

About this consultation

H2 Energy Efficiency Guidance amendments

We're asking for your comments on a new annex to our H2 Energy Efficiency Guidance on cost-benefit assessments under Article 14 of the Energy Efficiency Directive

What is this consultation about?

Article 14 (5-8) of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) places a requirement on operators of combustion and energy from waste plants greater than 20 MW thermal input to carry out a cost-benefit assessment (CBA) of opportunities for combined heat and power or recovery of waste heat from industrial processes.

Defra are proposing to implement the Article 14 (5-8) requirements through an amendment to the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR) 2010. Defra are currently consulting on these regulations and a link to their consultation is [here](#). Please note that the Defra consultation closes on Friday 21 March.

This consultation is on draft Environment Agency guidance which tells operators how to comply with the CBA requirements. Whilst the exact CBA requirements are subject to the outcome of the Defra consultation, for the purposes of this consultation, we are assuming that the proposals in the Defra consultation will go ahead as planned.

Once we have finalised the Article 14 guidance we are planning to include it as an annex to our H2 Energy Efficiency Guidance. We are planning to make some other changes to the H2 guidance to bring it up to date and make it more concise, before publishing it later in 2014 (including the Article 14 annex). We will consult on the other changes to the H2 guidance separately.

The consultation documents comprise:

- Guidance which explains who has to carry out a cost-benefit assessment, what they have to do, and instructions on how to complete the template.
- An Excel spreadsheet which provides a template for operators to complete the assessment
- A description of how the template assessment has been devised (this is to allow consultees to comment more fully on the draft guidance but will not form part of the final guidance).

In England, the Environment Agency is the regulator for combustion plants with a gross thermal input of 50 MW or more, and for most energy from waste plants. Local authorities regulate most other combustion plants with a net thermal input of between 20-50 MW. The draft guidance applies primarily to relevant combustion processes regulated by the Environment Agency, though is likely to be equally applicable to relevant combustion processes regulated by local authorities.

What the responses will be used for?

We will use the responses of the consultation to make sure that we've specified the right approach to carrying out the cost-benefit assessment, and that we've included the right parameters and values. We'll then make any changes necessary before we publish the guidance it as part of our revised H2 Energy Efficiency guidance.

Key dates

The consultation opens on 3 March 2014 and closes on 11 April 2014.

How to respond

You can view the consultation documents and consultation questions online at <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/portal/>. Here you can submit your response using our online tool which will enable you to manage your comments more effectively. It will also help us to gather and summarise responses quickly and accurately as well as drive down the costs of the consultation for the taxpayer.

But if you'd prefer to submit your response by email or letter, or if you'd like to ask for a printed version of the document to be posted to you, please contact [insert name] on [insert number], or email [insert email address].

If you would like to send your response by post, please send your completed response form to:

Ben Freeman, Environment Agency, Apollo Court, 2 Bishop's Square Business Park, St Albans Road West, Hatfield, Herts. AL10 9EX

Consultation questions

		Related section	Page
1.	Do you agree with the proposed scope, general approach and principles of the CBA? Please explain your answer.	Description of cost-benefit assessment template for consultees	1-3
2.	Do you think that all parameters necessary for the CBA have been included in the proposal? If not, please suggest additional parameters and explain why.	Description of cost-benefit assessment template for consultees	3-10
3.	Do you think that any of the parameters proposed for inclusion in the CBA are not required? If so, which ones and why?	Description of cost-benefit assessment template for consultees	3-10

customer service line

08708 506 506

www.environment-agency.gov.uk

incident hotline

0800 80 70 60

floodline

0845 988 1188

4.	Do you agree with the proposals regarding who supplies the values for the different parameters? Please explain your answer.	Description of cost-benefit assessment template for consultees	3-10
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How we will use your information

Throughout the consultation the Environment Agency will look to make all comments (excluding personal information) publicly available on the Environment Agency website. This includes comments received online, by email, post and by fax, unless you have specifically requested that we keep your response confidential. We will not publish on our website names of individuals who respond, but we will publish the names of any organisations for which a response has been made.

If you respond online or provide us with an email address, we will acknowledge your response. After the consultation has closed a summary of the responses will be published on our website. We will contact you to let you know when this is available. We will also notify you of any forthcoming consultations unless you tell us otherwise.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we may be required to publish your response to this consultation, but will not include any personal information. If you have requested your response to be kept confidential, we may still be required to provide a summary of it

Consultation Principles

We are running this consultation in accordance with the criteria set out in the government's Consultation Principles.

If you have any queries or complaints about the way this consultation has been carried out, please contact:

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 Bristol BS1 5AH

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