



Energy Company Obligation 2015-2017 (ECO2): ECO2.2 Consultation Response

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About OFTEC

OFTEC is a trade association that represents the interests of oil heating appliance, oil storage tank, and supply equipment manufacturers throughout the UK and Republic of Ireland. OFTEC also operates under licence from DCLG, a competent persons registration scheme regarding the installation of oil fired heating equipment, heat pumps, and solar thermal technology.

Consultation Questions

5a) Do you agree that 'boiler and system sludge' and 'unstable firing' alone are insufficient reasons for a boiler to be replaced? Are there any other faults which on their own are insufficient reasons for a boiler to be replaced? Please give reasons for your answers.

OFTEC agrees that 'boiler and system sludge' and 'unstable firing' are two independent causes of boiler fault/inefficiency. Sludge occurs within the heating system water and affects water flow within the boiler heat exchange, pipe work, and heat emitters. Whereas, unstable firing is an unrelated combustion issue typically caused by burner or installation fault(s).

5b) Do you agree that 'no boiler ignition' and 'unstable firing' should be considered separately? Please give reasons for your answers.

OFTEC agrees that 'no boiler ignition' and 'unstable firing' should be considered separately. Boilers can go into a fault condition preventing ignition, but this does not mean that the boiler needs replacing. Many small control/proving devices can be replaced relatively cheaply. Only where parts are unavailable or the repair cost is equal to or exceeds the value of the boiler should it be considered for replacement.

'Unstable firing' is typically caused by burner or installation faults, post ignition. Therefore, unrelated.

5c) Do you agree that the boiler fault list is suitable to identify faults with non-gas fuelled boilers? Please give reasons for your answers.

OFTEC were consulted when the revised fault list was prepared and considers the revised list to be fuel neutral and fit for purpose.

5d) Do you have any further comments or suggestions relating to this policy area?

None at this time