

Zurich, November 2021

naturemade scale of fees

For electricity, heat/cooling energy and biomethane/biogas

Valid from 1.1.2022

1. Introduction

As naturemade has continued to evolve and naturemade-certified supplies have changed in the process, the naturemade schedule of fees has been updated to meet current needs. However, there has been no change in the level of fees compared to the schedule of fees of 29.09.2019.

1.1. Membership contribution

Persons wishing to have an energy generating plant or energy product certified under the naturemade star, naturemade basic or naturemade resources star quality seal must be members of the VUE Association for Environmentally Sound Energy (Verein für umweltgerechte Energie). This also applies to monitors and suppliers of naturemade efficiency certificates (defined in separate regulations).

1.2. Certification and licensing fees

VUE charges fees for certifications and recertifications on the one hand and for the licensed production volumes of energy generation plants (energy production) and licensed energy supply volumes on the other. This schedule of fees contains the relevant provisions for the naturemade star, naturemade basic and naturemade resources star quality seals.

The fees for licensees of the naturemade efficiency quality seal are set down in the separate financial contributions regulations for the efficiency marketplace (available from www.effizienzmarkt.ch).

2. VUE membership fees¹

The membership fee depends on the total volume of energy (physical energy, proofs of origin, certificates) produced by or sold to end customers or traded by a company (as a whole) within one year. For energy traders, trade on the Swiss market is taken into account. The annual volume of energy relevant for the membership fee includes the total respective volume rather than only the volume certified under a naturemade quality seal. If the company as a whole has a naturemade license for only a single energy system (electricity, heat or biogas/biomethane), the volume of energy relevant for the membership fee only relates to that energy system. If the company as a whole has a naturemade license for several energy systems (e.g., naturemade electricity and naturemade biogas or naturemade heat), the volume of energy relates to all these energy systems in full.

¹ See also [„Membership application for the association VUE“](#).

Annual energy sales (GWh/a)	Membership fee in CHF (excl. VAT)
>1'000	8'000.-/year
>500 - 1'000	4'000.-/year
>100 - 500	2'000.-/year
>5 - 100	1'000.-/year
0-5	Included in the licensing fees

3. (Re)certification fees (every 5 years) and annual licensing fees

The fees for naturemade licences comprise several fee components.

- (Re)certification fees (every 5 years)
- Annual **fixed** licensing fees
- Annual **variable** licensing fees. These depend on the licensed quantity of energy.

3.1. (Re)certification and fixed licensing fees

Type of fee	Fees in CHF (excl. VAT)
(Re)Certification fee	Five-yearly 500.-
Fixed licensing fee	Annual 200.-

Exception:

- Express certifications (certifications outside the official dates) are subject to an additional fee of CHF 1000.00. If a licensee requests concurrent express certifications of several licenses, this fee is only charged once per licensee.
- The fixed certification and licensing fees are calculated differently for collective licenses for biomass plants: there is no (re)certification fee of CHF 300.- every five years, and an annual licensing fee of CHF 300.- is instead charged rather than CHF 200.-
- The fixed (re)certification fee for the simplified procedure for small single plants (available for solar, wind and drinking water power plants < 30 kVA) is **CHF 150.-/5 years**. The annual licensing fee does not apply.

3.2. Variable licensing fees

Variable licensing fees are calculated precisely in MWh increments (see example in Article 5). Variable licensing fees are based on the licensed volume stated in the declaration (cf. Article 4).

Energy production (electricity, heat/cooling energy and biomethane/biogas)

Licence for production	Annual fee in CHF per GWh (excl. VAT)
Production of naturemade	20.-
Production of naturemade star	39.-
Production of naturemade resources star	39.-

Electricity supply

Licence for supply	Annual fee in CHF per GWh (excl. VAT)			
	0-10 GWh/a	>10 bis 100 GWh/a	>100 bis 750 GWh/a	>750 GWh/a
Supply naturemade quality 1 - 3 points	950.-	100.-	40.-	0.-
Supply naturemade star quality (4 points)	1'350.-	150.-	60.-	0.-
Distribution naturemade resources star	1'350.-	150.-	60.-	0.-

Biomethan/Biogas supply

Licence for supply	Jährliche Gebühr in CHF pro GWh (excl. VAT)			
	0-10 GWh/a	>10 bis 100 GWh/a	>100 bis 750 GWh/a	>750 GWh/a
Supply naturemade star (>= 35 GWh/a)	1'350.-	150.-	60.-	0.-
Supply naturemade star (<35 GWh/a)	Supplies of naturemade star biogas/biomethane below licensed quantities of 35 GWh/a are subject to a flat variable licensing fee of CHF 500 per GWh/a (excl. VAT).			

