



Glass and Glazing Federation

Energy Efficient Windows and the Green Deal

The Glass and Glazing Federation (GGF) supports the Government in its efforts to increase the energy efficiency of homes through the introduction of the Green Deal. The need for a rapid transition to a low-energy, low-carbon economy is pressing, and it is crucial that further measures are taken to assist householders in reducing energy loss and carbon emissions from their homes.

The importance of including Energy Efficient Windows in the Green Deal

The Energy Saving Trust has estimated that as much as 23% of a home's heat energy can be lost through inefficient windows. Therefore, installing Energy Efficient Windows is essential for homes to reduce energy use and subsequent carbon emissions from homes. Reducing the energy lost also has the additional benefit of reducing household bills, and forms an important part of a whole house approach to reducing energy use.

The results of a twelve month project recently completed by the Glass and Glazing Federation (GGF) have proven that:

Energy Efficient Windows in all properties of the existing housing stock would **reduce national emissions by 10%** and would also **reduce national domestic energy expenditure by 10%**.

The average yearly saving made by converting all existing housing stock windows to Energy Efficient Windows would be:

- 3,970,663 tonnes of carbon
- 14,559,098 tonnes of CO₂
- £2,363 million

The average yearly energy bill savings made for installing Energy Efficient Windows in a typical GB house would be:

- £150.49 in a single glazed house (up to £325 in an electrically heated house)
- £44.88 in a double glazed house (per 2002)

A recent report¹ by the Energy Saving Trust confirmed that replacing inefficient windows is one of the key measures necessary to improve certain E and F energy-rated homes.

It is therefore vital that Energy Efficient Windows be included in the defined list of measures eligible for support under the Green Deal.

¹ "F & G banded homes in Great Britain: Research into costs of treatment" Energy Saving Trust, July 2010



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Ensuring that the Green Deal has the best result for consumers, providers, and the environment

- **The Green Deal must provide consumer choice**

The GGF believes that householders should be given the choice over what eligible energy efficiency measures are installed, and who is to install them. This includes Energy Efficient Windows in the package of measures they opt for under the Green Deal as part of this choice.

- **The Green Deal must provide consumer protection**

The GGF fully supports the principles of consumer protection and quality assurance, with all work being carried out proficiently by skilled contractors and installers free of bias.

- **The Green Deal should mean a fair deal for contractors and installers**

The GGF recognises the fact that improved energy efficiency can only truly be achieved through a plurality of providers, promoting the industry as a whole.

- **The Green Deal should complement other Government policies**

The GGF believes that Government must consider how the Green Deal can fit with other carbon reduction policies, Building Regulations, and reduced rates of VAT, in order for it to have maximum impact upon carbon emissions. At present, the installation of only a limited number of energy efficiency products and services is eligible for a reduced rate of VAT. Making this reduced rate of VAT on the installation of products more inclusive will assist in the “whole house” approach to energy efficiency.

What can you do to help?

- Write to the Energy Efficiency Minister, Greg Barker MP, to request the inclusion of energy efficient windows in the defined list of measures eligible for funding under the Green Deal
- Ask Parliamentary Questions on the Department for Energy and Climate Change’s approach to ensuring that householders have a full choice of energy efficiency measures to choose from; and that the Green Deal is a level playing field for all contractors and installers of energy efficiency products
- Highlight the concerns raised by the GGF during Parliamentary debates on the Energy Security and Green Economy Bill
- Contact Nigel Rees, Chief Executive of the Glass and Glazing Federation for further information: *Glass and Glazing Federation, 54 Ayres Street, London, SE1 1EU Tel DD: 020 7939 9113 or via email on nrees@ggf.org.uk*