

[**CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme \(previously Carbon Reduction Commitment\) Latest EU Guidance and Regulations PROSECUTIONS**](#)

Dear Deb,

September is well under way and for many businesses that means the deadline for Registering for the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme by the 30th. It's important to note the difference between the need to register and the need to participate so read this article well.

We have included some information on the latest guidance and regulations coming through from the EU - while they may not directly affect all our members the directive on energy labeling should be of interest to many at least.

We're into political party conference time so it will be interesting to see how the commitments in the Coalition:- our programme for government are working through to reality - particularly those in the Sections on Energy and Climate Change and in Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

On good news we see that the world's largest offshore wind farm off Thanet in Kent is to start producing electricity. Construction started a year ago at the £780m wind farm, which can be seen from the coast on a clear day, and is expected to generate enough electricity for 240,000 homes. Breaking News - at the time of putting this newsletter together we're just getting news about Government debates on the abolition or changing status of numerous quangos. Amongst those being talked about, but with a future still unknown, is the environmental regulatory body of the Environment Agency. We'll obviously keep a close eye on this and keep you up to date on progress as the debates become clearer.

Mandy Stoker

CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme (previously Carbon Reduction Commitment)



The CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme (formerly known as the Carbon Reduction Commitment) is the UK's mandatory climate change and energy saving scheme. The scheme started in April 2010 and is

administered by the Environment Agency on behalf of the Department of Energy and Climate Change. It aims to encourage greater energy efficiency by placing additional costs on carbon emissions which companies and organisations have to measure and report, that data being used to compile league tables.

In the UK, companies covered by the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme have until 30 September to register with the Environment Agency. At the mid-September point less than 25% of companies affected have registered, meaning thousands are facing fines and other penalties. It has been reported that 3 - 4,000 organisations would be required to participate and that many of those are owned by larger conglomerates that incorporate multiple businesses.

So does the Scheme apply to you?

All public and private sector organisations that had at least one half-hourly electricity meter settled on the half hourly market during calendar year 2008 must register as a participant or make an information disclosure under the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme with the Environment Agency between 1 April and 30 September 2010. This will account for approximately 20,000 large organisations.

Around 5,000 of these organisations will also be Participants in the scheme. Participants are identified by their 2008 electricity supplies: If the organisation has a half-hourly electricity meter **and** consumed at least 6,000 Mega-Watt-hours of qualifying electricity through all of its meters during 2008 (equivalent to an annual electricity bill of around £500,000), then it will need to participate in the scheme by monitoring energy consumption and purchasing allowances.

Note - if the organisation has a half-hourly electricity meter but consumed less than this amount of electricity, it will need to make an information disclosure via the CRC Registry on the Environment Agency' website. They will not have to monitor and report their annual energy use or purchase allowances.

You can find specific guidance on qualification and registration in the Environment Agency's guidance document '[Am I in? A guide to qualification and organisational structure](#)[External link]'. If you do qualify you will need to register with the Environment Agency by 30th September 2010. Use this link Environment Agency: [CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme](#). If you want assistance with this then contact us on 01743 343403 and ask for Pinder.



Latest EU Guidance and Regulations

Three recent publications from the EU may have impact for numerous of our members.

1) Recast Energy Labelling Framework Directive. Some of the key elements here are that when enacted (and this must be by 20th July 2011 in the UK) the Directive now covers internet and catalogue sales, the principles of the A to G label will include additional classes as technological progress requires (A+, A++ and A+++) and a requirement to reflect the energy efficiency labelling class in advertisements. For the details of the changes follow this link <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2010:153:0001:0012:EN:PDF>

2) Eco-design and Labelling measures for water heaters and hot water storage tanks.

