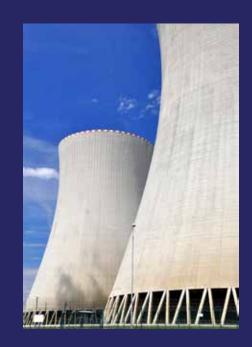
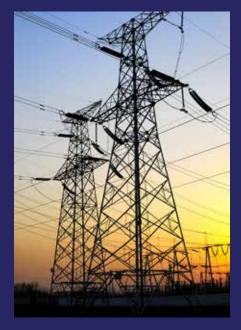
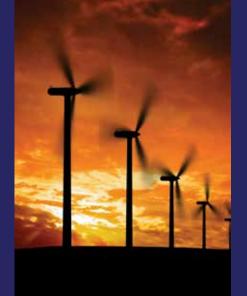
# Global Energy Certification Handbook & Study Guide

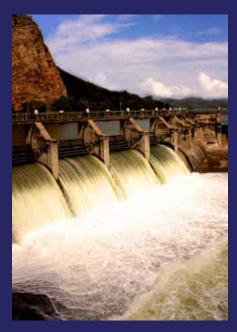
















Global Energy Certification Handbook & Study Guide Version 1.2

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Web: <u>http://www.globalenergycertification.org</u> Email: info@globalenergycertification.org



# GLOBAL ENERGY CERTIFICATION (GEC) HANDBOOK & STUDY GUIDE

This Handbook & Study Guide has been created for those individuals who are studying for the GEC Designation Exam. Registration for the GEC program is open year round with examinations offered every month.

The GEC program is rigorous and continually improved to ensure that it is practical, current, and valuable to both participants and employers.

The Global Energy Certification (GEC) designation is a 100% online-based energy industry training and certification program that can be completed as quickly as you'd like. With 12 examination dates offered each year, the GEC program is flexible and made to fit your schedule. The GEC program is the most popular and trusted certification program built exclusively by and for energy industry professionals.

### PROFESSIONAL

The GEC certification is an invaluable professional and business asset within your portfolio of educational and business qualifications. The GEC certification will give each certified student a professional certification in energy intelligence.

# **OPPORTUNITY**

GEC provides a professional certification of comprehensive energy industry intelligence. The certification is for professionals and students studying and working within the energy world and also for those seeking to join and understand it. The certification provides the unique opportunity to recognize professional development and achievement for global energy market knowledge.

### INSIGHT

The course gives students a comprehensive and global industry overview, allowing each individual student to understand key concepts and future market projections. The course provides the student with global market insight and vision to create future industry leaders.

### KNOWLEDGE

GEC is a division of NRG Expert, recognized and trusted as a global provider of premium energy data, analysis and research. This puts GEC is the unparalleled and privileged position of being able to share the data and analysis of one of the leading global independent market research companies. This is why the GEC course is so robust and informative. As a student you are able to gain insight into the most trusted, robust global data and analysis available. The GEC course is recognized as an industry standard for energy industry knowledge training.





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# NRG EXPERT & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Global Energy Certification (GEC) exam is sponsored by NRG Expert (NRG), one of the largest independent international energy research and intelligence consultancies in the world. Customers of NRG Expert include multi-billion financial institutions such as Goldman Sachs and Citibank, financial analysts and consultants from top end consultancies such as McKinsey & Company, and some of the leading business professionals from providers in the energy industry such as Siemens, ABB, and Schneider.

NRG Expert provides cutting-edge energy market reports, databases, forecasts, consultancy and analysis to the world's leading companies, consultancies and investment houses. With access to over a million lines of world-wide energy data, analysis and information, collected from 100+ trusted sources.





# **BROADEN YOUR SKILLSET**

The GEC Designation is designed to ensure that participants master a certain level of energy industry knowledge across ten learning modules. This certification provides them with the necessary knowledge and skills to become an efficient and effective member of an energy industry management, sales, consulting, or analyst team.

Participants in the GEC Program could include:

- Analysts
- Students
- Management Consultants
- Financial Traders
- Due Diligence professionals
- Marketers & Sales Professionals
- Professors & trainers
- Commodity Trading Advisers (CTAs) & Forex Fund Managers
- Lawyers
- Accountants
- Recruiters
- Investor Relations Professionals.

While nothing can replace years of industry experience, the program aims to increase the breadth of energy industry knowledge that current industry professionals hold and assist those individuals transitioning into the global energy industry.





# **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the course are:

- To raise the professional standards of those engaged in the global energy industry.
- To improve the practice of energy management by encouraging energy managers in a continuing program of professional development.
- To identify persons with acceptable knowledge of the principles and practices of the global energy industry and its related disciplines and laws governing and affecting energy managers through completing an examination and fulfilling prescribed standards of performance and conduct.
- To award special recognition to those global energy professionals who have demonstrated a high level of competence and ethical fitness for energy industry issues.

The Global Energy Certification for professional achievement and development aims to provide participants with enhanced capabilities and a good understanding of today's energy technological challenges, thereby enabling their progression to the forefront of innovation and project development in a context of complexity, high uncertainty and severe competition.

