

Research Note 3-2013

June 2013

Top LGC Creators for 2012

The Poatina hydro power station in Tasmania created 820,000 Large-scale Generation Certificates (LGCs) for 2012 generation and was the largest creator of certificates for the year. The next nine largest LGC creators were all wind farms.

Wind is the largest creator of LGCs accounting for 60 per cent with hydro the next biggest at 20 per cent.

Following a detailed analysis of data contained in the REC-Registry on 14 May 2013, Green Energy Markets has produced this Research Note which analyses the power stations that have created the most LGCs (refer to Table 1).

Table 1 – Top 10 LGC creators

Power Station	State	Fuel	LGCs in 2011	LGCs in 2012
Poatina	TAS	Hydro	0	820,000
Collgar Wind Farm	WA	Wind	318,837	686,235
Waubra Wind Farm	VIC	Wind	634,982	673,173
North Brown Hill Wind Farm	SA	Wind	448,093	410,185
Lake Bonney Wind Farm Stage 2	SA	Wind	333,769	380,731
Snowtown Wind Farm	SA	Wind	338,359	361,822
Waterloo Wind Farm	SA	Wind	291,233	322,945
Hallett Wind Farm	SA	Wind	317,433	315,746
Capital Wind Farm	NSW	Wind	339,981	307,204
Alinta Wind Farm	WA	Wind	310,247	302,284

The Poatina power station is a baseline power station first commissioned in 1965. It is able to produce LGCs to the extent that its power generation is above its 1997 baseline of 1,034 GWh. Power stations have until 31 December 2013 to produce LGCs for 2012 generation and we expect that considerably more LGCs will still be created for Poatina for 2012.

The Collgar Wind farm (206 MW) in Western Australia, started operating in mid-2011 and produced the second most LGCs in 2012 with 686,235. The Macarthur wind farm in western Victoria (420 MW) became fully operational in January 2013 and by capacity is Australia's largest wind farm. We expect that for 2013 it will be the wind farm that produces the most LGCs.

The power stations producing the most LGCs in each of the other renewable fuel categories are summarised in Table 2 below. Of particular note is that waste coal mine gas generators were included in the Renewables scheme for generation from 1 July 2012.

Table 2 – Largest LGC creators for other renewable fuel categories

Power Station	State	Fuel	LGCs in 2011	LGCs in 2012
Pioneer Mill	QLD	Bagasse	246,047	225,381
Lucas Heights I & II	NSW	Landfill Gas	105,914	102,065
Weribee	VIC	Sewage Gas	64,284	52,268
Grenough River	WA	Solar	0	9,870
Visy Pulp and Paper	NSW	Black Liquor & Wood Waste	165,675	222,139
Moranbah North	QLD	Waste Coal Mine Gas	0	157,213
Lucas Heights I & II	NSW	Landfill Gas	105,914	102,065

In total 11.3 million LGCs were created for electricity generated in 2012 (as at 14 May 2013). We estimate that there are still 2 million LGCs yet to be created for 2012 generation, largely from baseline hydro generators (refer to Table 3). We estimate that a total of 13.2 million LGCs will eventually be created by power stations for 2012 generation, a 31 per cent increase on 2011 levels.

Wind is the largest creator of LGCs accounting for 60 per cent with hydro the next biggest at 20 per cent.

Table 3 – LGC creation by power stations by fuel source for 2012 generation year

Fuel source	Created to date for 2012	Still to be created	Expected creation for 2012	Share of Total	Created for 2011
Bagasse	631,278	66,203	697,481	5.3%	695,471
Black Liquor	243,424	16,152	259,576	2.0%	199,804
Hydro	1,294,316	1,329,199	2,623,515	19.9%	1,450,194
Landfill Gas	827,897	37,747	865,644	6.6%	795,667
Sewage Gas	136,096	2,388	138,484	1.0%	122,417
Solar	18,402	8,331	26,733	0.2%	5,170
Wind	7,472,852	440,273	7,913,125	60.0%	6,646,836
Wood Waste	101,500	58,450	159,950	1.2%	120,091
Other Bioenergy	35,313	44,381	79,694	0.6%	43,751
Coal Waste Mine Gas	368,388	56,612	425,000	3.2%	-
Total	11,129,466	2,059,735	13,189,201 [†]	100.0%	10,079,401

The analysis above is an extract from Green Energy Market's Renewable Power Station Report (May 2013) that is available on a subscription basis. Refer to www.greenmarkets.com.au

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