

Creating a common currency for emerging environmental markets

What is ETNNA?

The Environmental Tracking Network of North America (ETNNA) is a voluntary association of certificate tracking systems, regulators and interested market participants that are vested in preventing double-counting and promoting harmonization among certificate tracking systems and emissions registries in North America. Such harmonization will encourage trade, create a common currency for certificates, prevent double counting, and support new and emerging markets.

What if you could only write checks to people or businesses that had an account in your same bank? Even if that bank provided excellent services, such a constraint would slow business and increase transaction costs. That is the situation today with energy tracking systems. They have been well designed for their initial purpose, to serve one or more state Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) programs, but they don't allow their customers to exchange certificates with those whose accounts are in another system or who may be involved in energy programs outside their region. Today, tracking systems are seeing changing and evolving demands for their services with the growth of the voluntary renewable energy market, the emergence of new state RPS programs (and the expansion and evolution of existing ones), as well as the convergence of the energy and carbon markets.

The goal of ETNNA is to act as a forum to exchange ideas and information, and to facilitate the development of new services to individual states/provinces in North America, as well as regional and national markets. ETNNA is designed to bring together tracking system representatives with governmental, community and voluntary market participants to engage in dialogue to increase compatibility between systems and better support both compliance and voluntary markets. ETNNA and its tracking system members are policy and technology neutral. We recognize and appreciate that each regional tracking system has its own unique needs. ETNNA was created to help facilitate changes required to meet new and emerging regional needs as well as the existing ones. Moreover, should a Federal Renewable Portfolio Standard or other type of national energy, environmental program or mandate be put into place, a national network of tracking systems would be needed to support that policy.

The basis for such a national network already exists in the regional tracking systems that have been created. There is no need to duplicate efforts and costs. But additional work will be required to seamlessly weave the existing systems together in a manner that supports the state/provincial and regional programs for which they were originally created as well as supporting new national activities. ETNNA provides a forum for collaboration between these tracking systems, stakeholders and government



Membership Eligibility

Eligible members of ETNNA include the following parties from the U.S., Canada and Mexico:

Council Members

- Representatives of existing and emerging certificate issuing or tracking systems in North America
- Representatives of existing and emerging emissions registries in North America

Affiliate Members

- Stakeholders: Individuals or representatives of companies, non-profits or institutions that have an interest in the policies and governance of certificate issuing systems, tracking systems or emissions registries
- Regulatory and Governmental Representatives

agencies to discuss common issues, identify best practices and design solutions to common problems.

The predecessor to ETNNA (the North American Association of Issuing Bodies Working Group) primarily focused on compatibility issues among the electricity tracking systems. Though our current work is with electricity tracking systems, ETNNA's mission has broadened to include the option of working with emissions registries and emissions tracking entities in the future should that be desirable and useful as the electricity and carbon marketplaces are quickly changing and converging on several levels. In the future our work could include coordination between electricity tracking systems and emission registries in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

ETNNA is a membership based organization that works with all interested parties to ensure that we are serving the needs of all of our stakeholders. Current funding is from a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) grant and ETNNA membership fees.

Learn More

To find out more about ETNNA, call us at 415-561-2135 or visit our website: www.etnna.org.