Participants can expect to leave the program with:

- An understanding of the energy business environment and its fundamental economic and technological concepts and terminology.
- An in-depth knowledge of energy technologies, industries and markets.
- The ability to assess and develop strategies to address major issues in energy regulation and policy.
- A thorough and practical approach to financial, legal, and regulatory issues and resources related to the global energy industry.





# THE GEC IS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE ENERGY INDUSTRY

The program is intended for those familiar with the energy industry as well as participants aspiring to work in the energy field.

It is profession-orientated and designed to give participants a comprehensive understanding of key energy issues and improve their analytical and research skills. The program's objective is to educate and train for the energy sector by using state-of-the-art NRG Expert knowledge, intelligence, data, and insight into this rapidly changing industry.

The GEC designation is the industry standard energy industry training and certificate program offered by NRG Expert, the global leader in independent energy research and intelligence. Enroll to gain access to NRG Expert Research Report and Data materials that are part of the syllabus, and a timed examination offered monthly. To get started you may register online by clinking the Register Now Button below.

The GEC designation is unique in that it is modeled after many online courses offered at Red Brick and Ivy League institutions today. The GEC designation is a self-study program, and the test itself is administered online. The online exam is structured so that to complete the exam within the two-hour time frame one must read through all of the assigned materials and conceptually understand the majority of the material. Our goal is to offer a challenging program while also providing all of the learning tools possible to ensure participants get the most out of the experience.

Within the GEC course materials you will receive access to many NRG Expert market research reports and databases, including the NRG Expert Statistical Review of World Energy and exclusive Energy Industry tools through our NRG Expert's premium NRG Almanac which is regularly updated with resources to supplement the GEC's required readings. Additionally, for those looking to start an energy industry career or advance beyond their current energy industry position, NRG Expert regularly advises it global client database of all recent graduates of the GEC designation, and will fulfill resume requests when invited.



### WHY IS GEC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPORTANT?

A personal commitment to your professional development if essential is you are to build a successful career – so knowing how to develop yourself is one of the most important skills you can learn as a professional.

There are a range of reasons why professional development is important:

- Professional development is about ensuring that you develop and maintain the high levels of competence expected of a professional by the public and by your peers.
- It increases your ability to cope with challenges and changes and make the most of opportunities
- It helps you plan your own development and make the best use of resources
- It shows employers that you are serious about your career
- It helps you keep up to date with changes in the sector, techniques and technologies
- It increases your job satisfaction and motivation.





# THE GEC CERTIFICATION IS THE MARK OF AN ENERGY PROFESSIONAL

Since its inception, the GEC credential has become widely accepted and used as a measure of professional achievement and development within the global energy industry. It has gained industry-wide use as the standard for qualifying energy professionals both in the United Kingdom, the European Union, the United States, Canada and abroad. It is recognized by numerous national energy offices, financial houses, major utilities, corporations and energy service companies, who recognise NRG Expert as a global leader in energy market research.

When you've earned the right to put the initials GEC behind your name, you've distinguished yourself among energy management professionals. Simply put, the designation GEC, which stands for Global Energy Certification, recognizes individuals who have demonstrated high levels of experience, competence, proficiency, and ethical fitness in the energy profession.

By attaining the status of GEC, you will be joining an elite group of professionals serving industry, business and government throughout the world. These high-achieving individuals comprise a "Who's Who" in the energy field.

All graduates will receive recognition in NRG Expert's renowned "Talking NRG" publication

That is distributes to thousands of NRG industry professionals worldwide and NRG Expert's vast international client base.

The Global Energy Certification is:

- A flexible distance learning programme that enables candidates to combine executive studies with a full-time job.
- Taught and tested in English, and administered by a professional independent online examination organisation.
- Developed by NRG Expert, a global leader in Energy Market Research, in cooperation with leading companies and institutions in the energy field.
- Focused on corporate energy issues, key industry terms and terminology and professional skills.
- A truly international, cross-cultural interactive learning environment, with a focus on personal and energy leadership development
- An opportunity to develop energy research, analyst and consultancy skills.
- A programme which incorporates recognised industry leading market research reports and databases as part of its syllabus.
- An excellent networking opportunity aided by NRG Expert's vast database of clients.
- Provided by an Energy Research and Intelligence institution with proven global excellence whose clients include Goldman Sachs, McKinsey & Company, Boston Consulting, the World Bank, Citibank, Schneider Electric, Siemens, ABB, Bloomberg, and many other prominent international organisations and governments worldwide.

The programme is professionally orientated and designed to give participants a comprehensive understanding of key energy issues and energy business concepts, analytics, background and terminology. Designed for outstanding professionals young and old, it is



suitable for both experienced energy-sector workers and those wishing to move into the industry.

# **RESUME & PEDIGREE UPGRADE:**

If you complete our certification program and pass our challenging online examination, you should be able to add the following entry to the Education & Training section of your Resume.

Global Energy Certification (GEC) Awarded by NRG Expert (London, United Kingdom) for Professional Achievement & Development.

