

Welcome to the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) newsletter, keeping you updated with key information relating to the scheme. In this issue:

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Auditing your Significant Energy Consumption

Once an ESOS participant has identified their significant energy consumption (SEC), at least 90% of the total energy consumption, this energy has to be audited or subject to one of the alternative compliance routes.

The data used in any ESOS energy audits must:

- detail a period of 12 consecutive months' energy use for the asset or activity
- begin no earlier than 12 months before the start of the compliance period (for the second compliance period they must begin no earlier than 6 December 2014)
- begin no earlier than 24 months before the start of the ESOS energy audit by the participant in the compliance period (for example, for an ESOS energy audit on say 1 April 2019, data must begin no earlier than 1 April 2017)
- not extend beyond the compliance date (that is, not extend beyond 5 December 2019 for the second compliance period)
- not have been included in energy audits for a previous compliance period.

The energy audit must, so far as is reasonably practicable include all the following steps:

- analyse your organisation's energy consumption and energy efficiency
- identify any way in which you can improve your organisation's energy efficiency
- recommend practical and cost-effective energy saving measures for your organisation
- identify the estimated costs and benefits of any energy saving opportunity.

Site Visits and Sampling

Sampling is permitted as part of ESOS energy audits where it would be impractical to measure energy at all the sites or locations. There are no fixed rules for sampling and it is up to the participant and the lead assessor to agree an appropriate sampling level.

You must however explain the approach you took in your evidence pack and how this reflects the energy consumption patterns and saving opportunities for your portfolio of assets and activities.

In a compliance audit the regulators will look for well-reasoned and documented justifications for the approach you took and why conclusions from your sample of site visits would be applicable to the other sites covered in the sample.

ESOS Notification System

The new notification system for Phase 2 of ESOS is now available. This is replacing the existing Phase 1 notification system, which is closed. The Phase 2 notification system is available at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/energy-savings-opportunity-scheme-esos>

If you need to make a Phase 1 notification please contact the ESOS helpdesk at ESOS@environment-agency.gov.uk

Phase 2 Notification System Changes

The Phase 2 notification process is very similar to the Phase 1 system, and looks very similar. There are two significant changes, firstly, if you wish to tell us that you do not qualify (DNQ) for ESOS, then you can do this using the new Phase 2 Notification System as the DNQ option is now built in rather than a separate system. Secondly, there is now an option to upload a list of all the organisations in your participant group, either as a standard template (downloadable from the notification system) or in any other format, such as group structure chart.

Critical Dates

Please remember that the final date for compliance with ESOS Phase 2 and making your notification is 5th December 2019.

If you have any queries relating to ESOS Phase 2, please email esos@environment-agency.gov.uk