The EC has released a working document on possible Eco-design and labelling measures for water heaters and hot water storage tanks. The document identifies the main issues to be addressed. In order to inform the UK's position for the Regulatory Committee, interested stakeholders are encouraged to review the document and provide written comments. The Working Documents can be downloaded from <http://efficient-products.defra.gov.uk/cms/eup-working-documents-on-possible-commission-regulation-and-labels-for-water-heaters-and-hot-water-storage-tanks/>

3) Possible EU Commission Regulation For Televisions

The European Commission (EC) has circulated a working document for guidelines establishing ecodesign requirements for televisions. These guidelines have been prepared with a view to facilitate implementation and provide explanations on questions frequently raised by stakeholders. The guidelines are for information only, and are not meant to provide any legal "interpretation" of the regulation.

The Working Document can be downloaded from: <http://efficient-products.defra.gov.uk/cms/eup-working-documents-on-possible-commission-regulation-for-televisions/>



PROSECUTIONS

Suspended prison sentence for owners of a skip company in Bolton

A father and son who operated a waste site AWR Rent a Skips Ltd, Arch

Street, Bolton have received (10 September 2010) suspended prison sentences for flouting environmental regulations. Michael and Mark Rogers were each given an eight week prison sentence suspended for two years, 200 hours unpaid work and have each been ordered to pay costs of £3,642.05 to the Environment Agency.

On visiting the site on 11 occasions between May and October 2009, Environment Agency Officers found up to three times more waste on site than the company was allowed to have. Despite repeated requests, and enforcement notices, to reduce the quantity of waste, they continued to bring material on to site. Simon Oldfield, for the Environment Agency said, "The actions of AWR Rent a Skip Ltd, showed a deliberate and intentional disregard for the environment. The company directors were fully aware of the legal requirements for the site and were given a number of opportunities to comply with their permit. The failure to operate within permit limits created a risk of harm to the environment and impacted on the neighbouring area and local residents. "

Frozen dessert company fined £26k for packaging offences

Rensow Patisserie Limited of Bridgeway House, Upper Icknield Way, Tring, Hertfordshire, HP23 4JX pleaded guilty at Watford Magistrates' Court to failing to register with the Environment Agency or a compliance scheme as a producer of packaging waste, and failing to meet its requirements to recover and recycle packaging waste between 2003 and 2008. The company was fined £20,000.00, and was ordered to pay £2593.00 in costs to the Environment Agency. The company was also ordered to pay compensation of £4022.00 to the Environment Agency for unpaid registration fees for the years 2003 to 2008 inclusive. The Environment Agency contacted the company as part of its routine monitoring of non-regulated sites requesting information about the packaging material it handled. The information provided showed that the company should be registered as a producer of packaging waste as it met both thresholds by handling more than 50 tonnes of packaging per year, with an annual turnover of more than £2 million. Environment officer Helen Pavlou said: "The regulations are in place to encourage a reduction in the amount of packaging used by businesses and to decrease the disposal of waste to landfill. Although these regulations have been in force since 1997 many businesses still ignore or remain unaware of their responsibilities. We hope this case will highlight the need for other businesses to consider whether they are obligated under the Packaging Regulations."

Housing developer fined for polluting stream with sewage

Barratt Homes have been ordered to pay more than £13,400 in fines and costs after sewage escaped from a housing development and polluted a stream close to the Tamar Valley Checks by the Environment Agency showed a new housing development's pumping station had failed causing sewage to overflow from a collection chamber onto the ground and into a nearby stream. When Barratt Homes were interviewed, it became apparent the pollution resulted from a misunderstanding between the defendant company and a third party that took over the maintenance and monitoring of the pumping station in July 2009. The absence of any monitoring meant nobody knew there had been a mechanical failure and that sewage was spilling out of the pumping station and polluting a stream. 'We estimate sewage escaped intermittently for at least two weeks. This would have had a serious effect on water quality in the stream. It was avoidable and resulted through a lack proper monitoring,' said Louise Weller for the Environment Agency. 'Barratt Homes are a national house builder. They are well aware of the potential impact their activities can have on watercourses. In this case, the failure to ensure an adequate system of monitoring was in place resulted in a stream being polluted.'

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