- Completed challenging Global energy professional achievement and development programme covering international financial, legal, regulatory, and economic energy issues.
- Obtained an \_\_\_% on the two-hour GEC international examination covering key industry terminology, Industry Deregulation & Privatisation, new technologies, the electrical supply industry, gas supply industry, Water supply & Waste, Renewables, Fossil Fuel and Conventional Energy, Hydrocarbons and Energy Finance.
- NRG Expert certified as holding a high level of specialized energy industry knowledge.





# REASONS TO TAKE THE GEC CERTIFICATION COURSE

The GEC is becoming an authoritative step towards a career in the energy sector.

The GEC Designation is the industry's standard and recognized certification program built by and for energy industry professionals. Unlike other programs, the GEC was not built by analysts and general finance professionals who work in 20 different industries; the GEC was built by NRG Expert, the global leader in independent energy market research.

NRG Expert provides cutting-edge energy market reports, databases, forecasts, consultancy and analysis to the world's leading companies, consultancies and investment houses home to over a million lines of world-wide energy data, analysis and information, collected from 100+ trusted sources. NRG Expert authors a vast portfolio of Energy Industry market research and intelligence products that are on the Bloomberg and EBSCO Platforms, and sold through prestigious market research sources worldwide. Clients include Goldman Sachs, McKinsey & Company, Boston Consulting, the World Bank, Citibank, Schneider Electric, Siemens, ABB, Bloomberg, and many other prominent international organisations and governments worldwide.

The GEC program is becoming very well known around the world. Several companies have started requiring that their employees obtain the GEC designation, or share that they prefer candidates applying to hold the certification.

Google, Bing, and all other major search engines recognise NRG Expert as the number one ranked source worldwide for "Energy Market Research" and related search terms.

### THE MARK OF AN ENERGY PROFESSIONAL

Since its inception, the GEC credential has become widely accepted and used as a measure of professional achievement and development within the global energy industry. It has gained industry-wide use as the standard for qualifying energy professionals both in the United Kingdom, the European Union, the United States, Canada and abroad. It is recognized by numerous national energy offices, financial houses, major utilities, corporations and energy service companies, who recognise NRG Expert as a global leader in energy market research.

When you've earned the right to put the initials GEC behind your name, you've distinguished yourself among energy management professionals. Simply put, the designation GEC, which stands for Global Energy Certification, recognizes individuals who have demonstrated high levels of experience, competence, proficiency, and ethical fitness in the energy profession. By attaining the status of GEC, you will be joining an elite group of professionals serving industry, business and government throughout the world. These high-achieving individuals comprise a "Who's Who" in the energy field.



# **GEC COURSE DETAILS**

The GEC Designation Program is a 100% online continuing education course. The GEC certifies that you have mastered a certain breadth and depth of energy industry knowledge to help you excel within your current energy industry position or enter the energy industry.

# **4 STEP CERTIFICATION PROCESS**



### **GEC PROGRAM TIMELINE**

Registration for the GEC program is open year round with examinations offered every month. Examinations are held online on the 15th of the month, and all examinations are completed online from anywhere in the world using a computer or tablet.

After registering for the GEC, you are welcome to schedule your examination date. There is no deadline to schedule your examination, but you must take your examination within one (1) year of registering for the course, and you must wait at least six weeks before taking the GEC examination after registering for the course. This delay is imposed by the course administrator to protect the integrity of the course; the minimum amount of study time necessary to take the examination is six weeks.

Exam Date	Must Register for the Course by
January 10th	December 1st
February 10th	January 1st
March 10th	February 1st
April 10th	March 1st
May 10th	April 1st
June 10th	May 1st
July 10th	June 1st
August 10th	July 1st
September 10th	August 1st
October 10th	September 1st
November 10th	October 1st
December 10th	December 1st

Here are the examination dates each year:

After the examination is completed, answers are graded and results are sent out the same day by email together with a certificate of completion. Pass results (but not failures) are periodically published in NRG Expert's TalkingNRG publication (www.talkingnrg.com) that is distributed to thousands of energy professionals worldwide. If you do not wish for your details to be published please let the course administrator know by email and your name will be removed.



**TUITION & FEES** 

Tuition & Fees for the Global Energy Certification are as follows:

Certification Registration, All Course Materials and Examination Fee:

# £330 GBP \$495 USD €445 EUR

The application fee must be paid at the time the GEC application is submitted. This fee covers both the application process, course materials, and one examination

Exam Retakes = £175 (or equivalent in USD or EUR)

Registration Limitation: in order to protect the integrity of the course and course materials, registration is limited to a small group of just 200 professionals per quarter worldwide and spaces will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like to join the GEC program please reserve your spot today.

If you unable to take the exam within the 12 months following registration, you can I move it to a future exam date. Please contact us BEFORE the expiry of the 12 months. We are here to help, and we can usually accommodate you for no additional cost. If you do not contact us within the 12 month period following registration but still wish to sit your examination a £175 fee to reschedule your exam will be incurred.

What if I register for the exam and then change my mind? Can I get a full refund for the cost of the program?

Yes, you may receive a full refund if you decide not to download the course materials and take the exam. We provide a 100%, no-questions-asked refund within the first 2 weeks of your registration, regardless of the reason, and so long as you have not downloaded any of the course materials or taken the examination.

