

Watch this film

This short animation - **The Energy Challenge** - provides an easy to understand overview of the energy challenges we face and encourages viewers to find out more about how we 'power the country and protect the planet'

Look out for...

Big Energy Saving Week

From 22-27 October. Find out more on page 4.

New website

www.gov.uk is the new website of the UK Government. It has replaced Directgov and Businesslink as the official destination for citizen and business users, and will also replace the DECC website by January 2013.

The new version of the DECC homepage looks quite different, but still offers a one-stop-shop for all information about the Department of Energy and Climate Change.

As always we welcome your comments and suggestions so please **contact us**.

£12 million fund for Green Deal cities

Seven cities sited for the Green Deal start up

Seven cities across England will receive a share of a **£12 million fund to help them kick-start the Green Deal** in their regions. The Green Deal helps people pay for home improvements like insulation through savings on their energy bills.

The cities – Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham and Sheffield – have all put forward ambitious proposals to lower their carbon emissions; and also propose to generate match funding themselves.

Energy Secretary, Edward Davey, praised the plans: "These cities have really ambitious plans to lower their emissions, reduce energy use and help people save money on their bills".

"This funding will help them get up and running, and I look forward to seeing a number of properties across whole communities get the energy efficient improvements they need."

The proposals include retrofitting around 2,500 properties across whole communities and offers a key opportunity to test elements of the **Green Deal framework** like assessment and installation, and provide early feedback.

This work will also support future Green Deal activity in these cities by raising awareness of the Green Deal significantly

through community engagement and show homes, and provide support to local supply chains including trained Green Deal advisors and registered installers.

"These cities have really ambitious plans to lower their emissions, reduce energy use and help people save money on their bills."

See what Edward Davey, had to say when he took part in a **live webchat hosted by Which?** answering consumers' questions on Green Deal.



Low Carbon Economy

Rebuilding our energy infrastructure to rebuild our economy

Investment in infrastructure is good for growth of the UK economy and for our long term economic success.

We are committed to reforming the energy market to ensure that the UK has a diverse, safe, secure and affordable energy system and low carbon investment and deployment are incentivised. Learn more about what we're doing to meet energy demand on our [website](#).

Great for investment and jobs

Edward Davey, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, hailed the **ESB announcement** of investment for a 880MW CCGT gas-fired power plant (just outside Manchester) as “great news for the UK’s energy security, and recognition that the Government’s approach to encouraging new capacity is increasingly recognised by investors.”

He added that: “Conventional gas fired power generation needs to remain in the energy mix for some time, even as we seek to develop alternative low carbon technologies such as renewables, nuclear and carbon capture and storage. It’s also great news for the Manchester area in terms of investment and jobs.”

£1 billion power station in Pembroke

Minister of State for Energy, John Hayes opened a new state-of-the-art combined cycle gas turbine (CCGT) power station in Pembroke.

The new npower power station is one of Europe’s largest, capable of generating up to **2,000MW of electricity – enough to provide energy to over 3.5 million households**. It is also one of Europe’s most efficient plants of its kind, producing less than half the CO₂ emissions of a similar sized coal-fired power station.

Speaking at the official opening, John Hayes, said: “Every new power station built is a real strategic asset for our economy. This billion-pound investment will play a vital role in our energy mix, providing a flexible, reliable energy supply for homes and businesses across the country.”

The npower plant in Pembroke represents a £1 billion investment in the region, and has created around 100 long-term, permanent jobs in addition to several hundred temporary construction jobs over the past three years.



[Watch the npower video to accompany the opening of the Pembroke Power station](#)



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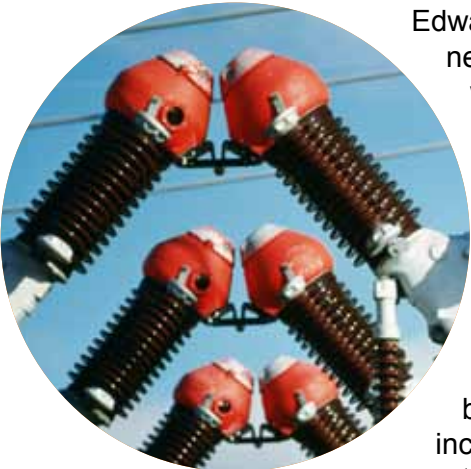
Low Carbon Economy

Rebuilding our energy infrastructure to rebuild our economy

British-Irish energy link opened

Edward Davey, joined An Taoiseach Enda Kenny, Ireland's Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, Pat Rabbitte, and EU Energy Commissioner Gunther Oettinger to open Ireland's first electricity link to Great Britain.

