



Application form for the approval of a hydropower plant for the sales of EKOenergy-labelled electricity

Please fill and send back to info@ekoenergy.org. You can write to the same email-address if you have questions or comments. We will be happy to help!

General background information:

EKOenergy doesn't label or certify power plants as such. Instead we ecolabel sales and consumption of renewable energy. Only the electricity of approved power plants can be sold as EKOenergy. Only licensed sellers can sell EKOenergy-ecolabelled electricity.

The general requirement is that the operation of the installation complies with all legal requirements, as well as with the requirements of concessions and permits (See also chapter 8.2)

In addition, EKOenergy sets specific environmental requirements with regard to fish migration, water flow and river habitats. Each requirement includes basic performance level and advanced performance level. For the hydropower installation to qualify for EKOenergy, the basic level must be reached within each three criteria. In addition, an advanced performance level must be reached within one of the three criteria.

Special situations and exceptions:

- These additional requirements don't apply with regard to installations located in completely artificial water bodies such as water supply tunnels or irrigation canals.
- Hydropower installations with a capacity of less than 1 MW may be dismissed if the electricity production is minor compared to the adverse environmental impact.
- If the advanced level is reached in two criteria, it is possible to apply for liberation from the third criteria for a justifiable reason. EKOenergy's Secretariat decides on the exemption based on a careful and written consideration of all elements.

Also note: EKOenergy only works with power generation from dams and barriers that are constructed before 1 January 2013. However EKOenergy can accept power plants constructed more recently if there are no new negative impacts on the water body, e.g. replacements of old dams or installations that do not dam the entire flow of the river.

An approval is valid for 5 years and can be renewed.

For the full criteria, see chapter 8.3.C of the text "EKOenergy - Governance structure and criteria for electricity", at www.ekoenergy.org > ecolabel > criteria > electricity.

BASIC INFORMATION OF THE POWER PLANT

Name of the hydropower plant _____

Year of construction _____

Fall height _____

Capacity and annual electricity production (on average) _____

Turbine type _____

Optimized flow through the turbines, (m³/s) _____

Owner and contact information _____

Operator of the plant (if not the same as the owner) and contact information _____

LOCATION AND TYPE OF POWER PLANT

Please indicate the type the hydropower plant:

- ☐ A run-of-river installation, operating with the incoming flow of the river
- ☐ An installation in a river reach/mouth of a lake with storage upstream
- ☐ An installation in a tunnel system with water intake from storage upstream → *criteria 1 and 3 are applied in downstream river reaches. Application of requirement 2 on a case by case basis.*
- ☐ An installation in a water supply tunnel or irrigation canal → *criteria 1-3 are not applied*
- ☐ A pumped-storage installation
- ☐ Other, describe: _____

Please give basic information about the water basin and the river:

What is the name of the water basin where the power plant is located? _____

What is the name of the river (or tributary)? _____

What is the name of the storage or lake upstream? _____

What is the name of the regulation dam that directs the water flow to the plant? _____

What is the ecological state of the water basin where plant is located? _____

Attachments - The documents indicated with an asterisk (*) are compulsory.

- ☐ Map showing the plant's location in the water basin area*
- ☐ Map showing the water intake and outflow of the plant in the context of a river, tunnel system and/or canal*

CONCESSIONS AND PERMITS

Issuing year of the permit(s), and according to what law? _____

Have the conditions of the concession or the permit been updated afterwards? Please specify

Please describe the content of the permit and present state of fulfilment of its obligations:

	Included in permit (yes / no)	Fulfilled (yes / no)
Water level regulation		
Water discharge		
Water redirection (e.g. to bypass channels)		
Taking care of fish population (fish passages, restoration measures, fish stock seeding, other measures or a combination of these), fisheries fees		
Other obligations		

Attachments

- ☐ Valid permit(s) for the power plant*
- ☐ Relevant updates and changes in the original conditions of the concession or the permit (if applicable)

REQUIREMENT 1. FISH MIGRATION

Applied in all cases, except when the dam or barrier is located on a place where no fish could pass for natural and geographical reasons (e.g. a high waterfall) and power plant does not diminish possibilities for fish migration on other river stretches.

	Yes / No / Don't know
Have fish moved downstream passing the location of the plant, before the plant was built and river constructed?	
Have fish moved upstream passing the location of the plant, before the plant was built and river constructed?	
Does the power plant operation diminish possibilities for fish migration on other river stretches ?	

Please name the dams (constructions, barriers) that hinder fish migration _____

Basic level

	Yes / No/ Don't know	Description
Does a fish pass exist?		Year and type of the construction:
Are the fish species using the fish pass known?		Fish species:
Has the amount of fish been verified by monitoring?		Amount of fish:

Attachment, basic level of requirement 1

- ☐ Photograph of the fish pass*
☐ Fish pass on a map (in context of the hydropower plant)*
☐ Report on the operation of the fish pass*

Advanced level

Please describe the fish pass

- Water availability (e.g. some months, all year round) _____
- Water flow (m³/s) _____
- Does the fish pass include reproduction/spawning areas? _____

What feedback has been collected and applied to improve the function of the fish pass?