\*\*Please note that refunds will not be made after course materials have been download or you have taken the examination. If you have any questions about this policy, please let us know. Your statutory rights are not affected.

\*\*To cancel your registration, simply email us in the first 2 weeks after registration at admin@globalenergycertification.org

The tuition payment covers the registration fee, online access to course materials, practice examination questions, the actual examination fee, and the certificate (emailed to you) when you pass. The only fees not covered, like other classes and courses, are the re-examination fees.



# **GEC EXAM PREPARATION**

Candidates must download the required readings laid out here in the study guide. The Glossary also provides some additional ideas on what to pay attention to within the readings but doesn't cover everything that will be on the exam. The GEC exams are conceptual in nature and require more of an understanding than a great ability to memorize facts.

Preparation time for this exam depends greatly on each candidate's current knowledge, experience, reading speed and comprehension. It is impossible to calculate how much time a specific individual would need to prepare, but we suggest 75-100 hours of reading/study time.

In order to complete the exam in the allotted time, participants are required to gain a mastery of the core energy industry concepts covered in the required readings. Those who have not read the material may have difficulty in completing the exam within the 2 hour time limit, and are encouraged to not take the examination until reading/study is complete.

# Additional Resources Policy

You will not need a calculator, ruler, or any reference materials for the exam. The researchbased questions concentrate on identifying key industry concepts and understanding their meaning, rather than performing calculations.

For more information about the GEC exam and program please visit http://www.GECertification.org

Exam Composition		
Торіс	Number of Questions	
International Energy Industry Terminology	10 Multiple Choice Questions	
<b>Renewable Energy &amp; Biofuels</b>	20 Multiple Choice Questions	
Electricity Generation, Transmission & Distribution, and the Smart Grid	20 Multiple Choice Questions	
Electricity & Gas Deregulation	10 Multiple Choice Questions	
Oil Reserves & Shale Oil	10 Multiple Choice Questions	
Natural Gas Industry	15 Multiple Choice Questions	
Energy Efficiency	15 Multiple Choice Questions	



# **GEC** REQUIRED READING:

# **REQUIRED READINGS**

These texts can be found and downloaded from NRG Expert's download website after registering for the GEC Course. A download link will be emailed to you.

- GEC International Energy Industry Glossary by NRG Expert (PDF Course Book)
- GEC Renewable Energy Sources by NRG Expert (PDF Course Book)
- GEC Global Oil Reserves & Shale Oil by NRG Expert (PDF Course Book)
- GEC Natural Gas Industry by NRG Expert (PDF Course Book)
- GEC The Smart Grid by NRG Expert (PDF Course Book)
- GEC Gas Industry Deregulation by NRG Expert (PDF Course Book)
- GEC Energy Efficiency by NRG Expert (PDF Course Book)
- GEC Electricity Industry Deregulation by NRG Expert (PDF Course Book)
- GEC Biofuels by NRG Expert (PDF Course Book)
- GEC Electricity Transmission & Distribution by NRG Expert (PDF Course Book)

# SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES

- BP Statistical Review of World Energy by British Petroleum Plc (BP). Available online at <u>http://www.bp.com/en/global/corporate/about-bp/energy-economics/statistical-review-of-world-energy.html</u> (Free Excel E-Book)
- World Energy Investment Outlook by International Energy Agency (IEA). Available online <a href="http://www.worldenergyoutlook.org/">http://www.worldenergyoutlook.org/</a> (Free PDF E-Book)
- Talking NRG by NRG Expert (NRG). Published Periodically and available online at <u>www.talkingnrg.com</u> (Free PDF E-Books)



# INDUSTRY KEYWORDS

The GEC Examiners have created an International Energy Industry Glossary of Key Energy Industry terminology, which is available for download once registration is complete. Upon completion of the GEC Designation, the Glossary will become a handy professional tool for you to use in your future energy or energy related career.



# **EXAMINATION SCOPE & CHAPTER FOCUS TIPS**

In addition to providing the International Energy Industry Glossary we would also like to direct participants to the NRG Expert course reports included in the required readings. We would recommend that you cover the required readings by first reading the International Energy Industry Glossary and then the GEC Course Books prepared by NRG Expert Analysts.

Each exam contains 100 multiple choice questions drawn from a much larger pool of exam questions, thus no two exams are alike. Exam questions are constantly refreshed, and you should not expect to answer the same question twice, even if you re-sit the examination.

It is important to read each chapter of the books required for the GEC. However, this guide below will let you know which chapters you should read several times and take notes on before the exam as only the subjects and issues raised in these chapters will be tested on the GEC Examination. There will NOT be any questions on the "Sources" sections of any GEC Course Book:

### INTERNATIONAL ENERGY INDUSTRY TERMINOLOGY

GEC Candidates are required to study this glossary and refer back to it during review and revision of the course materials, but are NOT expected to memorize it. The Master Energy Glossary has been created for GEC Candidates to refer to during the examination if necessary, although it should NOT be necessary to do so as specific references to Glossary entries will NOT be examined.

