

Energy Companies Obligation (ECO) Compliance Update

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Issue **14**

This compliance update shows energy companies'* progress towards their ECO obligations. It presents energy efficiency measures notified by energy companies to Ofgem by the end of July and approved by Ofgem by the end of August 2014**. It also presents measures not yet notified but installed since 1 April in anticipation of amendments to the ECO Order (we refer to these as 'interim' measures). This report currently excludes excess measures carried forward from the Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT) and Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP), which are likely to be material for some companies.

The Department of Energy and Climate Change's (DECC) latest monthly [Statistical Release](#) reports on all measures notified by energy companies to Ofgem to the end of July, including those which have not yet been processed by Ofgem.

What is new in this report?

DECC has proposed legislative changes to ECO (the 'draft amendment Order'). These include the reduced CERO target, CERO levelisation uplift and interim measures. Figure 3 demonstrates our interpretation of the impact of these changes on supplier progress towards their obligations[†]. For more information on these changes, please find a link to DECC's consultation response in the 'Further Information' section on page three. Figures 1 and 2 continue to represent only those measures approved under the current legislation.

Approved measures

Fig. 1) Approved measures by category

The table below shows cumulative measures approved by Ofgem. Please note that these figures may decrease if Ofgem revokes the approval of a measure^{††}.

Measure Category	CERO	CSCO	HHCRO	Cumulative Total
Solid Wall Insulation	49,614	2,877	10	52,501
Park Home Insulation	69	-	-	69
Cavity Wall Insulation	1,027	42,281	9,876	53,184
HTTC Wall Insulation¹	114,035	3,794	8	117,837
Loft Insulation	22,217	92,348	33,496	148,061
Other Insulation²	1,956	3,309	89	5,354
Boiler – Replacement	N/A ⁴	N/A	246,982	246,982
Boiler – Repair	N/A	N/A	579	579
Other Heating³	N/A	N/A	53,814	53,814
District Heating System	1,048	1,776	-	2,824
Micro-generation	N/A	N/A	-	-
Total	189,966	146,385	344,854	681,205

¹ Hard-to-treat cavities (HTTCs) include narrow cavities, cavity walls in tall buildings, and in certain non-standard construction types, and those which are too difficult to treat with standard materials or require works to be carried out before installation.

² Includes hot water cylinder insulation, draught proofing and window glazing.

³ Includes heating controls, heat recovery ventilation and warm air units.

⁴ N/A - this measure category is not eligible to be claimed under this obligation.

*Under the ECO Order, obligations are imposed on an individual licence holder ('supplier') rather than on the parent company of a group of suppliers (which we refer to as an 'energy company').

**This report does not include measures which have been withdrawn or refused approval.

[†]With the exception of excess measures from CERT and CESP.

^{††}Ofgem may revoke the decision to approve any measure if, in the future, Ofgem establishes that the measure should not have been approved. For example, information may subsequently come to light which shows that information provided at the time of assessment was incorrect or which indicates that the measure is a duplicate.

Progress towards obligations

The scheme is currently 67%* of the way through phases 1-3 (which cover the period 1 January 2013 to 31 March 2015).

Fig. 2) Cumulative monthly progress towards ECO obligations (approved measures only)

The chart below shows energy companies' cumulative monthly progress towards phase 1-3 obligations. When (and if) the draft amendment Order comes into force certain amendments will have the effect of increasing suppliers' progress towards their obligations. This is demonstrated in Figure 3 below.

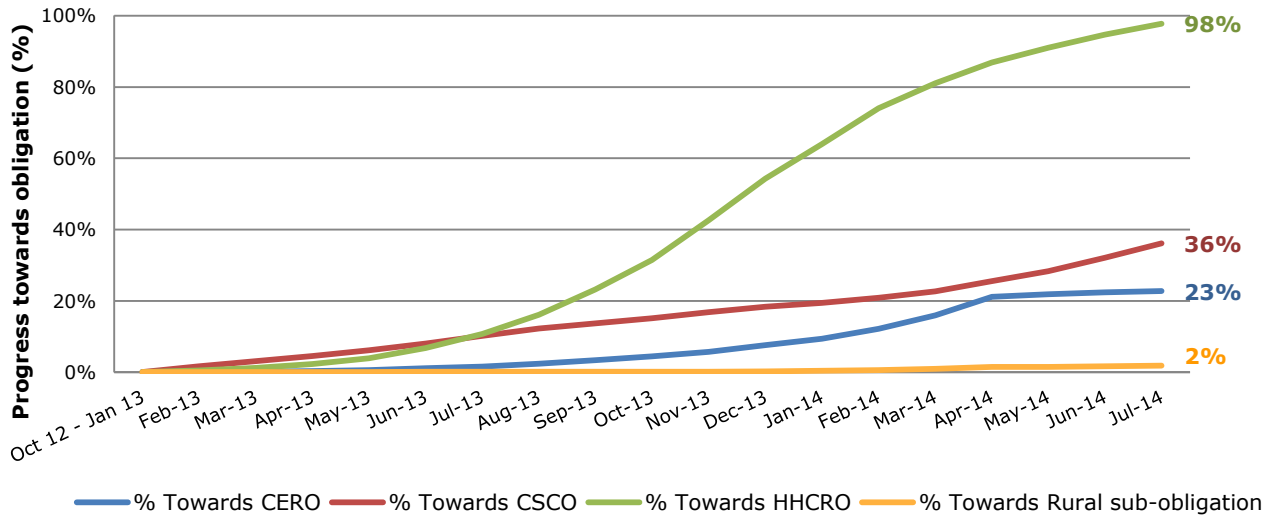
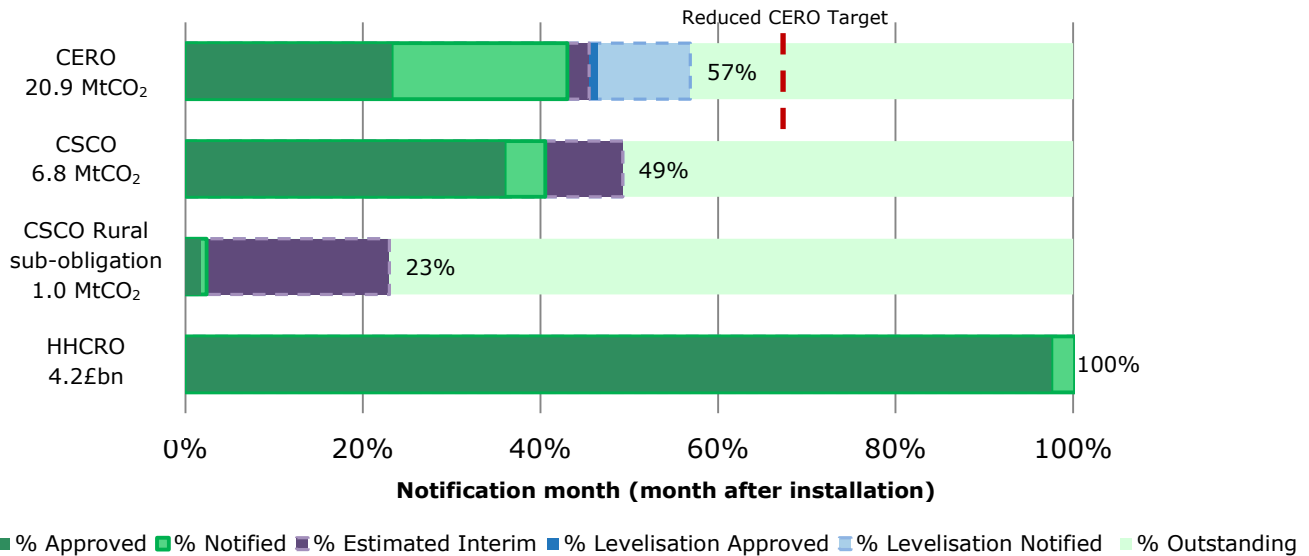