The **EirGrid East West Interconnector** runs between north Wales and County Meath in Ireland and has the capacity to transport 500 megawatts – enough energy to power 300,000 homes.



Edward Davey praised the project saying: “This new connection between our electricity grids will improve our mutual energy security, it will improve competition - bearing down on the price ultimately paid by consumers - and it will allow more of Ireland's abundant wind energy access to the massive UK customer base.”

The **EirGrid Interconnector** will carry electricity both ways, benefiting consumers by helping to improve security of supply, increase competitiveness and encourage the growth of renewable energy generation.

Trading on the **Interconnector** commenced on 1 October 2012.

UK world leaders in offshore wind

Edward Davey and the Crown Prince Haakon of Norway opened the Sheringham Shoal offshore windfarm.

The **farm which contains 80 turbines**, each one the size of Nelson's Column in Trafalgar Square, will provide enough clean energy to power 220,000 homes in the Norfolk region and beyond.

Edward Davey, said: “We need to get the economy moving again and a massive expansion in home grown, clean, renewable energy capacity is central to this. Sheringham Shoal will play an important part; supplying power to 200,000 homes, and providing jobs in the local community.”

The completion of the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm means the UK now has more than 2GW of operational offshore wind energy capacity and retains its position as the world leader in installed offshore wind.



Learn more about what we're doing to rebuild our **energy infrastructure** on our website.



Helping Consumers

Making it easier for consumers to reduce their energy bills and cut emissions

The Government cannot hold back the rising tide of global gas prices. But we can help consumers keep bills as low as possible by making it easier to heat homes, providing direct support to more of those who need it most, and putting in place efficiency measures that will pay off in the long term. Learn more about what we're doing to help consumers on our [website](#).

More warm cosy homes this winter

New regulations means thousands more householders are eligible for help under the our **Warm Front scheme** - which provides government grants to people in poorly heated or insulated homes to pay for boiler repairs, new central heating systems and insulation work. Those eligible can apply for up to £3,500 towards the cost of the work or up to £6,000 for homes not connected to mains gas supply.



Big Energy Saving Week

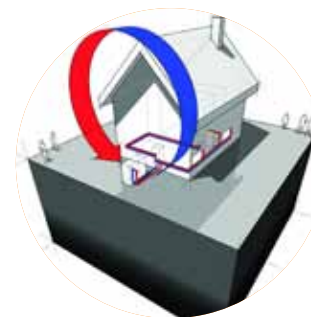
22-27 October. This is a national campaign to help people cut their fuel bills and get all the financial support they are entitled to. The week of activity is co-ordinated by **Citizens Advice Bureau** who will deliver up to 500 events in communities throughout the country, with a particular emphasis on reaching vulnerable consumers. **Big Energy Saving Week** is funded by the big six energy companies and supported by consumer groups, the Government and Ofgem. To find out more go to: www.bigenergysavingweek.org

Heat pump training for social housing providers

We're holding a series of interactive heat pump training roadshows to help those involved in installing this technology in the homes of social tenants, get to grips with the new standards for heat pump installation. The training roadshows will be held on:

- 24th October - Swansea
- 1st November - Glasgow
- 8th November - Belfast
- 14th November - Manchester
- 20th November - London
- 22nd November - Birmingham
- 28th November - Newcastle

For further information and to book a place, visit the [Eventbrite: DECC Heat Pump Training Roadshow](#) or call 020 8469 1333.



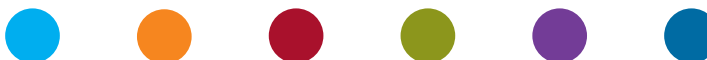
A better energy deal

Energy and Climate Change Secretary Edward Davey set out measures to **help ensure that energy consumers are treated fairly** and make it easier for households get a better deal for their gas and electricity. Including:

- Direct compensation to consumers when companies breached licence conditions.
- Help for prepayment meter customers - who are in debt - to shop around for the best deal.
- A £5 million competition for the most innovative **Collective Switching** schemes.
- Consumer bills with clear information about the supplier's cheapest tariff and the savings to be made by switching.

