



asiantaeth ynni
SevernWye
energy agency

A guide to the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI)



Glossary of key terms used in this leaflet

Energy Performance Certificate (EPC): An EPC gives information about a property's energy use, plus recommendations on how to reduce energy and save money. It's required every time you buy, sell or rent a property.

Feed-in Tariff (FIT): The Feed-in Tariff is the RHI equivalent for renewable electricity. It pays people a set rate for each kWh of renewable electricity they produce (plus an additional export bonus) – see our separate leaflet on the FIT for further details.

Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS): The MCS is a nationally recognised quality assurance scheme. MCS certifies microgeneration (small scale) technologies used to produce electricity and heat from renewable sources.

Consumer Price Index (CPI): The CPI is a measure of the rate of increase in prices for goods and services.

References



*For details of the references used in this document please scan the QR image, visit

www.warmandwell.co.uk/warm-and-well/advice-materials.html

or call us on 0800 500 30 76

What is the Renewable Heat Incentive?

The Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) was introduced in April 2014 to encourage people to produce their own renewable heat. There is an equivalent scheme to encourage the production of renewable electricity called the Feed-in Tariff (FIT) – see separate leaflet for details.

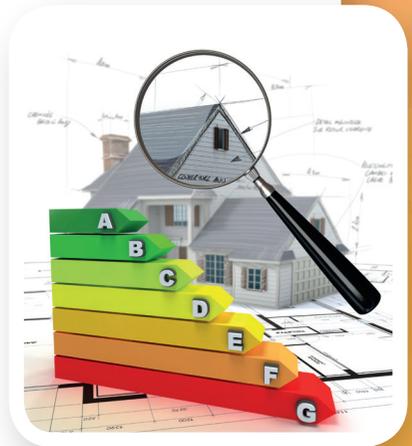
Through the RHI you are paid for every unit (kilowatt hour; kWh) of renewable heat you produce. Payments are made quarterly and continue to be paid at a guaranteed rate for a period of seven years. This rate is inflation linked, tracking the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The amount you are paid depends on the technology installed.

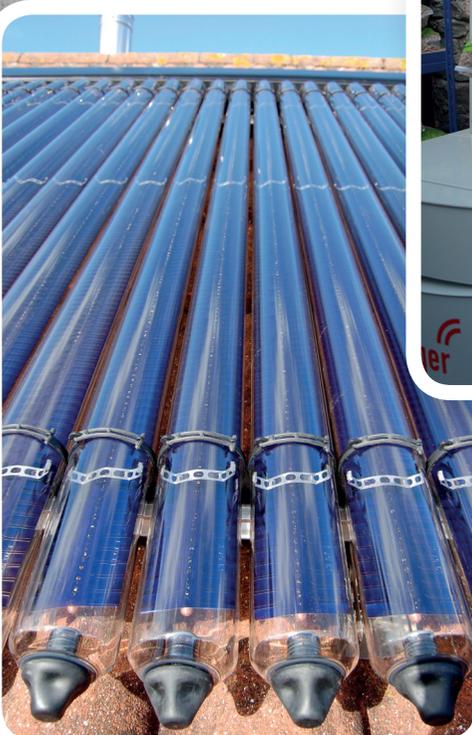
To qualify for the domestic RHI the renewable heating system must heat only a single property which is capable of getting a domestic Energy Performance Certificate (EPC). The EPC proves that the property is assessed as a domestic 'dwelling'. For other buildings you will need to apply to the non-domestic RHI. This leaflet covers only the domestic RHI – for more information on the non-domestic scheme, please call our Freephone advice line on **0800 500 30 76**.

The RHI can be claimed for heat produced by:

- Biomass (wood fuelled) boilers
- Biomass pellet stoves with integrated boilers providing space heating
- Ground to water heat pumps
- Air to water heat pumps
- Solar thermal panels

Air to air heat pumps, ground to air heat pumps, all log stoves, and pellet stoves without back boilers are not supported by RHI.





Biomass boilers, ground to water heat pumps, air to water heat pumps and solar thermal panels all qualify for the RHI



How much will I receive?

The amount you receive will depend on the technology you install and the space and water heating demand for your property as calculated in your EPC. Heat demand limits are in place for each of the eligible technologies.

The table*¹ shows the tariff payable for each technology. However, if numbers of applications are particularly high, these rates can be reduced at short notice. Therefore, it is always best to check the latest tariffs on the Ofgem website: www.ofgem.gov.uk.

Rates payable per kWh produced for applications submitted up to the 31st March 2018

(unless numbers of applications are particularly high – see above)

| Biomass boilers and stoves | Air source heat pumps | Ground source heat pumps | Solar thermal |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| 6.54p | 10.18p | 19.86p | 20.06p |

What do I need to do to make sure I qualify?

In order to qualify for the RHI, the system you install must be Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) certified and listed on the Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive Product Eligibility List. This can be found at: www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications-and-updates/domestic-renewable-heat-incentive-product-eligibility-list-pel. You must also have a domestic Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) for your property. Biomass fuel must also be purchased from a set list of suppliers which can be found at www.gov.uk/find-fuel-supplier. This is to ensure that the fuel comes from a certified sustainable source.



What happens if I move home?

If you move home, in most cases the ownership of the renewable technology will transfer to the new owners of the property – you would need to notify Ofgem of this change.

Want to find out more?

We have tried to keep this guide as simple as possible to aid the reader. However, if you phone our Freephone advice line on **0800 500 30 76**, one of our friendly staff will be more than happy to speak to you about the Renewable Heat Incentive in more detail.



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Severn Wye Energy Agency is a not-for-profit company and charity (charity no. 1083812), established in 1999 under the European Commission SAVE programme to promote sustainable energy and affordable warmth through partnership, awareness-raising, innovation and strategic action.

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No reliance should be placed on Severn Wye Energy Agency (Severn Wye) by the homeowner in relation to any recommendations set out in this leaflet. Severn Wye accepts no responsibility for accidents or incidents arising from individuals undertaking any of the tasks described. You should always contact a suitably qualified professional before proceeding.

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a fitter home for a healthy future

Warm and Well has been running for over 10 years and has helped thousands of people tackle their energy bills and make their homes more comfortable. Our friendly advisors provide free advice on reducing energy use and on the grants and incentives available.

0800 500 30 76

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This fact sheet is part of a series that includes information on heating and hot water, home power generation, lighting and electrical appliances and reducing heat loss.

The full series of fact sheets can be found at:

www.warmandwell.co.uk

Large print copies are available on request