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Dear Deb,

It may be the Festive Season and many people may be starting an early close down but environmentally there is still a lot happening. We have a legal challenge to the Government announcement on changing FITs at the same time as the Renewable Heat Incentive comes online. There are changes to RoHS and potential changes to WEEE and we bring you information about both. The Government has published its Carbon Plan and we bring you information about an Energy Efficiency Fund. So there is a lot to see you into 2012. Take a rest over the holiday season, whatever you may be celebrating and we'll see you in the New Year for more green action. Thanks for your continuing support through 2011.

Mandy Stoker



Merry Christmas!

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from everyone at E4environment.

Directors: Mandy, Kay and Fran
Waste Team: Gemma and Erika;
Wind Team: Bev;
Green Achiever: Deb, Kelly and Nicky;
Admin Team: John, Zoe and Rebecca.

We look forward to working with you in 2012.



RoHS and WEEE - changes and free roadshows

On 22nd July 2011, the long-anticipated "RoHS 2" or "RoHS Recast" Directive 2011/65/EU entered into force. This brought in several important changes to the original Directive and all EU Member States must bring their national regulations into effect by 2nd January 2013.

The scope of RoHS was originally split into eight indicative product categories and these have increased to 11 in the scope of RoHS 2. Medical devices (category 8) and monitoring and control instruments (category 9) will be phased in from 22nd July 2014; in-vitro diagnostic medical devices will be phased in from 22nd July 2016, and industrial monitoring and control equipment will follow from 22nd July 2017. A significant change within RoHS 2, is the introduction of a category 11 "open" scope which will be phased in by 22nd July 2019. This new category will include all products not captured in categories 1 to 10, unless specifically excluded.

Underpinning all of this is a change of definition within the scope of RoHS 2. Originally, EEE was defined as "Dependent on electric current or electromagnetic fields for its primary function", with the word "primary" being of most importance. RoHS 2 changes the definition to EEE to "Dependent on electric currents or electromagnetic fields to fulfil at least one intended function". So for example, a gas cooker with an electric clock, previously out of scope, would now be captured by category 11. There remain several exclusions however, including military equipment, means of transport, photovoltaic panels and research and development equipment only available on a B2B basis.

Another major development in European legislation affecting the electronics industry is that of "WEEE 2" or the "WEEE Recast". Changes under debate in WEEE 2 include changing the collection target from 4kg per inhabitant per year to a percentage figure based on sales. Important to note is the distinction between EEE and WEEE in the proposals. In contrast to the Commission (who wanted to retain the existing ten categories of EEE), proposals from both the Council and Parliament have asked for an "open" scope, where any EEE is included in the scope of WEEE, unless specifically excluded. In addition, both the Parliament and Council have proposed that the existing ten WEEE categories be reduced (to five in the opinion of the Council and six by the Parliament) to help broaden the scope and be more in line with national collection practices.

The summer of 2012 is currently the most likely publication date of WEEE 2 which would mean the new requirements entering into force from January 2014.

The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) is running a series of free roadshows in early 2012 to provide more in-depth information and advice about the changes to the RoHS and WEEE Directives.

For further information or to register for one of the events please [CLICK HERE](#) . For further information please contact Lucy Hagen on **01275 850900** or email bisroadshows@ontracagency.com



Energy Efficiency Financing (EEF) scheme

UK businesses wishing to implement more energy-efficient, greener technology but who are experiencing difficulty securing finance, can now turn to the Energy Efficiency Financing (EEF) scheme, jointly launched by the Carbon Trust and Siemens in April this year. The initiative makes £550 million available to organisations of all sizes to finance investments in green equipment over the next three years. By matching monthly payments to real expected monthly energy cost savings, the new equipment investment can be effectively zero cost and firms can often be cash positive from day one of the arrangement.

The scheme finances investment for values as little as £1,000 through to many hundreds of thousands of pounds, over a wide spectrum of energy efficiency and renewable solutions, ranging from solar photovoltaics, lighting and heating to industrial motors and much more.

[Businesses wishing to apply to the scheme, or any equipment supplier wishing to offer the scheme to its customers, should visit www.energyefficiencyfinancing.co.uk](http://www.energyefficiencyfinancing.co.uk)



DECC Announces Renewable Heat Incentive now Open

The Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) is a Government initiative providing finance to non-domestic renewable heat generators and producers of biomethane in Great Britain. Under the scheme's terms, organisations may apply for assistance and, if successful, receive payments on a quarterly basis for heat generated over 20 years. £860 million has been made available from central Government funding to support the RHI over the period 2011-2015.

The following technologies are included in the scheme:

- Biomass boilers (Including CHP biomass boilers)
- Solar Thermal
- Ground Source Heat Pumps
- Water Source Heat Pumps
- On-Site Biogas combustion
- Deep Geothermal
- Energy from Municipal Solid Waste
- Injection of biomethane into the grid

The scheme is being introduced in two phases. In the first phase, long-term tariff support is targeted within the non-domestic sectors, focusing on high energy consumers, including the industrial, business and public sectors. These energy users contribute 38% of the UK's carbon emissions. Under this phase there is also support of approximately £15 million for households through the Renewable Heat Premium Payment.

The second phase of the RHI will see the scheme expanded to include more technologies as well as support for households. Details about the introduction of Phase 2 are expected to be announced in early 2012.

Generators of heat and producers of biomethane that are based in Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) may apply to the RHI, providing they meet the eligibility criteria. More information about the administration of the RHI can be found at [Renewable Heat Incentive](#).



High Court Judgement on Changes to FiTs

At the time of going to print we are still waiting for the outcome of the Friends of the Earth and 2 solar panel company's High Court challenge of the Government changes to the FiTs that were implemented as of 12th December, prior to the end of consultation period, 23rd December. An update on the outcome of the case will be included in next months' newsletter.



PROSECUTION

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Illegal waste operator jailed for running two waste sites

An illegal waste operator has been jailed for 25 weeks for running two illegal waste sites, burning waste and allowing waste to enter the Cotswold Water Park. The court heard on Friday, 16 December that Environment Agency

officers visited the two sites on numerous occasions between February 2010 and March 2011 and told Mr Ham that he did not have the correct permits for the waste activities at the sites. The sites did not have environmental permits or planning permission.

Environment Agency officers were first made aware of Mr Ham's illegal activities at the Old Dairy Farm, which borders the Cotswold Park Lake, a Special Site of Scientific Interest, on 2 February 2010, after several reports of burning waste. Officers attended the site on several occasions and found large piles of waste including paper, cardboard, wood, plastics, stone, soil and metals. Mr Ham was told to remove the waste and to stop operating immediately. However, on the 8 September the Environment Agency received reports of burning and on attending the site an officer found evidence that waste was still being brought to the site and saw waste materials being burnt on a fire located inside the SSSI.

Mr Ham continued to ignore the warnings from the Environment Agency to stop his illegal waste activities and on the 12 April 2010 the Environment Agency were alerted to a separate burning incident at Farringdon Business Park, Farringdon. On visiting the site it was apparent that Mr Ham was also operating illegally at this location. Officers visited the site on several occasions including routine visits and complaints of fires and burning.

Mr Ham continued to run both sites illegally for several months despite telling the Environment Agency that he had stopped. The waste that he burned at both the sites caused acrid smoke to billow across the roadway, the lake and the nearby park.

Environment Officer Jack Knight said: "Mr Ham was well aware that he was acting illegally, so it is satisfying that the court has recognised this. We hope that Mr Ham's prison sentence sends a clear message to criminals that waste crime won't pay."

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