

Budget 2015: Government announces changes to the technologies supported by the ECA Scheme for Energy Saving Technologies

On 18th March the Government confirmed, in Budget 2015, that a number of changes to the ECA Scheme for energy saving technologies would come into effect later in the year (anticipated late summer/early autumn).

These changes, detailed below, are based upon recommendations made to Government in November 2014 by the Carbon Trust, who manage the Energy Technology List on behalf of the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC).

For the categories which require a change to the Energy Technology Criteria List (ETCL) criteria, the Carbon Trust will be sending copies of the proposed new ETCL criteria to the relevant stakeholders for any final technical feedback (e.g. proposed standards are correctly referenced, descriptive technical text aligns with common industry terms or nomenclature). We will contact all of those stakeholders involved in the research last year. If there are any areas in which you were not involved, but would like to comment on the draft ETCL criteria, then please let us know at ECAQuestions@carbontrust.com by **Monday 20th April 2015** and we will send you a copy of the proposed ETCL criteria for that area.

New Technology

Waste Heat Energy Recovery will be added to the ECA Scheme to capture energy from heat that would otherwise be wasted. It has been identified that waste heat to electricity conversion equipment could appreciably improve on-site energy saving and reduce use of grid electricity consumption.

Sub-technology with very significant ETCL criteria change

Packaged Chillers - ETCL qualification for packaged chillers will be based upon meeting appropriate seasonal performance (ESEER) conditions. Product qualification based upon EER will no longer be accepted and will be phased out in late summer/autumn 2015.

The qualifying criteria for 8 technologies will be updated

The criteria for the following technologies will be revised:

1. Air to Water Heat Pumps
2. Heat Pump Driven Air Curtains
3. Converter Fed Motors: previously Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motors
4. Line Operated Motors: previously Single Speed Induction Motors
5. High Efficiency Lighting Units
6. White Light Emitting Diode Units
7. Close Control Air Conditioning
8. Refrigerated Display Cabinets

A summary of the changes is given below:

| | |
|---|--|
| Air to water heat pumps | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Product categories to be aligned with Eco-design legislation. • Heating performance measured to a Seasonal COP (SCOP) to align with the forthcoming Eco-design requirements. • Increased cooling performance thresholds (EERs). • Scope of category expanded to cover products designed to provide space heating which can also deliver domestic hot water. |
| Heat Pump Driven Air Curtains | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of support for single split water source products. • Increased threshold for outlet air velocity uniformity. • Clarified mechanism by which ECAs are claimed for multi-split products. • Representative testing introduced for variants of the same air curtain unit, but not those with different capacities. |
| Converter Fed Motors: previously Permanent Magnet Synchronous motors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope of the product category extended to include other converter fed motors. Technology category renamed as 'Converter Fed Motors'. • Efficiency performance criteria, and number of speed categories, aligned with the equivalent line fed motor criteria. • Alignment of size range of products supported to match the induction / line-fed motors category - include 0.25kW through 400kW. • Representative testing of motor products introduced. |
| Line Operated Motors: previously Single Speed Induction Motors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope of the Single Speed Induction Motors sub-category widened to include other line operated AC motors. • Representative (type) testing introduced of motor performance. |
| High Efficiency Lighting Units | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Required efficacy threshold increased for high efficiency lighting units. • Efficacy "discount" removed for luminaires with integrated controls. • Support amended for lighting with high power lamps (>200W) and a colour rendering index below 80 to external and industrial lighting only. |
| White Light Emitting Diode Units | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Required efficacy threshold increased for LED lighting. • Efficacy "discount" removed for luminaires with integrated controls. |
| Close Control Air Conditioning | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conditions updated under which products must be tested. • Increased cooling performance (EER) thresholds. |
| Refrigerated Display Cabinets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tightened cooling performance (EEI) thresholds |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New thresholds introduced for products with "horizontal" configuration to align with Eco-design.• Housekeeping change to align testing requirements with the revised standard BS EN ISO 23953:2005 A1:2012. |
|--|--|

Minor housekeeping changes

In line with usual practice, there will also be minor (i.e. housekeeping) changes made to some criteria. Any ETL listed suppliers affected by these changes will be informed directly.

Timescales

Feedback on the proposed changes will be sought during April and May 2015. The final criteria will be submitted to Government during June, and all of the changes are expected to come into force in ***late summer/early autumn 2015***.