

Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive

Newsletter

December 2018

Issue 18



Welcome to your latest Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) newsletter. We hope you'll find it informative.

So far we have accredited 64,642 renewable heating systems. Since scheme launch, accredited systems have generated over 3.1 Megawatts of renewable heat. You can watch the progress of the scheme in the [public reports](#) section of our website.

[Domestic RHI Public Reports and Data](#)

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News in brief



Installer fraud

An installer has received a custodial sentence of 34 months after a court found him guilty of six counts of fraud for putting consumers at loss for not being able to claim RHI payments.

Ofgem Counter Fraud and Policy teams worked with West Yorkshire Police in providing evidence to help bring about a successful conclusion to this case.

Applicants must be aware and conduct checks on their installer to ensure that they are both MCS and Consumer Code certified, prior to entering into a contract with them.

As part of our counter fraud efforts, we rely on the information and co-operation provided by our participants. If you suspect fraudulent activity, let us know as soon as possible at counterfraud@ofgem.gov.uk

To find out whether an installer is MCS certified, search for them on the MCS database.

MCS Installer search



Ownership and eligibility

We encourage organisations and individuals to consider how new business or legal arrangements could affect their ownership of an accredited heating system.

RHI payments can only be made to the owner of the accredited system – the participant. If ownership changes, so does the person entitled to those payments

This means that, if a participant creates a trust and gives ownership of the system to trustees, it may impact on that person's eligibility to receive payments.

We must also be informed when organisations conduct mergers or acquisitions, as these too may count as a transfers of ownership.

If we aren't notified, we may recover payments, and in some cases revoke accreditation. See section 9 of our "Essential Guide for Applicants" for more information.

Essential Guide for Applicants



Applications

When an application is submitted we treat it as confirmation that the owner understands the scheme rules and their responsibility to comply with them for the seven years we make payments.

It's for this reason we emphasise that it must be the owner of the installation who completes the application form, agrees to our terms and conditions and declares that they understand their ongoing obligations.

Installers may provide advice and assistance on the application process, but must not complete it themselves. To do so would be an act of false representation, which we take seriously.

If you own an eligible heating system and feel unsure about the application process, you can read our Helpsheet as well as contact us on phone or by email with any questions.

Helpsheet: Application form questions

Other news and updates

BSL Suppliers

Since the launch of the Biomass Suppliers List (BSL), suppliers listed on the Scheme are selected for a desktop or site audit to ensure that the relevant fuels (and the subsequent BSL application(s)) are compliant with RHI regulations.

Many non-compliances come in the form of not having the relevant information or lack of fuel records. Participants are urged to ensure that invoices from BSL suppliers contain the correct BSL number (e.g. in the format BSL1234567-0001) and moisture content. This information is vital and if the records are not available, could impact RHI payments.

Ofgem and BSL continue to work together to ensure that their audit programmes are as effective as possible in identifying and addressing non-compliances.

New Assignment of Rights Guidance documents

New documents explaining Assignment of Rights have been published. Our [Factsheet: an introduction to Assignment of Rights](#) provides an overview of what it is and how it works. In depth information for those wishing to enter into an Assignment of Rights agreement should read our [Essential Guide to Assignment of Rights](#).

About the Domestic RHI

The Domestic RHI is a government environmental programme that promotes the use of renewable heat technologies. It's designed for domestic consumers, and aims to reduce the UK's carbon emissions. We administer the scheme on behalf of government. Find out more in [About the Domestic RHI](#).

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