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UK GOVERNMENT BUILDS ON RENEWABLE ENERGY INCENTIVES

Under the UK Government's Renewables Obligation (RO), licensed electricity suppliers are required to source a percentage of the electricity supplied from eligible renewable sources, including both dedicated and co-fired biomass. This percentage increases each year commencing at 6.7% for 2006/7, with targets rising through 15.4% by 2015/16 to 20% by 2020.



To help meet this target the UK Government implemented Renewables Obligation Certificates (ROCs). Firms generating renewable energy receive ROCs for the electricity they produce from renewable sources, which can then be sold on to electricity suppliers to help meet their renewable energy obligation.

Under the current regime, one ROC is provided for each MWh of electricity produced from renewable sources, regardless of the type of renewable energy used but proposals within the Energy White Paper is for Renewable Energy Certificates (ROCs) to be banded to boost less developed technologies.

Established technologies such as landfill gas will have their ROC entitlement reduced to one ROC for every four MWh generated whilst other technologies, such as onshore wind, will continue to receive one ROC per MWh.

In a sign of support for less developed technologies such as offshore wind and, the ROC entitlement will increase to one-and-a-half ROCs per MWh, whilst for emerging technologies, such as solar power and certain waste-to-energy technologies, the entitlement will be even greater, increasing to two ROCs per MWh. Primary legislation will be required to implement the new ROC regime and it is likely that it will start after April 2009.

For more details regarding renewable energy incentives in the United Kingdom including ROCs and enhanced capital allowances for waste-to-energy technologies contact [CRA Europe](#) or find further details under the [Energy White Paper](#).

Headline Stories

CRA at Sustainability Live

CRA is continuing to build upon its rapidly growing reputation as the environmental consultancy of choice with a stand at the UK's largest single exhibition for excellence and innovation in the water, environment, land and energy sectors.



Feel free to register for free [here](#) and please come and visit us at stand R86.

Environmental Permitting to Revolutionise Pollution and Waste Control Regulations

As part of the DEFRA "Better Regulation" project, the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2007 (EP) were implemented on 6th April 2008.

These regulations incorporate the application process for waste licensing and Pollution Prevention and Control Permits (PPC) and are intended to streamline the application process in two phases. EP is most likely to affect those under waste licensing; most PPC installations will retain bespoke permitting that would be similar to their PPC permit. The first phase of EP is underway, replacing over 40 statutory instruments.

The second phase of EP will look toward further simplification of the regulatory system for pollution control. Areas to be considered are abstraction licensing, discharge consents and regulation of radioactive substances. EP is intended to eventually assist in compliance with future EU directives by making them easier to roll out across the UK whilst maintaining a risk based regulatory regime.

New Starters

CRA are pleased to welcome Maria Abad Jara who joins our EMS team in Nottingham. Details of current vacancies across our offices are available [here](#).

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Legislation Latest

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) is currently in consultation on Draft regulations and guidance to implement the Environmental Liability Directive (ELD) 2004/35/EC in England and Wales. The consultation document is available [here](#).

In addition it has published its own soil protection strategy for consultation following the blocking of the EU Soil Framework Directive at the European Council at the end of last year by a “blocking minority” of member states including the UK. The consultation is available [here](#).

Where There's Muck There's Laws

Don't miss CRA's Ben Brady speaking at Sustainability Live on the subject of waste licensing issues of earthworks. Details available [here](#).

Property Feature

Prosecutions mount under Asbestos Regulations

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) has issued a stark warning about managing the risks from asbestos, following its prosecution of the University of Cambridge after maintenance workers were exposed to asbestos containing materials at the college.

Kings College in Cambridge was fined £16,000 with £14,500 costs in March, after pleading guilty to breaching regulations under the Control of Asbestos Regulations (CAR) 2006.

The Regulations came into force on 13 November 2006 (SI 2006/2739), drawing together previous asbestos regulations including Prohibition of Asbestos, Control of Asbestos at Work and Asbestos Licensing, yet many building owners or tenants remain unaware of the legal duty placed upon them to identify, monitor and manage asbestos containing materials within such premises.

The (HSE) stated “Every year 1000 people who worked in building maintenance and repair trades’ die from past exposures to asbestos fibres. The HSE will not hesitate to take action against those who fall short of the law in such a way.”



Guidance on the duty to manage asbestos can be found in the HSE document ‘[The Management of Asbestos in Non-Domestic Premises](#)’. The guidance explains the duties of building owners, tenants and anyone else with legal responsibilities for such premises including identification, assessment, maintenance of an asbestos register, assessment of risk of exposure to asbestos-containing materials and finally implementation of an asbestos management plan where appropriate. CRA's Land and Property team routinely assist clients in the fulfilling their obligations under such legislation and can be contacted [here](#) for further information on available services.



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