

Green Achiever Accreditation

Keeping you
up to date.



Green Achiever General Update - December 2014

ESOS - Energy Saving Opportunity Scheme



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Are you a business or part of a group that employs at least 250 people or employs less than 250 people but has an annual turnover in excess of €50m and an annual balance sheet in excess of €43m? If you are, you need to be part of the ESOS - Energy Saving Opportunity Scheme.

ESOS is a mandatory energy assessment scheme for large enterprises in the UK that meet these qualification criteria. The assessments are audits of the energy used by a company in their buildings, industrial processes and transport. The purpose is to identify cost-effective energy saving measures.

Qualifying organisations must have carried out their ESOS assessment and notified the Environment Agency by 5 December 2015. Your organisation qualifies if, on 31 December 2014, it meets the ESOS definition of a large undertaking.

E4environment is offering ESOS assessments and guidance, if you would like to find out more or discuss an assessment please give us a call on 01743 343403.

£5 Million Government Funding Boost for Low Carbon Energy Projects

Companies developing cutting edge low carbon energy projects in generation, efficiency and storage have the chance to bid for an extra £5 million of funding in the fourth round of the Government's Energy Entrepreneurs' Fund (EEF).

The third phase of the fund provided £9 million, which was awarded and shared between 19 projects. Among the projects are renewable generation technologies, efficient engines and vehicles, energy management and storage solutions.



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More information can be found on the [Gov.uk press release](#).

Public Want Urgent Action on Climate Change



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Gov.uk report that 73% of people want world leaders to agree to a global deal and 66% think that this should be actioned immediately, according to a survey carried out by Populus.

Only 20% agree that action on climate change can wait a few years, whilst just 40% recognise the potential impact that climate change can have on their lifestyle.

For more information, see the [Gov.uk press release](#).

Permits No Longer Needed for Crop Residues in AD

The Environment Agency (EA) has issued a briefing note outlining that anaerobic digestion (AD) facilities that only use certain types of crop residues as input will not need to hold an environmental permit.

The note was issued in September to help distinguish which feedstocks require a permit and which do not.

The advice reads: 'We have had queries about whether particular feedstocks used in anaerobic digestion (AD) plants are waste or not. This is important because it will affect whether we regulate AD plants and the use of the digestate produced by them. AD plants that take feedstocks consisting of or containing waste require an environmental permit or a relevant exemption. Plants that take only non-waste feedstocks currently do not.'



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According to the EA, there 'may be a very small number of existing operators who have an environmental permit for an AD plant, where the feedstocks are only crop residues or crops plus crop residues'.

For more information on this, please read the [Environment Agency's Briefing note on Crop Residues](#).

New System Converts Wind and Solar Energy to Hydrogen



Image courtesy of freedigitalphotos.net

The system, developed by British company Resatech stores renewable energy produced from solar panels or small wind turbines and then uses it as electricity to convert into hydrogen, which is then used in vehicles or as central heating fuel.

The innovative system means that it is now possible to store all energy produced from any size of renewable energy system, which can be used when renewable power is unavailable.

To find out more, please visit the [Farmer's Guardian website](#).

Changes to Green Deal Legislation

Further energy efficiency improvements have been made available under The Green Deal (Qualifying Energy Improvements) Order 2014.

Storage waste water heat recovery devices attached to showers and baths, plus circulator pumps in central heating systems are now available.

Although not yet eligible for businesses, there are opportunities to become a provider of Green Deal energy saving items. [Click here](#) for more information.



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Green Back on the Business Agenda

According to a survey carried out by business automation specialist V1, green issues are now top priority.

Now businesses are shaking off the effects of austerity measures, a survey of 80 business executives revealed how 98% believe the green agenda is once again important.

For more information on how your business can become more sustainable, perhaps consider an audit that comes as part of our Silver and Gold level accreditation. Call 01743 343 403 for more information.