SolarCoin Affiliate FAQ

Note: this is a living document constantly being updated.

Data capture & treatment

Under what data protection laws does the SolarCoin Foundation (SCF) operate?

Data collection and retention will be subject to the guiding principles of the EU GDPR regime in regards to personally identifiable information (PII).

The SolarCoin Foundation has retained a financial compliance specialist to maintain Know Your Customer (KYC) /Anti-Money Laundering (AML) processes and compliance in regards to financial record keeping.

How will collected data be used?

Power producer, claimant, and Affiliate PII and production data gathered by either Affiliates or the SCF may audited by a SCF-retained third party. PII also may be sent to a third party KYC service provider for identify verification and compliance.

In the event that a recognized, relevant government regulatory body requests information for tax or reporting purposes, data will be made available.

The data is **not used or shared internally or externally in any other way**.

How does the SCF ensure the confidentiality and security of the data?

All data sent to the SCF is encrypted by default. Claims being processed via the website are handled by a monitored and constantly updated Drupal installation, those sent in via the API are

done over TLS and require a registered token. Claims data and tokens are stored in an encrypted database.

What plant production and owner information will be publicly visible on the blockchain?

Summary production data is published onto the SolarCoin blockchain alongside the Grant issuance transaction using an anonymous ID associated with the facility and postcode. The data is placed in the TX message space at the time of granting.

E.g. **AGRT-AU-3059-274-3-100-2014/11/24-2015/05/01** (live link: https://chainz.cryptoid.info/slr/tx.dws?837125.htm)

Websites and external communications

How does the SCF handle price commentary?

The SCF and Affiliates are not permitted to comment about future SLR price expectations, discuss current price, or induce speculative purchases of SolarCoin. SolarCoin should be treated as a publicly-traded security and follow the restrictions related to securities law.

Can I display the SolarCoin logo on my site?

SolarCoin Affiliate websites are required to clearly display an official SolarCoin Affiliate badge, beginning once the MOU has been countersigned and for the duration of the Affiliate relationship.

The badge signifies the official Affiliate relationship with the SCF, as well as clearly distinguish the SCF messaging from that of local Affiliates who may have differing goals and operating parameters.

Affiliate badges are not to be displayed by non-affiliates. Please notify the SCF of infringing sites and we will issue cease & desist orders.

An example Affiliate badge: Others can be download as they are pinned to the private affiliate channel in slack.

Legal and taxation issues

What are the Solarcoin Reward & Software Terms & Conditions?

a. SolarCoin grant receipt, function & performance

    i. Non-recourse

        1. No guarantee of delivery, transferability or functionality at a physical, informational or economic function is implied or guaranteed by the SolarCoin Foundation.

        2. SolarCoin implies no financial claim or recourse from the issuer, recipient or any other actors within or outside of the SolarCoin ecosystem.

    ii. Non implied future grant guarantee

        1. SolarCoin grant is a purely conditional transfer. It can be considered a gift or grant with no recourse or obligation to be given or granted.

    iii. SolarCoin is not a substitute for proof of generation

        1. Not a Guarantee of Origin (GO) under EU regulation

        2. Not an Solar Renewable Energy Credit (SREC)

        3. Not a proof of energy production for any purpose

b. Software is made available under the MIT X11 license

    i. Permission is hereby granted, free of charge, to any person obtaining a copy of this software and associated documentation files (the "Software"), to deal in the Software without restriction, including without limitation the rights to use, copy, modify, merge, publish, distribute, sublicense, and/or sell copies of the Software, and to permit persons to whom the Software is furnished to do so, subject to the following conditions:

    ii. The above copyright notice and this permission notice shall be included in all copies or substantial portions of the Software.

> iii. THE SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED "AS IS", WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND NON-INFRINGEMENT. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE AUTHORS OR COPYRIGHT HOLDERS BE LIABLE FOR ANY CLAIM, DAMAGES OR OTHER LIABILITY, WHETHER IN AN ACTION OF CONTRACT, TORT OR OTHERWISE, ARISING FROM, OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE SOFTWARE OR THE USE OR OTHER DEALINGS IN THE SOFTWARE.

c. Taxation and reporting

i. SolarCoin may be subject to taxation for the recipient. This liability and the reporting of this liability are the sole responsibility of the recipient. The SolarCoin Foundation is not responsible for the filing or reporting of any claims granted, distributions, interest earned from staking or other activities related to distributed SolarCoin.

ii. SolarCoin files information reports for those claims required by the US taxation authorities. Generally speaking in the US. SolarCoin is considered a gift. Different local, state and national tax treatment and acceptance are likely. Complying with the local laws and regulations is up to the recipient of the solarcoin grant.

iii. SolarCoin may withhold, suspend or not issue claims to individuals or solar generating facilities which consider the SolarCoin grant illegal or which might incur costs, duties or taxes upon the entity sending, distributing or processing SolarCoin.

d. Guarantee of Origin (GO) and Feed-in Tariffs (FiTs)

i. SolarCoin is not to be confused with a GO or FiT. It is not and should not be presented as a substitute, replacement or in any way related to a guarantee of origin.