Fig. 3) Total progress towards ECO obligations (approved, notified and interim measures)

The chart below shows all measures notified to the end of July 2014 and approved by the end of August 2014 as a percentage of the total phase 1-3 obligations. It also shows the potential impact of interim measures, the CERO levelisation uplift and the reduced CERO target.



Please note that:

- Excess actions carried over from CERT and CESP are **not** shown in this graph. They will be included when (and if) the amending legislation comes into effect and the savings have been finalised.
- Estimated levelisation uplift has been calculated as set out in the draft amendment Order using the relevant CERO measures installed up to 31 March 2014. Figure 3 assumes that all of these measures will be approved (including hard-to-treat cavity wall insulation).
- It is possible that the draft amendment Order and in particular the provisions relating to interim measures, levelisation uplift and reduced CERO target will not come into force.
- If the draft amendment Order is passed it is possible that estimated interim measures reported to date will not be formally notified.

*In terms of installation months covered by this report i.e. measures installed to June 2014 (18 months of the scheme).

Notified measures

In addition to the approved measures (681,205), a number of measures have been notified to Ofgem under the current legislation but have not yet been approved (210,464). Together, these figures constitute the 891,669 measures published in DECC's August Statistical Release, which does not include interim measures.

Of the 210,464 measures notified to Ofgem under the current legislation but not yet approved, circa 23,000 have been sent back to energy companies for data correction or completion of missing information. These measures will be reassessed and approved (if appropriate) once they are re-submitted. A further c.184,000 are currently undergoing further checks to ensure that they are valid measures under ECO; over half of these are hard-to-treat cavity measures in CERO and the other measures are undergoing scoring verification and duplicate checks. Around 3,000 measures are currently being processed and are expected to be approved shortly if the necessary information is in order. We are working closely with energy companies to resolve any issues relating to the notification of measures.

Further information

The Energy Companies Obligation (ECO) is a government scheme which places obligations on larger energy companies to deliver energy efficiency measures to domestic premises in Great Britain. Ofgem is responsible for administering ECO on behalf of DECC. Each month energy companies notify Ofgem of measures installed in the previous month. Ofgem will then assess these measures for eligibility under the scheme and, if satisfied, will award credit to the energy company to claim towards their obligations.

The three obligations under ECO are:

- **Carbon Emissions Reduction Obligation (CERO):** solid wall and hard-to-treat cavity wall insulation alongside secondary measures including other insulation and district heating systems;
- **Carbon Saving Community Obligation (CSCO):** insulation and district heating measures in low income areas, including a minimum requirement in rural areas; and
- **Home Heating Cost Reduction Obligation (HHCRO):** insulation and heating measures delivered to low income and vulnerable households.

Links:

- For further information about the current ECO scheme, please visit our website www.ofgem.gov.uk.
- For information regarding the proposed legislative changes, please see DECC's [consultation response](#).
 - Reduced CERO target; pages 9-10.
 - CERO levelisation uplift; pages 48-50.
 - Interim measures refer to those measures installed from 1 April 2014 which are eligible under the ECO amendment Order. For example, standard cavity wall insulation as a primary measure under CERO and measures installed in the new CSCO areas.
- For the draft legislation please see the [ECO Order amendment](#).
- For our consultation and draft guidance on how we propose to administer ECO in line with the ECO amendment Order, please see [here](#).

For enquiries regarding ECO (with the exception of the media), please contact the ECO team via email at ECO@ofgem.gov.uk. For all media enquiries, please contact the press office on 0207 901 7246.