The Government wants to see more competition in the market, with companies working harder to win and then keep consumers' business. The Secretary of State will host a summit with independent suppliers to explore with them what more can be done.

Read more [news stories](#) on the our website.





Next steps on Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme

We've published three consultations on the **Renewable Heat Incentive scheme (RHI)**. One on the long term support for householders and the other two consultations are on expanding the RHI scheme for commercial, industrial and community customers to increase uptake of renewable heating kit in this sector.

We will be running a number of events across the country to provide opportunities to ask questions about the consultations and feed in ideas. Further details on these events, including how to register can be **found on our website**.



Solar certainty

New proposals ensure solar PV and biomass play an important role in boosting our energy security and tackling climate change. Secretary of State Edward Davey, said: "These proposals make clear our commitment to ensuring that the use of biomass power is sustainable both for the environment, and for the consumer."

The proposals will ensure that the Renewables Obligation delivers value-for-money for the bill-payer while enabling shovel-ready projects to come forward.

The Global Challenge

Driving international action on climate change and energy security

UK & China calculate energy futures together

In an unprecedented collaboration energy strategists from the UK and China came together, on 18-21st September, in Beijing to understand how best to tackle climate change and ensure energy security.

China's Energy Research Institute (ERI) has been working with its British counterparts to adapt the **UK Government's '2050 Calculator'** to their own economy.

The online tool, which will be available to the public, exposes the risks and trade-offs associated with different future energy scenarios.



Learn more about international **climate change** on our website. You can also **subscribe** to a cross-government international climate action newsletter.



DECC by Numbers

A selection of DECC statistics and reports covering the full range of DECC's responsibilities including: climate change, energy, fuel poverty, coal health and the UK's fuel mix.



Homes benefiting from Gov't energy efficiency measures

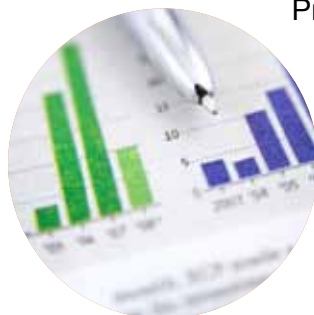
We estimate that 9.7 million properties in Great Britain benefitted from at least one major insulation measure under the Energy Efficiency Commitment (EEC), the Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT) and the Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP) - at the start of April 2012.

By the end of 2022, we estimate that an additional 4.8 million properties would receive one or more major insulation measures.

Quarterly energy trends

In the second quarter of 2012 of electricity generated: gas accounted for 29.8 per cent (its lowest second quarter share in the last fourteen years) - due to high gas prices, while coal accounted for 36.1 per cent (its highest second quarter share in the last fourteen years).

Offshore wind capacity was up 60 per cent, which led to an increase in generation of 46.7 per cent. Lower wind speeds and less rainfall in North Scotland led to onshore and hydro output being respectively down 11.4 and 31.3 per cent.



Defining fuel poverty

A new way to measure fuel poverty in England is being proposed following the independent review by Professor John Hills of the London School of Economics published in March this year. This **new proposed definition** includes dual indicators separating the extent of the issue (the number of people affected) from its depth (how badly people are affected) as a way to measure the problem.



Home insulation levels in Great Britain

Through **Government schemes** since the start of the Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT) (April 2008), there have been 4.5 million lofts insulated, 2.2 million cavity walls insulated, and 78,000 solid walls insulated.

At the start of July 2012:

- 15.2 million homes have loft insulation (65% of homes with lofts)
- 12.9 million homes have cavity wall insulation (68% of homes with cavity walls)
- 144 thousand homes have solid wall insulation (2% of homes with solid walls)

You can find more **DECC statistics** on our website



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Email: [Editorial team](#)

Editor: Nnenna Oleforo

[Onshore wind call for evidence](#)

Close Date: 15.11.2012

[Consultation on energy supply company administration \(Scotland\)](#)

Close Date: 26.11. 2012

[Fuel Poverty: changing the framework for measurement](#)

Close Date: 30.11.2012

[Renewable Heat Incentive: expanding the non-domestic scheme](#)

Close Date: 07.12. 2012

[Renewable Heat Incentive: proposals for a domestic scheme](#)

Close Date: 07.12. 2012

[Consultation on proposals to ensure sustainability and affordability for the use of biomass under the Renewables Obligation \(RO\)](#)

Close Date: 30.11.2012

Visit our website for more information on all [our consultations](#).