### **RENEWABLE ENERGY**

Only Renewable Sources, Resources, and Industry Concepts will be tested. Specific country related data, statistics, prices, and dates will NOT be tested.

### BIOFUELS

Industry Concepts and Sources from Chapters 2 through 8 may be test. No other sections or chapters will appear on the exam.

### **ELECTRICITY & GAS INDUSTRY DEREGULATION**

Only topics covered in the Executive Summaries of each GEC Course Book will be covered. Specific questions relating to country level utility deregulation will NOT be covered on the exam.

### **ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION**

All topics in the related GEC Course Book will be covered with the exception of country specific issues and data.



# SMART GRID

Chapter five (Electric Vehicles) of the related GEC Course Book will not be tested. All other chapters may be tested, although no country level data or statistics will appear on the exam.

# **GLOBAL OIL RESERVES & SHALE OIL**

Chapters 4 to 7 of the related GEC Course Book may be tested on the exam. There will NOT be any questions on statistics or data.

### **NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY**

All Chapters may be tested on the exam, although there will NOT be any questions related to data or statistics.

# ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Only Chapters 2 and 3 will be tested. There will not be any questions related to data and statistics.



# **GEC DESIGNATION – SAMPLE QUESTIONS**

**Sample Question #1:** Which of the following renewable sources of electricity has the highest global average capacity factor?

- a) Hydro
- b) Wind
- c) Biomass
- d) Geothermal

Sample Question #2: Why does distributed generation put a strain on existing infrastructure?

- a) Distributed generation sources produce more than the network was designed to handle.
- b) T&D networks were designed in an era where centralized generation was the only way.
- c) Both of the above.
- d) None of the above.

Sample Question #3: How does the IEA define energy security?

- a) The energy network needs to be adequate, affordable, and reliable.
- b) Nuclear Non-Proliferation is a top priority.
- c) Infrastructure should be replaced well before the end of its useable life.
- d) Price levels, price volatility and infrastructure costs must remain stable in order to ensure energy security.

Sample Question #4: Which one of the following is not a means of energy storage?

- a) Battery
- b) Flywheel
- c) Reservoir
- d) PhotoVoltaic Cell

**Sample Question #5:** Biofuel plants emit greenhouse gasses, why are biofuels considered a renewable or green source of energy?

- a) They are a newly developed fuel source adhering to modern emissions standards
- b) In contrast to fossil fuel, the Carbon Dioxide was captured in a short time period and is easily reabsorbed in the production of new biofuels.
- c) Biofuel plants have more sophisticated scrubbers and filters.
- d) There is no heat or flame in biofuel generation.

Please Note: Once you have registered for the program you will be provided with practice exam questions so you can test your knowledge before the real exam is offered. This is a free study resource that we offer to all participants.



# **INFORMATION FOR ENROLLED STUDENTS**

Have you downloaded your GEC Course Books Yet? Please use the secure link provided to you in your confirmation of registration email or any login details provided to you by clicking here:

Please note that you have 2 weeks to download your GEC course materials after registration. Please contact us at admin@globalenergycertification.org if you are having trouble downloading your course materials or your link or login credentials have expired.

Please Refer to The GEC Handbook & Study Guide for further information on how to prepare for the exam.

#### When and where to take the exam

Examinations are held on the 10th of each month, giving you 12 opportunities to test each year. Exams are held on January 10th, February 10th, March 10th, April 10th, May 10th, June 10th, July 10th, August 10th, September 10th, October 10th, November 10th, and December 10th. You will need your exam login details originally sent to you in your confirmation of registration email in order to take the exam.

On your chosen examination date you have 24 hours to begin your two-hour allotted time slot. This means that you can take the exam at any time between 12:01AM and 11:59PM Eastern Standard Time (GMT) on the date of your exam. (For corresponding times for your geographical location, please change the hours accordingly.) You will be sent the link and your login information at the time of registration. You will then have the allotted time aforementioned to start and complete the 2-hour exam.

You can begin your two-hour time slot at any time. In regards to the location of the exam, you can take the exam from home, work, the library, etc. The GEC is a 100% online certification program. That means there are no testing centers or classes offline, so you can complete the program at your pace, leisure, and on your schedule. Examinations are held on the 10th of each month, giving you 11 opportunities to take the test once after registration.

If you unable to take the exam within the 12 months following registration, you can I move it to a future exam date. Please contact us BEFORE the expiry of the 12 months. We are here to help, and we can usually accommodate you for no additional cost. If you do not contact us within the 12 month period following registration but still wish to sit your examination a £175 fee to reschedule your exam will be incurred.

#### Committee of Quality Assessors

The GEC exam papers are compiled and marked by authorities and quality assessors such as senior NRG Expert directors and energy industry experts with up to 40 combined years of theoretical and practical energy experience; and independently audited by NRG Expert before the GEC Certificate is awarded.



The exams, and the materials leading to the exams, are rigorously and continuously assessed by NRG Expert to ensure that they meet a consistent standard of knowledge expected within the industry.

# Examination and Training Requirement

All GEC candidates must spend at least 100 hours reading and studying the course materials and complete and pass in a two-hour time frame a written multiple choice exam which is proctored by an approved online exam administrator.

