



Saint-Gobain Consultation Response
Energy Companies Obligation (ECO): Consultation on requirements for
demonstrating characteristics of hard-to-treat cavities
23rd September 2013

Introduction

As the world leader in designing, manufacturing and distributing construction materials, Saint-Gobain is committed to meeting some of the fundamental challenges faced by the world today: reducing energy consumption, limiting our impact on the environment, and creating a new generation of buildings which are safe, comfortable and energy efficient. It employs over 193,000 people, 16,750 of which are in the UK and Ireland, and operates in 64 countries.

Globally Saint-Gobain spends over £350 million every year on R&D and its network of R&D centres employ 3500 researchers.

In the UK and Ireland, some of the best known and respected brands in the construction sector are part of the Group, including British Gypsum, Saint-Gobain Isover, Weber, Celotex, Saint-Gobain Glass, Glassolutions, Saint-Gobain PAM, Ecophon, Jewson, Graham and International Timber. The comprehensive product range spans glass and glazing products, building insulation (exterior, cavity, loft and internal wall), timber products, plasterboard and drylining systems, photovoltaic glass, architectural solar and safety window films, water supply systems, solar solutions and many other building products. They operate from a network of over 1000 distribution sites and 80 manufacturing plants. Together they offer a range of high performance energy-saving products and solutions to help create a more sustainable built environment.

Saint-Gobain strongly supports the Green Deal and ECO and its aims to tackle climate change and fuel poverty, and is working to ensure its success.

The response below is being submitted on behalf of all Saint-Gobain businesses in the UK associated with construction.

Response

[Saint-Gobain supports the inclusion of genuine Hard to Treat Cavities as a primary measure within the Energy Company Obligation. However, we believe that only situations that meet the criteria for HTTCs set out in the Energy Company Obligation](#)



(ECO): guidance for Suppliers should be eligible. The unnecessary cost and burden placed upon industry as a result of the steps proposed in this consultation should not be the solution to failures within the current system. Alternatively, Industry and Ofgem should work together to agree, improve and provide clearer guidance for use by the Chartered Surveyor/ Green Deal Assessor to enable them to successfully identify true HTTCs. Subsequently, any installed measures failing to meet with the clearer criteria should not count towards a supplier's obligation and additional checks should only be imposed on those found failing to comply.

Saint-Gobain is very willing to work with Ofgem and other industry stakeholders to improve the current guidance.

Further Information

For further information on the Saint-Gobain response please contact:

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