and consumption of renewable and ecological electricity.

Until now, such verification occurred on an annual basis. However, with the revised Ordinance on Guarantees of Origin and Electricity Labeling (HKSV) coming into effect on January 1, 2027, the validity of GOs will be shortened from 12 months to 3 months. To ensure continuous transparency in electricity production and consumption, VUE and Granular Energy are piloting a renewable and ecological energy product based on (quarter-)hourly intervals, along with the associated certification requirements. Granular Energy provides a platform that enables utility companies and other organizations to monitor energy consumption on an hourly basis and ensure alignment with renewable energy generation.

«Hourly energy tracking is critical to further build trust in renewable and ecological energy products. It also creates precise price signals that will accelerate investments in the right technologies needed to deliver clean energy 24/7 worldwide,” says Toby Ferenczi, co-founder of Granular Energy. “This approach allows organizations to set more accurate goals for matching production and consumption, while generating financial incentives for increased flexibility and storage expansion.»

«The decarbonization of Switzerland's electricity supply must be accelerated. VUE is convinced that hourly certificates can make a significant and credible contribution to this effort,” stated Pascal Steingruber, Managing Director of VUE. “Customers should receive greater transparency, and energy producers the right market incentives, to ensure the right renewable and ecological energy facilities are developed in the right places in the future.” He added, “Electricity products based on highly detailed temporal data introduce a new standard, as they document the origin of electricity in near-real time, providing greater transparency than ever before. This benefits all stakeholders–energy producers, suppliers, and end customers.»

The pilot project will develop, test, and evaluate the new certification system over a nine-month period starting in January 2025. The goal is to launch one of the world's first certified hourly renewable and ecological energy product by January 1, 2026. Swiss energy providers, electricity producers, and end customers are invited to participate in the field test. The new certification system will also be open to other qualified providers of hourly matching, ensuring non-discriminatory access. In addition

to accelerating the transition to a 100% climate-friendly and renewable energy supply, the field test will focus on customer convenience and data protection.

Further Information: www.naturemade.ch; www.granular-energy.com

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About VUE:

Founded in 1999, the Association for Environmentally Sound Energy (VUE) is the organization behind the “naturemade” certification. naturemade is a credible quality label for certifying renewable and ecological energy, resource efficiency, and energy neutrality at national and international levels. Its quality differentiation is represented by a four-point system, with increasing levels of “naturemade star” certified energy, the highest level indicating 100% adhering to the strictest ecological standards.

Consumers of naturemade certified energy contribute to a fund for ecological improvement measures, further reducing the unavoidable impacts of energy systems on the climate and environment. Through these efforts, VUE members—including environmental organizations, energy producers and suppliers, major energy consumers, and renewable energy associations—drive the ecological transformation of Switzerland’s energy system.

About Granular Energy:

Granular Energy is a software company that helps energy providers align energy generation and consumption with greater geographical and temporal precision. Granular Energy’s founder, Toby Ferenczi, also co-founded the [EnergyTag](#) initiative, aimed at developing a standard for issuing hourly energy certificates. These “Granular Certificates” enable real-time tracking of renewable energy production and consumption.