

SOLTRAC FACTSHEET



At last! Renewable Heat Premium Payments now available to our customers

The Government's 'Renewable Heat Premium Payment' scheme opens for applications on 1 August 2011 and will run till March 2012.

A domestic solar water heating installation commissioned after 1 August will receive a one-off grant of £300.

The Government has set aside £15m for the Scheme (but of this £3m is set aside for registered social landlords). It will be run on a first come, first served basis till the money runs out. They estimate that the scheme will support up to 25,000 installations.

This is a short-term scheme of one-off payments. From 2012, the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) will cover the domestic sector, providing regular payments (see our separate Factsheet on this).

Participants will be asked to provide detailed feedback to the Government on their experience through a set of surveys.

Am I eligible?

Individuals who own their own property and live in England, Wales or Scotland can apply for installations at their primary residence.

The solar water heating system must supply a permanent residential building (systems heating mobile homes, caravans, house boats are not eligible, nor are systems heating swimming pools alone).

You must have loft insulation to 250 mm and cavity wall insulation, "where these measures are practical".

The solar product installed must be listed under the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS), and be installed by a company registered under that scheme; all Soltrac systems fulfill these criteria.

People who have received a Premium Payment will still be eligible for support through the RHI, providing they meet the eligibility criteria of the full RHI scheme (not yet released), as will anybody else who has installed eligible equipment since 15 July 2009.

Notes:

1. The application form refers to "Getting a minimum of three quotes from MCS certified installers", but we are assured this is a recommendation not a requirement.

2. For **other** forms of renewable heating, eg biomass boilers, grants will not be available for houses on the gas network.

How do I apply?

The Premium Payment scheme is run by the Energy Saving Trust (EST). Their website and information line are now live.

Go to: **www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/RHPP**

If you don't have access to the internet, apply by phoning their help line on 0800 512012.

Applications open on 1 August. If you meet the conditions, you will receive a voucher. You then have 3 months to redeem the voucher by returning a signed version with a copy of the invoice from the installer and a certificate from the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (which we will give you). The money will then be paid into your bank account.

You will be asked to submit information about how the technology you have installed is performing in your home.

You might be selected to have some monitoring equipment installed at the same time as your technology (not at your expense!).

These grants are cash-limited. Once the £15m is committed, there will be no more vouchers!