



Notification Number: 2013/128/UK

## Emissions restrictions for biomass boilers participating in the Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme (RHI)

Date received : 01/03/2013

End of Standstill : 03/06/2013

### Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - SG(2013) D/5664

Directive 98/34/EC

Notificación - Oznámení - Notifikation - Notifizierung - Teavitamine - Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notification - Notifica - Pieteikums - Pranešimas - Bejelentés - Notifika - Kennisgeving - Zawiadomienie - Notificação - Hlásenie-Obvestilo - Ilmoitus - Anmälan - Нотификация : 2013/0128/UK - Notificare.

No abre el plazo - Nezahtuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késések - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Nao inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201300664.EN)

#### 1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2013 0128 UK EN 01-03-2013 UK NOTIF

#### 2. Member State

UK

#### 3. Department Responsible

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills  
Innovation & Enterprise Group  
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET.

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#### 3. Originating Department

Department of Energy and Climate Change



#### 4. Notification Number

2013/0128/UK - S30E

#### 5. Title

Emissions restrictions for biomass boilers participating in the Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme (RHI)

#### 6. Products Concerned

- 1) Test laboratory to be accredited
- 2) Method for running biomass boiler for testing
- 3) Test levels for oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emissions do not exceed 150 grams per gigajoule
- 4) Test levels for particulate matter (PM) emissions do not exceed 30 grams per gigajoule
- 5) Type(s) of fuel which each boiler is tested as being capable of using without exceeding the limits above
- 6) Moisture of content of type(s) of fuel which each boiler is tested as being capable of using without exceeding the limits above

#### 7. Notification Under Another Act

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#### 8. Main Content

The RHI scheme is designed to incentivise the generation of renewable heat in the United Kingdom, taking into account the financial and non-financial barriers present, whilst ensuring that the renewable heat technology and its installation are of suitable quality and value for money and that the heat generated and used, for which payments will be made, is measured using suitable measuring equipment.

This change is to introduce air quality restrictions on Biomass boilers to reduce the potential impact of biomass boiler emissions on health.

Keywords: Oxides of nitrogen (NOx), particulate matter (PM), test laboratory, type testing range, emissions certificate, fuel type, moisture content.

#### 9. Brief Statement of Grounds

The RHI scheme is designed to pay a financial incentive to generators of renewable heat provided the equipment they use meets certain eligibility criterion. Following the launch of this scheme in November 2011 work has continued to make improvements to the scheme, and reduce any adverse effects of the scheme. Due to concerns over adverse effect of biomass boilers it is planned to bring in air quality standards for the systems participating in the scheme. This will help to ensure additional emissions from the increase in use of biomass is limited. The notifiable technical standards used in these regulations are:

- 1) Test laboratory accredited to ISO 17025

To ensure a test laboratory is able to test and certificate biomass boiler to a satisfactory level and to ensure they are regulated they will need to be accredited to ISO 17025 standard, this is an international standard that ensures competence of testing and calibration.

- 2) Methodology for running a biomass boiler for testing EN 303-5

To ensure consistency in the testing of biomass boilers it is planned that all RHI approved boilers will be tested



in accordance with EN303-5. Any boilers that are outside of the scope of this standard will need to provide evidence of the testing as detailed in the regulations under “schedule 6” apply these set methods allows consistency when testing and then comparisons between installations.

3) Testing for oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions in accordance with EN 14792:2005

EN 14792:2005 sets out how NO<sub>x</sub> should be tested for, once again this will ensure consistency across all biomass boilers tested and eligible for the RHI. The levels for testing for NO<sub>x</sub> will be set to not exceed 150grams per gigajoule net heat input.

4) Testing for particulate matter (PM) emissions in accordance with EN 13284-1:2002 or ISO 9096:2003

EN 13284-1:2002 or ISO 9096:2003 both of the standards set out how PM should be tested for, again providing consistency and reassurance that all biomass boilers are being tested in the same. PM levels will be set to not exceed 30grams per gigajoule net heat input.

5) Fuel type(s)

Restricting boilers to the use of fuel type(s) against which it has been successfully tested against for relevant PM and NO<sub>x</sub> limits, as stated in the results of the testing.

6) Moisture content

Restricting eligible fuels to those with a moisture content sufficiently low to ensure the PM and NO<sub>x</sub> limits are not exceeded, as stated in the results of the testing.

**10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts**

References of the Basic Texts: The draft regulations will be made using powers conferred on the Secretary of State by section 100 of the Energy Act 2008. Please note that the amendments are proposed to introduce air quality requirements under the RHI non domestic scheme. A copy of this amendment is enclosed.

The original Renewable Heat Incentive Regulations 2011 (SI 2860), those which are to be amended, are also enclosed.

Details of the RHI air quality requirements are set out in the enclosed policy document, draft regulations and impact assessment.

**11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure**

No

**12. Grounds for the Emergency**

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**13. Confidentiality**

No

**14. Fiscal measures**



No

**15. Impact assessment**

Yes

**16. TBT and SPS aspects**

TBT aspect

No - The draft has no significant impact on international trade

SPS aspect

No - The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure

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