	Feedback collected Yes / No / Don't know	Feedback applied Yes / No / Don't know
Upstream migration routes		
Downstream migration routes		
Water availability and flow		
Measures to direct fish		
Other		

Attachments, Advanced level of requirement 1

- ☐ Report(s) on adjustments of the fish pass or other developments of fish migration solutions
☐ Report(s) on fish surveys in the power plant impact area

REQUIREMENT 2. WATER FLOW

Note: In the case of power plants with reservoirs high up in mountains/fells and a tunnel system for intake and outflow of water to power plants, requirement 2 is applied at discharge points downstream of the power plant.

Basic level

What is the average low flow of the river, m³/s? _____

Is there a bypass present (Yes / No/ Don't know)? _____

WATER DISCHARGE	Flow min m ³ /s	Flow max m ³ /s
Through turbines to lower channel		
In the bypass		
In the fish pass		
Through flood locks		
In other discharge point(s) (where? _____)		

In normal operation of the plant, do zero flows occur: (Yes / No/ Don't know)

in the lower channel? _____

in the bypass channel? _____

in the fish pass? _____

Attachments, Basic level of requirement 2

☐ Locations of flow measurements (discharge points) on a map*

☐ Flow curves (m³/s) at discharge points*

Advanced level

Please describe the ecological flow of the river by seasons.

E.g. What method has been used to define the ecological flow? What are the natural flow conditions in the water body during annual cycle (dry season, flood season, etc)? What is the water flow of the river in terms of minimum, maximum and annual average flow (m³/s)? What is the relevance of these flow conditions to the ecosystem?

Please describe the use of ecological flow in plant operation.

E.g. What adjustments are made in the hydro-peaking of the power plant? How are the impacts of flow regulation up and downstream from the plant mitigated, in terms of high and low water levels (meters) and flows (m³/s)?

Attachments, Advanced level of requirement 2

- ☐ Report on ecological flow
- ☐ Report on application of ecological flow in the operation of the plant

REQUIREMENT 3. RIVER HABITATS

Basic level

	Yes / No / Don't know	Please describe
Are there stream habitats preserved, restored or created in the river/tributaries?		
Are the habitats accessible in relation to the plant's location?		
Are the habitats watered all year round?		
Is the total area of the habitats known? In m ³ , or m ³ /per 100 m river stretch		

Please describe the quality and quantity of the stream habitat. Indicate the relevance to the river ecosystem and its flora and fauna (e.g. fish, insects, mussels, birds, plants).

Attachments, Basic level of requirement 3

- ☐ Map indicating the accessible habitat locations in the context of the hydropower plant*
- ☐ Report(s) on the habitat*

Advanced level

	Yes / No / Don't know	Please describe
Is the function of the habitats monitored?		
Is the feedback from monitoring applied to increase the quality of habitats?		
Is the feedback from monitoring applied to increase the quantity of habitats?		

Please describe the natural state before the loss or weakening of original habitats (E.g. How large is the dammed, dug or dried-up stream in hectares? How much reproduction area for migratory fish that has been lost due to damming and clearing?), the monitoring results of the habitats and the measures taken to improve the function of habitats.

Attachments, Advanced level of requirement 3

- ☐ Monitoring report on breeding result of specified river organisms (e.g. smolt production per hectare)
- ☐ Report on measures to improve habitat

STAKEHOLDERS

Please suggest relevant stakeholders for the public consultation of this application

DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE

- ☐ We understand what the EKOenergy approval of hydropower entails and confirm that all information provided in this application is correct
- ☐ We will inform EKOenergy's Secretariat of any change that could imply that the conditions on which the approval is granted are no longer fulfilled

On behalf of the applicant (organization, name, position)

Signature

OVERVIEW (To be filled by EKOenergy's Secretariat)

☐ The installation fulfils all legal requirements (compulsory)

Additional requirement 1: Fish migration

- ☐ Basic level accepted ☐ Advanced level accepted
☐ Not applicable
☐ Rejected

Additional requirement 2: Flow

- ☐ Basic level accepted ☐ Advanced level accepted
☐ Not applicable
☐ Applied in downstream river reaches
☐ Rejected

Additional requirement 3: Habitats

- ☐ Basic level accepted ☐ Advanced level accepted
☐ Applied in downstream river reaches
☐ Not applicable
☐ Rejected

Remarks _____

CONCLUSION / DECISION

- ☐ The application is accepted
☐ The application is in process, complementary information requested
☐ The application is rejected

Remarks _____

On behalf of the EKOenergy secretariat

Date, name, signature