An intensive jobs task analysis was performed for the GEC and a weighted percentage of topics was developed for the GEC Study Guide, taken from the NRG Expert Intelligence Unit. Although a specific number of exam questions for each topic will not be provided, as it may change, the number of questions on the exam will align with the content percentages listed in the GEC Study Guide.



# GEC PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

# Question: What are the benefits of earning the Global Energy Certification (GEC) designation?

Answer: Some of the benefits include:

- Advance Your Business or Career by raising your level of energy industry knowledge and increasing your ability to work quickly and effectively. Specialized knowledge is valuable, and mastering the basics allows you to work more efficiently than your competitors.
- 2) Exclusive Access to GEC versions of NRG Expert Reports and Databases that are part of the course syllabus.
- 3) Upgrade Your Resume & Pedigree by adding the GEC designation to your resume, assuring employers that you are dedicated to working in the energy industry, passionate about learning more about the energy industry, and able to work more efficiently after being promoted or hired.
- 4) Once certified, enjoy a lifetime of membership as a GEC with NRG Expert with exclusive access to industry intelligence, and product discounts.
- 5) Allow NRG Expert to promote you a recent GEC graduate to its impressive international database of clients. All graduates will receive recognition in NRG Expert's renowned "Talking NRG" publication that is distributes to thousands of NRG industry professionals worldwide and NRG Expert's vast international client base.

# Question: What happens if I take the examination before my payment plan is completed?

Answer: It is not possible to take the examination without having made all payments. If you are on a payment plan, you are always welcome to pay off a payment plan balance and receive your examination authorities in a more timely manner.

If you have any questions about these terms or our payment plans, please contact us at Payments@nrgcertification.org

# Question: Can I have a refund if I don't want to take the exam? Can I change my mind after taking the exam?

Answer: Refunds will not be made after registration is complete and course materials and examination authorities have been provided. If you have any questions about this policy, please let us know. Your statutory rights are not affected.

### Question: How long does it take to complete the GEC program?

Answer: The GEC program is self-study. While we recommend spending at least 100 hours to get through the NRG Expert Reports and Databases and the Study Guide. You can spread that out over 2 months or 12. There is no deadline to register for the course, but all examinations must be taken within one year of registration and are only offered once per month.

### Question: Are the course materials included in the tuition price?



Answer: Yes, GEC versions of NRG Expert Reports and databases are included in the tuition price. These will be made available within 48 hours after registration via secure download from the NRG Expert Sharefile platform. Please note that all course materials will be in password protected, non-printable or editable watermarked PDF format. The sharing of course materials outside of the GEC programme is strictly prohibited.

# Question: How do I schedule my examination?

Answer: Upon registration and payment in full, GEC candidates will receive examination credentials and a password to take their examination between 1-12 months following registration. Examinations are administered online on the 10th day of each month. Please only take your examination when you are fully prepared, as re-examination fees apply.

# **Question: What is the Global Energy Certification (GEC) designation?**

Answer: The Global Energy Certification (GEC) designation is a 100% online-based energy industry training and certification program that can be completed as quickly as you'd like. With 12 examination dates offered each year, the GEC program is flexible and made to fit your schedule. The GEC program is the most popular and trusted certification program built exclusively by and for energy industry professionals.

# Question: What makes the GEC designation different from other professional designations?

Answer: There are four main differences: focus, practical knowledge, and study aides.

- 1) The GEC is focused exclusively on international energy industry issues and topics. It is in-depth and comprehensive coverage of this niche area that provides professional achievement and development.
- 2) The GEC program offers practical knowledge that can easily be applied to a variety of energy industry career positions such as finance, compliance, regulation, economics, manufacturing, analytics, consulting, or marketing and sales.
- 3) The GEC program provides participants with more study aides than anyone else at no additional cost. Participants who register for the GEC get exclusive access to many NRG Expert Report and Database products.
- 4) Upon achieving the GEC designation, all graduates are promoted by NRG Expert as being GEC compliant through a variety of methods, if the graduate so chooses.

### Question: I'm registered for the GEC, but when and where do I take the exam?

Answer: On your chosen examination date you have 24 hours to begin your two-hour allotted time slot. This means that you can take the exam at any time between 12:01AM and 11:59PM Eastern Standard Time (GMT) on the date of your exam. (For corresponding times for your geographical location, please change the hours accordingly.) You will be sent the link and your login information at the time of registration. You will then have the allotted time aforementioned to start and complete the 2-hour exam.

You can begin your two-hour time slot at any time. In regards to the location of the exam, you can take the exam from home, work, the library, etc. The GEC is a 100% online certification program. That means there are no testing centers or classes offline, so you can complete the



program at your pace, leisure, and on your schedule. Examinations are held on the 10th of each month, giving you 11 opportunities to take the test once after registration.

# Question: If I am unable to take the exam within the 12 months following registration, can I move it to a future exam date?

Answer: If you are unable to make your examination date, please contact us BEFORE the expiry of the 12 months. We are here to help, and we can usually accommodate you for no additional cost. If you do not contact us within the 12 month period following registration but still wish to sit your examination a £175 fee to reschedule your exam will be incurred.