Claimants

Can I have multiple claimants for my facility / split my grant?

Each facility is allowed a single claimant or individual claiming on behalf of the facility. In the event of multiple claimants, a single claimant must come forward. In the event of a dispute before or after a claim has been applied for or granted, the SCF will suspend granting until the

dispute is resolved. The SCF makes no guarantee of the approval any current, future or historical claim.

PPA and other contractual assignments of "environmental attributes"
   a. The SolarCoin foundation treats any solar facility as if 3 streams or flows emerge from it.
      i. **Black Stream**: the cash flow or benefits received from selling / using electricity
      ii. **Green Stream**: Any environmental attribute that is available due to the facilities production of energy
      iii. **Gold Stream**: The solarcoin reward
   b. Resolving who is entitled to the Gold stream may be a function of the PPA holder/owners to resolve as each contract and legal juridictional interpretation may vary.

How does the SLR allocation work when a PV plant is co-owned by several parties through an SPV?

The SCF grants to a single entity for each facility, no exceptions.

This is done to simplify the relationships and payment. If there is a dispute over the claim or recipient allocation of solarcoin, the SolarCoin foundation will suspend all claims until the dispute is resolved.

At no time does the SolarCoin foundation imply or make statements in regards to the official ownership of a facility.

Can a claimant exit the SolarCoin program ?
Yes, you may exit the program at any time by filing a request. Any records or requirements for data protection must be maintained as per the KYC and data retention policies. The right to be forgotten and other GDPR related rights will be respected.

As an Affiliate, can I add other business models ?
An affiliate can add any legal service as long as the cost to Claim solarcoin is maintained as free. This is done to make sure solarcoin is not "sold" which may risk it being considered a security in some jurisdiction..

Third-party partnerships and relationships

Who has endorsed SolarCoin?

IRENA has accepted SolarCoin into their database "atlas" of incentives for financing in 2016. SolarCoin foundation met with members of the team and the DG of Irena in January 2018 and are working on a closer collaboration.

SolarPower Europe has recognized SolarCoin.

Who accepts SolarCoin as payment?

A list of individuals accepting or willing to accept SolarCoin may be maintained by 3rd party(ies).

The SCF does not support, maintain or endorse the list, its suppliers or the integrity of the offerings. This minimizes legal risk and exposure to the SCF as open ecosystems are by design impossible to monitor and regulate relative to all actors, actions, intentions and regulatory permutations.

SolarCoin endorsements & neutrality

Who does the SCF endorse?

Generally speaking, the **SCF does not recommend, endorse or encourage the use of any specific service or provider**.

This policy is in place to protect the SCF from risk or lawsuit in the event that a 3rd party service provider engages in activity that may technically fail, be considered illegal in a jurisdiction at a given time or be perceived differently by different groups in the community etc.

In the case of affiliates, the SCF encourages users, claimants and other to choose the provider or services they feel most comfortable with and that they are willing to trust. The SCF assumes no liability for the actions of affiliates or third-party providers.

Wallet management and user experience

What are the recommended wallet management processes?

The treatment of wallets and security will vary depending on the goals of the end user. Some users prefer to use the official SolarCoin wallet available on solarcoin.org. This necessitates

some technical aptitude and computing power. Others opt for Coinomi, an unofficial third-party mobile wallet that provides a simpler experience but fewer features.

A wallet holds one or more [private keys](), these generate public keys which are then used to create addresses. These private keys must be kept secure, the owner of the private key has unrestricted access to spend or transfer the SLR associated with them.

Fraudulent Claims and data

What happens if a fraudulent claim is filed?

An individual or entity claiming to represent the ownership of a facility may be found to be liable for fraud if they are not the facility owner (or, in the case of a <20kw facility, the inhabitant of the home under or associated with the generating facility by means of consumption.)

The actual owners of a facility may file civil or criminal fraud charges against a fraudulent claimant who receives SolarCoin on their behalf.

Records are retained with transaction recorded on the blockchain which means fraudulent transactions may possibly be traced in the future.

Referral Bounty payments

How are referral bounty payments calculated?

Bounties are paid at the rate of 10% of the first year's SolarCoin claim. e.g. a facility that produced 50 MWh of electricity in its first year of claims would equate to a 5 SLR bounty being paid to the referring Affiliate. This bounty is paid from the Network Development Fund (NDF), not the claimant's grant.

When are they paid?

Payment of the bounty occurs around or at the same time as the initial grant award is processed.

What if there is a dispute?

Disputes around bounties are resolved by the [SolarCoin Council](), a body comprised of SCF members and Affiliates.

Network Development Fund (NDF)

What is the Network Development Fund?

The NDF is a fund, populated by a 10% fee removed from paid claims of facilities greater than 20KW name plate capacity. The fund is administered by the [SolarCoin Council](#) and used to develop tools and materials associated with growing and maintaining the SolarCoin network. The network development fund is visible in the blockchain explorer.

It is assumed that at a point in the future, the Network Development fund may be large enough to distribute to rural solar energy projects and charitable activities agreed to by the SolarCoin Council.