Heat/Cold supply

Licence for supply	Annual fee in CHF pro GWh (excl. VAT)	
	Supply naturemade (1 point)	100.-
Supply naturemade star (4 points)	500.-	

4. Basis for calculating the variable licensing fee

4.1. Energy production

The factor used to calculate the variable licensing fees for power plants and stations whose production is certified is obtained from the average production of the plant/station for the five years immediately prior to the first fee charged. **If no major changes occur, this factor remains unaltered for the duration of the licensing agreement.**

4.2. Energy supply, annual licensing fee and subsequent adjustment

The licensed quantity of an energy supply that is used for calculating the variable licensing fee is the **forecast saleable quantity of energy** that can be sold to end customers or sub-licensees respectively as naturemade-certified energy.

Different quality levels may be supplied to end customers for each licensed energy supply. The relevant quantities per quality level must be stated in both the declaration (forecasts) and the review audits (actual quantities sold). Variable licensing fees and subsequent adjustments are calculated based on this information.

Licensees may adjust licensed quantities as part of review audits or at the end of each year. **If the sold quantity is greater than the licensed quantity, VUE subsequently adjusts the payable fee in accordance with actual sales, based on the quantities stated during the annual review audit.**

If the quantities sold are less than the quantities for which a license has been obtained in advance, variable licensing fees are only reimbursed **on an exceptional basis**. Reimbursements from VUE may only be applied for under the following conditions:

- A reasoned application must be submitted to the executive office by 31 March of the respective year at the latest.
- The maximum reimbursement to be approved per licensee and year is CHF 20,000.00 excl. VAT.
- Planning errors are not acceptable reasons for reimbursements.
- Reimbursements are tied to singular events such as the loss of a customer.

There is no entitlement to reimbursements as a matter of principle. Applications are assessed by the VUE Board at its discretion on a case-by-case basis.

5. Calculation example for (re)certification and licensing fees

5.1. Production

The following fees are payable for a **naturemade** basic-certified power generation plant with an average annual output of 120'300 MWh:

Type of fee	Calculation	Fee in CHF (excl. VAT)
Certification fee	Five-yearly	500.-
Fixed licensing fee	Annually	200.-
Variable licensing fee	Annually 120.3 GWh at CHF 20.-	2'406.-
Total in year 1		3'106.-
Total in years 2 to 5		2'606.-

5.2. Supply

For the licensed energy supply of the following quantities and qualities:

- naturemade 1 point: 150'000 MWh/a
- naturemade 2 points: 200'000 MWh/a
- naturemade 3 points: 700 MWh/a
- naturemade 4 points: 25'000 MWh/a

Type of fee	Quantity	Fee in CHF (excl. VAT)
Certification fee	Five-yearly 1	500.-
Fixed licensing fee	Annually 1	200.-
Variable licensing fee naturemade 1-3 points*	Annually 350.7 GWh/a	19'528.-
Variable licensing fee naturemade 4 points*	Annually 25 GWh/a	15'750.-
Total in year 1		35'978.-
Total in years 2 to 5		35'478.-

***Calculation of variable fees:**

	< 10 GWh/a	>10 - 100 GWh/a	> 100 GWh/a	Total
= naturemade 1-3 points: 350.700 GWh/a	10 x CHF 950.- = 9'500.-	90 x CHF 100.- = 9'000.-	250.7 x CHF 40.- = 1'028.-	CHF 19'528.-
= naturemade 4 points: 25 GWh/a	10 x CHF 1350.- = 13'500.-	15 x CHF 150.- = 2'250	-	CHF 15'750.-