Examinations are held on the 10th of each month, giving you 12 opportunities to test each year. Exams are held on January 10th, February 10th, March 10th, April 10th, May 10th, June 10th, July 10th, August 10th, September 10th, October 10th, November 10th, and December 10th.

# Question: What will I be able to add to my resume after completing this program? What tangible benefit will I receive in terms of positioning my knowledge and skills against others competing for similar jobs?

Answer: Participants who complete our program and pass our challenging GEC examination should be able to add the following entry to the Education & Training section of their resume.

- Global Energy Certification (GEC) Awarded by NRG Expert (London, United Kingdom) for Professional Achievement & Development. [Insert the your exam pass date]
- Completed challenging Global energy professional achievement and development programme covering international financial, legal, regulatory, and economic energy issues.
- Obtained an \_\_\_% on the two-hour GEC international examination covering key industry terminology, Industry Deregulation & Privatisation, new technologies, the electrical supply industry, gas supply industry, Water supply & Waste, Renewables, Fossil Fuel and Conventional Energy, Hydrocarbons and Energy Finance.
- NRG Expert certified as holding a high level of specialized energy industry knowledge.

# Question: How much will I have to study or prepare for the GEC before sitting for the exam?

Answer: This will depend on your previous exposure and work within the energy industry, but the typical amount of time expected is 100 hours.

# Question: I live outside of the USA, the United Kingdom and the European Union. Can I still earn the GEC designation?

Answer: Yes, we have crafted the GEC designation program so that you may take the test online from anywhere in the world. By using a dual-layered IP tracking and password system, and by making the exam timed, we allow participants to complete the examination from their place of work or home anywhere in the world.



The GEC is open to participants from all over the world, and unlike many other professional programmes it provides International Certification.

# Question: I know that I want to earn the GEC designation; how do I register for the GEC Programme?

Answer: Registration is now open on a rolling-admissions basis so you can start this selfpaced energy industry training program at any time.

To ensure every participant has the best experience with the GEC programme, we limit the number of participants allowed in each quarter at 200.

# Question: How was the Global Energy Certification (GEC) programme started? What is the story behind what your training firm provides here within this program?

Answer: For years, NRG Expert remained a business to business energy market research and intelligence provider. The high cost of NRG Expert market research products made it virtually impossible for students and individuals to use our products outside of what national libraries and educational institutions bought from NRG Expert, so due to popular demand NRG Expert created the Global Energy Certification Programme to provide energy industry education and training to students and business professionals.

# Question: I have read that the GEC is a rigorous and thorough course. What happens if I do not pass the exam? Can I take it again?

Answer: Yes. Anyone who has failed one of the GEC exams may take it again. If receive a failing grade, there is a £175 fee to retake the exam. You can schedule your examination retake and pay the retake fee with our online form.

# Question: Can I use the text books, Wikipedia, the internet, etc., during the examination?

Answer: You are welcome to use your notes during the examination, but if it is found you have cheated, no refunds will be issued for any portion of the program, and you will not be able to utilize the GEC designation in any fashion. There is no negotiation and no room for cheating in the GEC. Any indication of cheating will result in a failing grade.

# Question: What if I register for the exam and then change my mind? Can I get a full refund for the cost of the program?

Answer: Yes, you may receive a full refund if you decide not to download the course materials and take the exam. We provide a 100%, no-questions-asked refund within the first 2 weeks of your registration, regardless of the reason, and so long as you have not downloaded any of the course materials or taken the examination.

Please note that refunds will not be made after course materials have been download or you have taken the examination. If you have any questions about this policy, please let us know. Your statutory rights are not affected.

To cancel your registration, simply email us in the first 2 weeks after registration at admin@nrgcertification.org.



### Question: How much does the Global Energy Certification (GEC) programme cost?

Answer: The total program, including all course material and examination fee are included for a one time the total tuition cost is £330 GBP.

The tuition payment covers the registration fee, online access to course materials, practice examination questions, the actual examination fee, and the certificate (emailed to you) when you pass. The only fees not covered, like other classes and courses, are the re-examination fees.

#### Question: What are the passing rates for the GEC examination?

Answer: The current passing rate for the GEC is 75% for first-time program participants. We expect our examination passing rate to stay in the 70's every time we update the testing materials. These examinations are very challenging, but those who cover all of the required readings typically do well. Our chief goal is making sure that we add value to each participant and maintain the integrity of the programme.

# Question: What makes the GEC programme reputable? Who supports it? How well is NRG Expert known in the industry?

Answer: The GEC Designation is the industry's standard and recognized certification program built by and for energy industry professionals. Unlike other programs, the GEC was not built by analysts and general finance professionals who work in 20 different industries; the GEC was built by NRG Expert, the global leader in independent energy market research.

NRG Expert provides cutting-edge energy market reports, databases, forecasts, consultancy and analysis to the world's leading companies, consultancies and investment houses. The company provides access to over a million lines of world-wide energy data, analysis and information, collected from 100+ trusted sources. NRG Expert authors a vast portfolio of Energy Industry market research and intelligence products that are on the Bloomberg and EBSCO Platforms, and sold through prestigious market research sources worldwide. Clients include Goldman Sachs, McKinsey & Company, Boston Consulting, the World Bank, Citibank, Schneider Electric, Siemens, ABB, Bloomberg, and many other prominent international organisations and governments worldwide.

