

Non-Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI)

Quarterly newsletter

October 2018

Issue 27



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

Along with our latest figures on the scheme's performance, in this newsletter, we discuss new amendment regulations to the Non-Domestic RHI Scheme, the importance of complying with national and local environmental laws, and a new guide aimed at helping participants notify us when there are changes to an accredited installation. We also point out an upcoming change to applicant deadlines and an update on BSL supplier audits.

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

[Changes to the Non-Domestic RHI](#)

[Non-Domestic RHI Main Guidance](#)

[Environment Agency](#)

[Scottish Environment Protection Agency](#)

[Natural Resources Wales](#)

Accreditations update

Between July and September 2018, we accredited 318 full applications and 1 preliminary application. This brings the total to 18903 accredited installations and 85 registered producers of biomethane in Great Britain.

[View quarterly figures](#)

News in brief



Regulation Changes

On 1 October, amendments to the Non-Domestic RHI Scheme regulations came into effect. These changes mean that:

- Installations may now be replaced and stay accredited under certain circumstances. This is intended to allow participants to stay on the scheme if their system (or significant parts of it) break down and they need a new one. You must tell us within 28 days of the installation of a replacement plant.
- New applicants for accreditation will need to



Environmental Permits

The Non-Domestic RHI operates within a context of local and national laws, including those protecting the environment. The 1 October regulation changes confirm it as a condition of eligibility that these laws are complied with, and require that applicants make a declaration to that effect. Please note that knowingly making a false declaration to receive RHI support is fraud, and may attract a criminal sanction.

Participants are expected to hold any necessary environmental permits or exemptions and be able to



New Guidance

We recently published an Easy Guide to Amendments, which assists participants in notifying us of amendments to their application.

The guide lists common changes and walks through the steps taken to make sure we stay informed. If a participant needs to notify us of:

- replaced meters
- a new heat use, or
- the addition or removal of an ineligible plant

They can use this guide to resubmit their application online with the required

declare that their installation complies with local and national laws, and provide proof that any required environmental permits have been issued. Existing participants are expected to keep such proof and present it upon request.

- Payments may not be based on estimated data in more than 8 periodic submission quarters over the course of an installation's tariff lifetime. Estimations only count towards this limit after 1 October.

To find out more about these changes, visit our website, or view our updated main guidance.

[Changes to the Scheme web page](#)

[Main guidance](#)

present them when requested.

In the case of solid biomass boilers, if an installation is exempted, or is not required to hold an environmental permit, the participant must hold an RHI emissions certificate which applies to the installation and the fuels they intend to use.

For more information on how eligibility is affected, and how to stay compliant, read chapter 4 of our guidance document Volume 1: eligibility and how to apply.

To learn more about environmental permits and laws, and when they apply, visit your environment agency website:

[England](#)

[Scotland](#)

[Wales](#)

changes. If the amendment is not listed, participants should email us at RHI.Notification@Ofgem.gov.uk

It is an ongoing obligation to notify us of changes to the circumstances of an application. Participants are always advised to contact us if they are unsure if a change affects the status of an accredited installation on the Non-domestic RHI.

The Easy Guide to Amendments can be found as a subsidiary document on our Main Guidance web page.

[Easy Guide to Amendments](#)

Other news

BSL Supplier Obligations

Since the launch of the BSL in 2014, 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.

To date, supplier audits have resulted in the removal of 112 BSL approved fuels. 39 fuels have been removed from the Scheme so far in 2018, resulting from suppliers having outstanding quarterly reports or unpaid membership fees.

Ofgem and BSL continue to collaborate to ensure that both organisations audit programmes are as effective as possible in identifying non-compliances.

Suppliers should read the [Applications and Audit Guidance document](#) on the BSL website, and their authorisation letter, to find further information regarding their responsibilities to the BSL.

Request For Information deadline change

In line with changes to the RHI Regulations we will be reducing the time given to applicants to respond to further information requests from 12 weeks to 4 weeks. This will apply to all new applications to the Non-Domestic RHI scheme and applications currently in the review process. All new requests for further information from us on or after 12 November 2018 will have a deadline of 4 weeks.

If you are an applicant and ever require an extension to a deadline, let us know, and we will consider your request. Please note that the consequences of missing the new deadline will not change, and that, if this happens, we may consider rejecting your application.

Update on degression

BEIS announced on 31 August that there would be no degression on 1 October 2018. You can see a full list of historical tariffs on our [website](#).

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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