



## ESOS Newsletter

Welcome to issue 2 of the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) newsletter. Here we aim to keep you updated with any changes or updates for the Scheme.

### Useful Links

[ESOS Guidance](#)

[ESOS Website](#)

[ESOS Compliance Notification](#)

[Approaches to ESOS audits](#)

### Contact Us

[ESOS@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:ESOS@environment-agency.gov.uk)

### Act now to comply

This month we sent a second letter to organisations we believe may qualify for ESOS. The aim of this letter is to prompt organisations covered by ESOS to begin taking action now to comply rather than waiting until nearer the deadline. The letters have been sent to directors at each organisation which we believe may meet the qualification threshold. As such several members in a corporate group may receive a letter.

Remember that if one group member qualifies then all members in that group will be subject to ESOS and all of their UK energy supplies will need to be considered. ESOS does not cover overseas energy supplies.

### Auditing Advice

DECC have produced a document on "[Approaches to ESOS Audits](#)". This is intended to give supportive 'best-practice' advice on how to use ESOS's flexible framework to maximise cost saving benefits for your organisation. It is not mandatory and does not replace the Environment Agency's ESOS Compliance Guidance. The DECC guidance was developed in response to feedback from business requesting more detailed advice on practical approaches to undertaking ESOS audits.

DECC have also recently published an "[SME Guide to Energy Efficiency](#)". This is not directly related to ESOS. It offers general energy efficiency guidance for SMEs, but may nevertheless be of interest to some ESOS participants. The guide provides simple advice on how to improve energy efficiency and reduce energy consumption.

### Do you want to be a lead assessor?

There are now over 700 approved lead assessors with many more in the application process. If you are an energy manager for your organisation you may wish to consider becoming a lead assessor. If you have at least two years energy auditing and assessment experience, and skills and experience aligned to those set out in [PAS51215](#), you can apply to join one of the approved registers and review your own organisation's and others' ESOS assessments.

### ESOS Compliance Guidance

We have made some minor amendments to the ESOS Compliance Guidance document. [Version 2](#) is now available and the changes are summarised in the version control table near the front of the document.

### Higher Education Institutions

Following recent enquiries we can confirm that student loans are treated as private financing for the purpose of determining qualification for ESOS. This is in line with [Article 3 \(w\)](#) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 and Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2012. The status of student loans as private financing applies even where tuition fees are paid straight from the applicable government owned loan company to the higher education institution.