The GEC program is becoming very well known around the world. Several companies have started requiring that their employees obtain the GEC designation, or share that they prefer candidates applying to hold the certification.

Google, Bing, and all other major search engines recognise NRG Expert as the number one ranked source worldwide for "Energy Market Research" and related search terms.

#### Question: What are the prerequisites for the GEC program?

Answer: There are currently no prerequisites for the GEC program. The GEC is a professional self-improvement and continuing education program for those looking to boost their development and achievement within the energy industry.

#### Question: When should I expect to get my GEC exam results back?

Answer: You will receive your test results within an hour of completing the test online.



# Question: Does NRG Expert offer scholarships or discounts off the GEC program?

Answer: Yes, for those not already in the program we do have a limited number of needsbased scholarships available. To apply for one of these scholarships please complete our GEC Scholarship Form.

### Question: What score do I need to pass the exams?

Answer: To pass, you must earn a grade of 80% or higher on each examination. While the exam is designed to be rigorous and thorough, most individuals who have read the required readings and invested a significant amount of time studying for the test should do well. The exam is offered 100% online, so you may complete it from your place of work or from home if you wish. The exam uses a dual-layered IP tracking and password system to prevent abuse, is 100% multiple choice.

### Question: Do I need to pass each module of the test to pass the whole exam?

Answer: No, an overall grade of 80% is all that is required to pass.

### Question: When is the exam open for registration and when does testing occur?

Answer: The GEC Designation Programme is now open on a rolling-admissions basis so you can join at any time and complete the program at your own pace from anywhere in the world. Examinations are held on the 10th of each month, giving you 12 opportunities to test each year. Exams are held on January 10th, February 10th, March 10th, April 10th, May 10th, June 10th, July 10th, August 10th, September 10th, October 10th, November 10th, and December 10th.

### Question: How do I receive the certificate upon programme completion?

Answer: Everyone who completes the test is emailed their certificate upon passing the exam.

### Question: Is there a time requirement on completing the designation?

Answer: Yes, there is a time requirement of taking the examination within 12 months of registration.

### Question: Is the GEC Designation available in languages other than English?

Answer: Currently the GEC program is only available in English.

# Question: As an employer, why should I hire someone who has earned the GEC designation?

Answer: The GEC Designation is designed to ensure that participants master a certain level of energy industry knowledge across ten learning modules. This certification provides them with the necessary knowledge and skills to become an efficient and effective member of an energy industry management, sales, consulting, or analyst team.

# Question: I am currently a student. What are the benefits of earning the GEC designation for me?



Answer: The GEC designation has been designed for experienced professionals and students alike. As a student you will gain critical knowledge needed to identify the area of the energy industry in which you prefer to work in. This program can also help you obtain internships because our team at NRG Expert provides networking resources. Starting your career with this knowledge base can save you years of job experimentation within various roles. As a GEC designation holder you have an advantage over others with the same degree. Employers seek those who have taken the initiative to gain additional knowledge relevant to their career.

#### Question: What methods of payment are accepted for the GEC fees?

Answer: We prefer registration through by credit card through PayPal on this website. We accept email based credit card and debit card orders, or payment by cheque. To register for the program, please click here.



# CONTACT THE GEC ADMINISTRATORS.

Need any other information on the GEC Program? Please visit our website any time: http://www.globalenergycertification.org

Want to contact our team? You can reach us with our information below:

Global Energy Certification (GEC) 103 Latymer Court Hammersmith Road, London, W6 7JF United Kingdom

Office (London, UK): +44-20-8432-3059 Toll Free (USA/Canada): 1-888-674-9778 info@globalenergycertification.org

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FILE A COMPLAINT AGAINST AN INDIVIDUAL GEC DESIGNATE PLEASE CONTACT:

THE GEC CERTIFICATION DIRECTOR C/O NRG EXPERT 103 LATYMER COURT HAMMERSMITH ROAD, LONDON W6 7JF, UNITED KINGDOM

(THIS IS A POSTAL ADDRESS ONLY, NO COUNTER SERVICE IS PROVIDED AT THIS LOCATION) EMAIL: <u>DIRECTOR@GLOBALENERGYCERTIFICATION.ORG</u>

### SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATION

THE CERTIFICATION BOARD RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REVOKE CERTIFICATION DUE TO VIOLATION OF THE GEC'S EXAM RULES.

### **USE OF CERTIFICATION DESIGNATION**

A HOLDER OF A GEC CERTIFICATION MAY USE THE DESIGNATION WITH NAME ON ORGANIZATION LETTERHEAD, BUSINESS CARDS, AND ALL FORMS OF ADDRESS. CERTIFICATION IS FOR INDIVIDUALS ONLY. THE CERTIFICATION DESIGNATION MAY NOT BE USED TO IMPLY THAT AN ORGANIZATION OR FIRM IS CERTIFIED.