

Zurich, April 2025

naturemade scale of fees

For electricity, heat/cooling energy and biomethane/biogas

Valid from 1.1.2025

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 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, namely (re-)certification fees and annual fixed licensing fees, and
- for the licensed production volumes of energy generation plants (energy production) and licensed energy supply volumes on the other, namely annual fixed licensing fees.

This schedule of fees describes the relevant provisions for the naturemade star, naturemade 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 fees

The fee is based on total annual energy sales or turnover (by the company as a whole).

This means the total quantity of energy sold (by the company as a whole) within one year. It is irrelevant whether that energy is certified naturemade or not. If the company as a whole applies for a naturemade license for only one energy system (e.g. electricity) then the respective amount only refers to this energy system. If the company as a whole applies for naturemade licenses for multiple energy systems (e.g. electricity and heat) then the amount refers to all respective energy systems. The annual fee for full members of categories A, B or C which *do not hold any naturemade licence* is CHF 1000 excl. VAT.¹

¹ Category A = Hydroelectric power producers and their associations, category B = New renewable energy producers and their associations, category C = Energy suppliers, traders and their associations, see "Membership application for the association for environmentally sound energy VUE" on our webpage (<https://www.naturemade.ch/en/general-certification-documents.html>).

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
without naturemade licence	1'000.-/year

The membership fee for full members of categories D, E and F is CHF 1,000 per year, for passive members CHF 500 per year (excluding VAT in each case).²

If licensees join VUE before or at the Board meeting at the end of September, i.e. if their membership application is dealt with at the September Board meeting at the latest, they must pay the full membership fee for the respective year. Membership fees for membership applications submitted later in the year, which are dealt with at the November Board meeting, will not be charged until the following year.

Further details on membership are explained in the membership application, which is available at www.naturemade.ch.

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

The fees for naturemade licences comprise several fee components.

- (Re)certification fees (fixed amount 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.

² category D = Environmental organizations, category E = Associations of small consumers, category F = Major commercial customers and associations.

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.-

Biomethane/Biogas supply

Licence for supply	Annual fee 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.-
Supply naturemade resources star	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 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

Below you will find a sample calculation of the fees for the production and supply of energy with naturemade quality. The membership fees are charged per company and are therefore not listed here.

5.1. Production

The following fees are payable for a **naturemade** 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	28'528.-
Variable licensing fee naturemade 4 points*	Annually 25 GWh/a	15'750.-
Total in year 1		44'978.-
Total in years 2 to 5		44'478.-

*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.- = 10'028.-	CHF 28'528.-
= naturemade 4 points: 25 GWh/a	10 x CHF 1350.- = 13'500.-	15 x CHF 150.- = 2'250	-	CHF 15'750.-