

Domestic RHI stakeholders

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Call for Input: Ofgem draft guidance on Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (DRHI) Scheme Closure

Dear Stakeholder,

As part of the planned closure of the Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (Domestic RHI) Scheme, we're writing to let you know that we've published draft guidance for comment.

This comprises **two** guides:

- Domestic RHI: Draft Essential Guide
- Domestic RHI: Draft Guide to Metering

They will replace the current:

- Essential Guide for Applicants
- Essential Guide to Metering
- Essential Guide for Installers
- Domestic RHI factsheets and FAQs

We would welcome your feedback on both the above documents. This Call for Input is open for four weeks and closes on **7 February 2022.**

<u>Context</u>

The Government announced in March 2020 that the Domestic RHI scheme will close to new accreditation and registration applications at midnight at the end of 31 March 2022. We are

now seeking stakeholder views on our draft guidance detailing our proposed administration following closure and planned changes to the scheme for new and current applicants.

The draft guidance is based on proposed amendment regulations to the <u>Domestic</u> <u>Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme Regulations 2014</u>, as amended, which are due to be laid in Parliament in February 2022. We have also taken this opportinuity to improve the accessibility of the documents.

The guidance is a working draft based on the decisions communicated by government in its <u>Government Response</u>. It is our understanding that the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) intends to enact these changes via amended legislation due to be laid in Paliament in February 2022.

Once we have considered all responses, we will publish a brief decision, make any changes to the draft guidance, and issue any other relevant accompanying documents. Further information regarding the Domestic RHI scheme and our current guidance documents can be found on our website <u>www.ofgem.gov.uk</u> by clicking on this link <u>Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (Domestic RHI)</u>.

How to respond

The purpose of this Call for Input on draft guidance is to obtain your views on our proposed administration of the legislative changes to the scheme and scheme closure.

In responding, we would welcome your views on the following questions:

1. Do you have any concerns relating to the proposed processes and changes for administering the legislative changes as set out in this document?

2. Are there any aspects of the draft guidance that could be made clearer or improved? If so, please provide specific comments including section references.

3. Are there any omissions in the draft guidance? If so, please provide comments.

4. The draft guidance includes our proposed approach to issuing exemptions for metering in situations where occupancy is less than 183 days in any 12-month period. This is subject to regulatory changes gaining approval from Parliament. These details can be found in the Domestic RHI: Draft Essential Guide, Chapter 3, Section 2, 'Occupancy exemptions'.

- a) Do you agree with the scenarios we have said we will consider issuing an exemption for?
- b) Are there scenarios that you believe should be considered as exceptional that we have not included? If so, please provide comments.

Please email your response to <u>RenewableHeat@Ofgem.gov.uk</u> by 7 February 2022.

You can ask us to keep your response, or parts of your response, confidential. We'll respect this, subject to obligations to disclose information, for example under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, statutory directions, court orders, government regulations or where you give us explicit permission to disclose. If you want us to keep your response confidential, please clearly mark this on your response and explain why.

Further information regarding the Domestic RHI scheme and our current guidance documents can be found on our website <u>www.ofgem.gov.uk</u> by clicking on this link <u>Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (Domestic RHI)</u>.

More information on all the renewable energy and social programmes that Ofgem delivers on behalf of government can be found at <u>Environmental and social schemes | Ofgem</u>.

<u>Next steps</u>

Once we have considered all responses, we will publish a brief decision, make any changes to the draft guidance documents, and issue any other relevant accompanying material ahead of scheme closure at midnight at the end of 31 March 2022.

Please send any general feedback queries to <u>stakeholders@ofgem.gov.uk</u>.

Yours sincerely,

Renewable Heat Team