



Notice

Since the production of this document, Solar Gard has been purchased by Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics Corporation. Solar Gard is now a subsidiary of Saint-Gobain. All references within this document to Bekaert, Bekaert Specialty Films or Bekaert Specialty Films LLC, including but not limited to legal notes, copy and or copyrights are null and void. All rights and responsibilities expressed or written within this document have been transferred from Bekaert Specialty Films, LLC to Saint-Gobain.

Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics
Unit 13, Ball Mill Top Business Park
Grimley, Worcestershire WR2 6LS
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0) 1905 640 400
E-mail: solargardukinfo@saint-gobain.com
www.solargard.co.uk



Companies still unaware of new energy rules

By Fiona Harvey, Environment Correspondent
Published: March 31 2010 22:47 | Last updated: March 31 2010 22:47

Thousands of businesses are still unaware of new regulations coming into force on Thursday that will require them to monitor and report their energy use.

The CRC energy efficiency scheme – formerly the carbon reduction commitment – is central to the government's efforts to cut greenhouse emissions from service-sector companies.

EDITOR'S CHOICE

[Taxpayers' £1bn at risk in green projects](#) - Mar-23

[Concerns over Tory energy plan](#) - Mar-20

[Energy policy 'nowhere near' ready](#) - Mar-18

[Drax chief says carbon prices too low](#) - Feb-20

[Irish Sea gas caves given go-ahead](#) - Feb-14

[Editorial: Ofgem off-target](#) - Feb-04

Several surveys of businesses have found that up to half of the companies covered are **unaware of the regulations** or unsure how to implement them.

Almost half of companies polled by Npower, the electricity supplier, said official advice on how to comply was inadequate. A survey commissioned by Solar Gard, an energy efficiency specialist, found slightly more than half of businesses unaware that the new rules applied to them.

Kanat Emiroglu, managing director of British Gas Business, said: "There is a degree of understandable confusion among many UK businesses and public sector organisations about what the CRC energy efficiency legislation will mean for them. Often there isn't one single individual within the business who is tasked with monitoring and adhering to the CRC."

Up to 30,000 businesses and public sector organisations – including retailers, hotels, restaurants, hospitals and universities – will be covered by the scheme, which requires them to register with officials and disclose their energy use.

The companies covered will be those whose electricity is metered by the half-hour. They have six months from Thursday to register.

Of these, the 5,000 heaviest users of energy will be placed in a league table, showing their carbon emissions relative to their peers. Companies at the bottom of the table will be penalised, with the money recycled into rewards for the most energy-efficient.

The penalties mean less than the reputational damage of being exposed as inefficient, according to David Symons, director at WSP, an environmental consultancy.

"We don't anticipate that costs will be a key driver in the early years of the scheme," he said. "The messages we are getting from a large number of organisations is that they do not want to be seen in the bottom quartile of the league table."

The British Retail Consortium (BRC) said its members were mostly ready for the regulations. But a problem remains unresolved: organisations in rented buildings might be dependent on their landlords to take energy efficiency measures.

Green technology



behind them

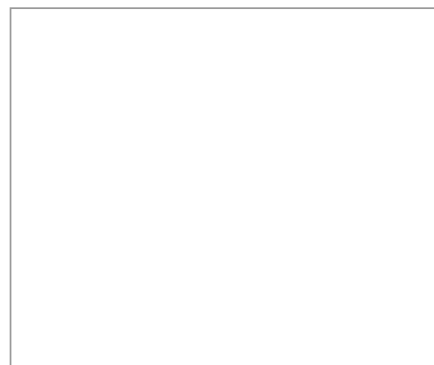
FT In depth: news and analysis on clean technology and the companies

"An adequate solution hasn't been found to ensure that the costs and benefits of achieving energy efficiencies are shared fairly between landlords and their retail tenants," said Stephen Robertson, director-general of the BRC.

The scheme as it is currently set up is likely to save under 1 per cent of Britain's greenhouse gas emissions by 2020.

Several business groups said it was important for the next government to continue with the regulations, or risk confusing companies further.

Tony Grayling, head of climate change at the Environment Agency, which is charged with enforcing the rules, said the scheme would not impose costs on businesses. "In most cases,



LATEST HEADLINES FROM CNN

[Execution date set in Saudi 'sorcery' case](#)
[India makes elementary education compulsory](#)
[Iran and China to talk nuclear program](#)
[Malaysia commutes woman's caning sentence](#)
[N. Korea defector touts ideology over force](#)

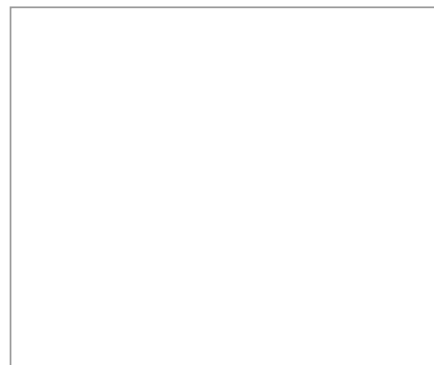
[More](#)

[Jobs](#) [Business for sale](#) [Contracts & tenders](#)

SEARCH

[Director, Internal Audit & Assurance
The National Audit Office \(NAO\)](#)
[Director of Information Technology
European Chemicals Agency \(ECHA\)](#)
[Head of Product Management
FTSE 100 Software Business](#)
[Finance Director
Experian QAS](#)

RECRUITERS
FT.com can deliver talented individuals across all industries around the world
[Post a job now](#)



the savings on energy bills will outweigh the costs of the energy-saving measures," he said.

Copyright The Financial Times Limited 2010. You may share using our article tools. Please don't cut articles from FT.com and redistribute by email or post to the web.

[Print article](#) [Email article](#) [Clip this article](#) [Order reprints](#)

[Twitter](#) [Digg](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Yahoo! Buzz](#) [Delicious](#)
[reddit](#) [BX](#) [Facebook](#) [stumbleupon](#) [Viadeo](#)

RELATED SERVICES	
FT Lexicon	MBA-Direct.com
FT Bespoke Forums	FT Newspaper subscriptions
Market research	FT Diaries
Growth companies	FT Bookshop
Corporate subscriptions	FT Conferences
Luxury Travel brochures	FT Syndication services
Analyst Research	The Non-Executive Director

MORE IN THIS SECTION

- [Business leaders back Osborne over NI](#)
- [Seven charged over insider trading ring](#)
- [Consumers are big winners in BSkyB ruling](#)
- [Design of £19m Olympics tower unveiled](#)
- [FSA fines jump 21 per cent](#)
- [Providers attack net piracy plan](#)
- [Ofcom versus Sky](#)
- [Ordnance Survey data to boost business](#)
- [FSA charges follow US prosecutions](#)
- [Sports deplore 'ill-judged intervention'](#)

[FT Home](#)

[Site map](#) [Contact us](#) [Help](#)

[Advertise with the FT](#) [Media centre](#) [FT Newspaper subscriptions](#) [FT Conferences](#) [FT Syndication](#) [Corporate subscriptions](#) [FT Group](#) [Careers at the FT](#)

[Partner sites: Chinese FT.com](#) [The Mergermarket Group](#) [Investors Chronicle](#) [Exec-Appointments.com](#) [Money Media](#) [The Banker](#) [fDi Intelligence](#) [MBA-Direct.com](#) [The Non-Executive Director](#)

© Copyright The Financial Times Ltd 2010. "FT" and "Financial Times" are trademarks of The Financial Times Ltd. [Privacy policy](#) [Terms](#)