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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT BIOMASS RENEWABLE E

Opportunities for Renewable Heat: Planning and procuring biomass heat systems

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A little policy context:

the EU's largest renewable energy source with high growth

forecasts

Renewables: UK/EU targets to 2020 & share at 2010 (5% of UK energy is now renewable)



<u>Renewable Energy: a few facts</u> About 60% of EU's renewable energy is from wood Most of that is in the form of renewable heat

About 20% of UK's renewable energy is from wood



The Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI): progress so far

Key Stats:

1.Heat = c50% of all UK energy use (electricity and transport are the rest)

1.Heat = 47% of all UK CO2 emissions

1.RHI is designed to deliver 12% RES heat by 2020

1.RHI is 98.7% biomass

1.As of 2014 – 1GW of installed capacity was achieved via RHI – with perhaps a further 3GW outside RHI

1.£3.2 billion of capital investment

1.£0.3 billion of fuel pa (3 million tonnes)



Figure 1: Regional break down of accredited installed capacity













Performance standards and efficiency:

lower than it should be and below expectations: but good procurement can address this







- A DECC assessment of the 'performance standards' in the biomass heating sector in the UK:
 - Covered observed % operational efficiencies and expected efficiencies (measured via fuel in/heat out)
 - Undertaken in March to May 2014
 - 106 schemes with fuel and meter readings obtained
 - Possibly the largest such sample collected
 - Verified via 3,143 RHI schemes

Expected Performance Standards





| Situation | Max | efficiency | Worst | efficiency | Central | efficiency |
|-------------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|
| | (annual) | | (annual) | | (annual) | |
| Base load boilers | 86% | | 77% | | 81.5% | |
| Peak load boilers | 77% | | 67% | | 72% | |

The average (central) **expected performance standard is 76.75%**(1) (compared to 66.5% we found in practice): 85% expectations make it worse...

Which affects the economics of the schemes, the reputation of the sector and increases emissions/decreases carbon savings.

(1) It is important to note that these estimates are not very different from how a gas, oil or coal fired heating system would perform in a similar situation.

The economic case for biomass heat: attractive for well planned (well performing) projects

Delivers sustainable indexed linked reductions in gas/oil bills for heating with limited risk

Fuel costs and the RHI rates (2015 £/MWh)



Installed costs of biomass heat systems – DECC study

The Scope for Cost Reductions in a Mass Market for Biomass Heating Installations

Department of Energy &



| Size/cost | 25kW scheme | 199kW scheme | 500kW scheme |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Low Cost | £6,530 | £106,000 | £256,937 |
| | (£254/kW) | (£643/kW) | (£514/kW) |
| Average Cost | £12,665 | £166,700 | £436,500 |
| | (£507/kW) | (£854/kW) | (£873/kW) |
| High Cost | £22,436 | £254,000 | £779,953 |
| | (£897/kW) | (£1065/kW) | (£1560/kW) |

Real world paybacks (ex inflation)

| Site | Capital costs | Do nothing energy cost | Biomass Costs | Back up Fossil Fuel Costs | RHI income | Net new energy cost | Simple Payback |
|--------|------------------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | 459,898 | 34,793 | 71,881 | 0 | 72,349 | 468 | 13.4 |
| 2 | 155,452 | 19,894 | 22,024 | 1,590 | 28,211 | -4,597 | 6.3 |
| 3 | 158,188 | 27,990 | 29,509 | 4,190 | 31,561 | 2,138 | 6.1 |
| 4 | 160,500 | 18,870 | 21,200 | 1,320 | 27,755 | -5,235 | 6.6 |
| 5 | 168,866 | 6,554 | 11,260 | 0 | 21,032 | -9,274 | 10.6 |
| 6 | 211,273 | 25,915 | 18,735 | 1,554 | 24,239 | -3,949 | 7 |
| 7 | 345,813 | 57,060 | 62,549 | 2,853 | 69,877 | -4,474 | 5.6 |
| 8 | 156,471 | 15,720 | 18,124 | 942 | 26,055 | -6,988 | 6.8 |
| 9 | 156,023 | 14,259 | 16,599 | 855 | 25,212 | -7,757 | 7 |
| 10 | 185,094 | 26,970 | 27,163 | 4,044 | 31,053 | 155 | 6.9 |
| 11 | 133,728 | 10,419 | 6,699 | 518 | 9,112 | -1,894 | 10.8 |
| 12 | 171,423 | 19,257 | 11,146 | 964 | 17,806 | -5,697 | 6.8 |
| Totals | 2,462,729 | 277,701 | 316,889 | 18,830 | 384,262 | -48,543 | 7.5 |

Carbon: further benefit

| Site | Tonnes of Carbon Savings | Annual CRC savings @£12/t |
|--------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | 97.03 | £1,164 |
| 2 | 61.52 | £738 |
| 3 | 93.09 | £1,117 |
| 4 | 71.08 | £853 |
| 5 | 95.72 | £1,149 |
| 6 | 112.11 | £1,345 |
| 7 | 121.61 | £1,459 |
| 8 | 287.73 | £3,453 |
| 9 | 296.63 | £3,559 |
| 10 | 31.48 | £377.76 |
| 11 | 91.26 | £1,095 |
| 12 | 78.37 | £940.44 |
| Totals | 1437 tonnes a yr | £17,250 CRC saved a yr |

Good procurement practice

It's a design, build and operate sector.....

KWB

Design, build and operate

(not the only model of course)

- Let the specialists design and build it based upon a performance specification
- Integrates fuel supply with scheme design
- Allows biomass supplier to balance opex and capex via wholelife assessment
- Transfers performance and efficiency risks to those best placed to manage them
- Consider group procurement to deliver economies of scale in build and operation (especially)

And finally: good procurement process and documents

- Employers Requirements
 - MQH: Heat loads and profiles (occupancy patterns, BMS)
 - Location and appearance standards required
 - Role of existing fossil fuel plant (HPR) retain, remove, replace?
 - Planning consents, building warrant, emissions
 - Tender submission requirements (what are firm designs?)
 - Award process, evaluation criteria (payback not cost)
 - RHI compliance (Metering point, Ofgem registration, IMR)
- A Heat Supply Agreement
- Consider a building contract
- Realistic timescales (6 months procurement, 3 months lead time)