

Non-Domestic Renewable
Heat Incentive: what's
changed?
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Non-Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI)

Quarterly newsletter

August 2018

Issue 26



Dear campaign

Welcome to your latest quarterly update on the Non-Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI).

Along with our latest figures on the scheme's performance, this issue notes important information on air quality laws and changes to the RHI Scheme regulations.

We hope you find the update useful. If you have thoughts on what you would like to see included in the newsletter, we'd welcome [your feedback](#).

Quick Links

[New and forthcoming regulatory changes to the Non-Domestic RHI](#)

[Tariff guarantees](#)

[Medium Combustion Plant Directive \(MCP\)](#)

Accreditations update

Between April and June 2018, we accredited 328 new full applications and 0 preliminary applications. Over the same period, we registered 0 biomethane producers.

This brings our total to 18,585 accredited installations and 85 registered producers of biomethane in Great Britain.

[View latest quarterly figures](#)

News in brief



Regulation changes

On 22 May new Non-Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive regulations came into effect. These regulations included the introduction of:

- tariff guarantees
- shared ground loops
- feedstock requirements
- provisions to allow for replacement plants, and

along with changes to:

- eligible heat uses, and
- preliminary applications



Tariff guarantees

Tariff guarantees opened for application on 22 May 2018

A tariff guarantee allows an applicant to secure a tariff rate before their installation is commissioned and fully accredited to the RHI. Tariff guarantees are only available on the Non-Domestic RHI.

We publish tariff guarantee data on our website on a weekly basis. To find out more about this data, and to see our Guide to Tariff Guarantees, visit our website



Air quality and emissions laws

Failure to comply with emissions and air quality laws outside of the RHI could impact your ability to receive RHI support payments. One such law is the Medium Combustion Plant Directive (MCP).

Currently a combustion plant burning virgin biomass will need a permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations if the thermal input is 20 MWth or more. This threshold will reduce to 1 MWth for new plant from 20 December 2018 when MCP comes into effect.

On 20 June 2018 further changes were made to biomethane injection requirements.

For more information on these changes, please see our website and updated guidance, or view the regulations directly on legislation.gov.

Regulation changes

Tariff guarantees

A combustion plant burning waste biomass will need a permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations if the throughput is more than 50 Kg/hr of waste wood. Below this threshold, plants burning waste biomass do not need a permit, but must be registered with Environment Agency as an exempt waste activity. Speak to your local environmental regulator for more details on how this may apply to you.

Medium Combustion Plant Directive (MCP)

Top 5 Tips

1. The website offers some great guidance to applicants to the NDRHI scheme, it can be viewed [here](#).
2. It is the Authorised Signatory's responsibility to ensure that all information submitted in the application form is accurate. Where third party support is contracted to support with your application, ask your consultant to copy you into all correspondence with Ofgem, and please review that information.
3. Please provide as much information as you can in your application form, especially in response to questions HH120 and HK120. Tell us in detail what your installation is heating and give us a full technical description of your installation. This will enable us to assess your application quicker.
4. Ensure you provide clear photos of your installation to support your application, and always ensure that name plates are affixed to the installation prior to submitting the application.
5. Meter readings should always be entered in kilowatt hours (kWh) and not Megawatt hours (MWh) – if your meter reads in MWh, multiply your reading by 1000 to convert it to kWh.

Formal reviews

If a prospective, current or former participant wishes to request a formal review of a decision we have made, they must now request that review within 28 days of receiving notification of the decision. For more information, please read chapter 16 'Dispute Resolution' of [Volume 2: Ongoing Obligations and payments](#).

Payments

Once we receive a correct periodic data submission, we aim to make payment in 30 working days (6 weeks).

Upcoming changes

Further regulations will come into force on 1 October 2018 making changes to:

- Evidence requirements for all new accredited installations to ensure they are compliant with broader environmental permitting legislation,
- Replacement plant policy, allowing continued accreditation for 'like-for-like' replacements of installations, and
- Estimated data and a limit on the number of times participants may request this for periodic support payments

To find out more about these changes, read the [government's consultation response](#)

About the Non-Domestic RHI

The Non-Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) is a government environmental scheme that supports the uptake of renewable heat through financial incentives. We administer the scheme on behalf of government and provide quarterly reports as part of our statutory duties. [View the full scheme details.](#)

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