

Energy Company Obligation (ECO)

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ECO2 Guidance Note

Loft insulation measures: where insulation has recently been removed

Background

Our [ECO2 Guidance: Delivery](#) (page 18) sets out our requirements for virgin loft insulation measures installed under ECO2. One aspect of these requirements is that a measure is not eligible as a virgin loft insulation measure where pre-existing loft insulation has recently been removed (ie within the six months prior to the loft assessment). We do not expect many instances of this scenario to be encountered in ECO2, however, we recognise that where such a scenario does arise, there needs to be a clear and consistent approach for calculating savings for these measures.

Approach to calculating savings

Where no pre-existing insulation is present when the loft assessment is carried out, but where insulation has recently been removed (within the six months prior to the assessment), a default starting value of 100mm should be used to calculate the savings for these loft insulation measures.

As described in our [ECO2 Guidance: Delivery](#) (page 50), to calculate savings for a measure, a supplier must first assess the performance of the premises without the measure ('before') and then assess the performance of the premises with the measure ('after'). In order to calculate the savings for loft insulation measures where pre-existing loft insulation has been recently removed, the 'before' case, either a lodged EPC or an EPR (an unlodged EPC), should record the actual level of loft insulation present, as per SAP conventions. This will be 0mm in these scenarios. To apply the 100mm default value another EPR should be produced and the level of insulation recorded as 100mm (the default value); this EPR cannot be lodged. The savings for the measure will then be the difference between the 'after' case (recording the finishing depth of the loft insulation) and this EPR (where the 100mm default value has been applied).

New measure name

Such measures will need to be notified to us using a new measure name: **'Loft Insulation Ceiling: Top-up 100'**.

This measure name should only be used when notifying measures from **1 October 2015**¹. Ahead of this date, suppliers wishing to notify such measures will need to contact the ECO team to make an extension request.²

Monitoring

When carrying out technical monitoring and score monitoring on such measures our top-up loft insulation monitoring questions should be used. To avoid false fails, suppliers should indicate to the monitoring agent that the measure has been scored using the 100mm default, making it clear why this value has been applied.

Other scenarios

In our ECO2 Guidance: Delivery (page 17), we refer to a slightly different scenario to the above: where pre-existing insulation is present when the loft assessment is carried out but is removed, for some reason, before the new insulation is installed. As set out in our guidance, in those scenarios, where the pre-existing insulation can be measured at the assessment stage, the savings calculation must take into account the level of pre-existing insulation recorded. Such measures should be notified as 'Loft Insulation Ceiling: Top-up' and the 100mm default starting value should **not** be used.

Measure criteria

For clarity, we have provided a table in Annex 1 listing the relevant criteria for different loft insulation measure names.

Where a measure notified to us is identified as a duplicate, ie that measure has already been installed at those premises and claimed under ECO2 or a previous scheme, savings may not be attributed to that measure.

NOTE: This guidance is in addition to the information provided in our ECO2 Guidance: Delivery. Please refer to Chapter 3 p.17-19 for further information on loft insulation measures.

¹ The original date of 1 September 2015 has been pushed back by one month to give extra time to software providers to have their software updated and tested.

² ECO2 Guidance: Delivery, page 72

Annex 1: Criteria for each of the different loft insulation measure names

Loft insulation measure name	At assessment	At installation	At scoring	Virgin loft insulation declaration required?
	Pre-existing insulation depth recorded (mm)	Pre-existing insulation depth present (mm)	Starting insulation depth used in savings calculation (mm)	
Loft Insulation Ceiling: Virgin Level standard	0	0	0	YES
Loft Insulation Ceiling: Top-up standard	>0 (X)	>0 (= X)	>0 (= X)	NO
Loft Insulation Ceiling: Top-up insulation removed <u>after assessment</u> but before installation	>0 (X)	0	>0 (= X)	NO
Loft Insulation Ceiling: Top-up 100 insulation recently removed, <u>before assessment</u> <u>NEW MEASURE NAME</u>	0	0	100	NO