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# Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI)

Helpsheet

Version 1 - October 2014



## I have a newly built house. Am I eligible?

**Most renewable technologies installed in newly built properties are not eligible, the exception are those installed in custom-builds.**

The Domestic RHI was designed to support the retrofit of renewable heating systems in existing homes but if you have a renewable technology that was installed in a new custom-built property it could be eligible.

We define '**custom-build**' as: where a builder is contracted by a home owner to create a 'custom-built' home or where a private individual builds their home as a DIY '**self-build**' project. To be eligible to apply for the Domestic RHI a custom-builder must be an **individual** not an organisation.

### How this affects my application

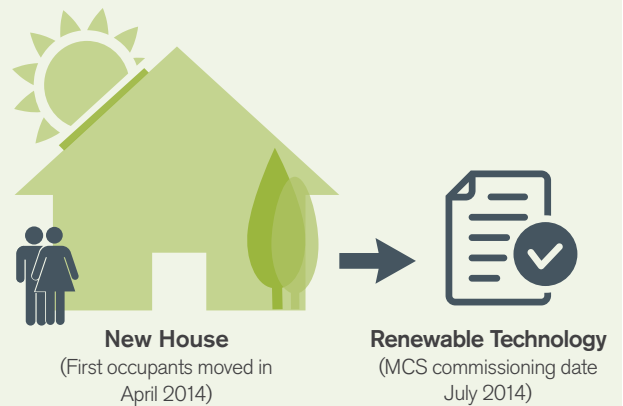
**Question 14** of the application form asks you to confirm if your property was occupied before or after your renewable heating technology was commissioned.

If your renewable heating technology was commissioned after your property was first occupied (by you or by a previous occupant) see **figure 1** and follow pathway 1.

If your renewable heating technology was commissioned before your property was first occupied (by you or by a previous occupant) it will have been installed as part of a conversion, custom-build or by the developer that built the property. See **figure 2** and follow either pathway 2 or 3.

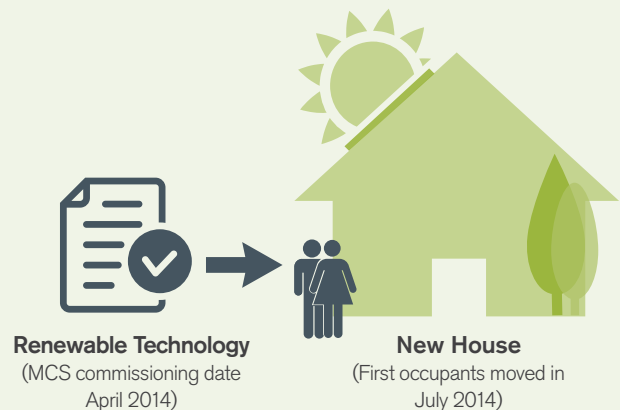
**See the application pathways on the following page.**

**Figure 1.** My renewable technology was commissioned **after** I moved in.



See application pathway 1 on the following page.

**Figure 2.** My renewable technology was commissioned **before** I moved in.



See application pathway 2 or 3 on the following page.

<sup>1</sup> Custom-builds are technically known as 'eligible new-builds'.

These are examples only and not representative of all situations.

## Application pathways

1 Renovation/Retrofit	2 Custom-build Conversion	3 Commercial development
		
Applicant Individual or Organisation	Applicant Individual ONLY	Applicant Individual or Organisation
↓	↓	↓
Major renovation, extension or heating system replacement.	I (or the first owner) converted the building into a domestic property / built it myself (not as an organisation).	Your new house was built and first owned by an organisation eg a developer and the renewable technology was installed before you moved in.
↓	↓	↓
This is an existing domestic property and it will have been occupied, at some point, before your renewable heating technology was commissioned.	You custom-built a house, converted a NON domestic property or you split a single domestic property into multiple domestic properties.	This is a new domestic property that you have bought with a renewable heating system.
↓	↓	↓
The age of the building does not affect your application (new or old).	We will consider this to be a "custom-build".	The renewable heating system is the original heating system.
↓	↓	↓
<b>When you apply</b>	<b>When you apply</b>	<b>Not Eligible</b>
You will need a GDAR <sup>2</sup> to complete question 16	Your application won't need a GDAR <sup>2</sup> but will be reviewed and needs <a href="#">custom-build evidence</a>	Not Eligible for the Domestic RHI

You will still need to comply with the scheme's general eligibility criteria. For example, if you are a custom-builder who has occupied the property for less than 183 days, you will either need to be metered for payment or you can apply after you have occupied the property for 183 days to be eligible without needing metering. For more information about custom-build eligibility criteria see <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/key-term-explained/Custom-builds>

<sup>2</sup> Green Deal Advice Report (GDAR)

## If you need help

[www.ofgem.gov.uk/domestic-rhi](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/domestic-rhi)

**Telephone:** 0300 003 0744 **Email:** DomesticRHI@ofgem.gov.uk

RHI enquiry line open Monday to Friday 8am-7pm