

Sustainability Committee

SC(3)-09-10 : Paper 5A : 21 April 2010

Evidence from Environment Agency Wales - Additional information from the 25 February Sustainability Committee Meeting

National Assembly for Wales Additional Question: Further information on the implementation of the Carbon Reduction Commitment energy efficiency scheme (CRC), in particular with regards to the emission data for UK-wide businesses.

CRC Coverage - UK

It is anticipated that up to 5,000 organisations will be full participants, and 30,000 other organisations have a limited duty to make an information disclosure (effectively register) only.

The CRC system is estimated to focus on emissions totalling 57.5 MtCO₂, equivalent to 10% of total UK CO₂ emissions.

Starting in 2010, the CRC has been estimated to save approximately 1.3MtCO₂ (0.4MtC) per year by 2015, rising to 3.2MtCO₂ (0.9 MtC) per year by 2020.

CRC Coverage - Wales

The administrative setup of the CRC was designed to reduce the burden on organisations. The exact Welsh proportion of CRC participation and resulting CO₂ emissions reductions may be more difficult to determine:

A highest parent organisation (HPO) participates on behalf of the entire group, and reports on the combined energy use of its subsidiaries. e.g. the Environment Agency would report of behalf of Environment Agency Wales.

The postal address for the HPO may not correspond with the principle location of CRC related activities, and will not reflect organisations with multiple locations. e.g. for the Environment Agency this was be at Head Office Bristol.

It is the responsibility of the participant to determine if/how they will disaggregate their organisation, thereby creating some uncertainty at this time as to where participants will choose to register.

The vast majority of CRC participants will be registered in England (a disproportionate number of organisations have their head-office in the South East of England).

However, those organisations solely in Wales including Welsh Public Services and the Welsh NHS will be registered and attributed to Wales.

An initial analysis of half hourly meters has identified an estimated 100 Welsh participants.

Data Availability and Scrutiny

The registration database and yearly reports will be scrutinised to estimate the level of participation and related CO₂ emissions in Wales. The first estimate for Welsh participation is expected in Sept 2010 following the completion of registration.

Additionally, the registration process will include the option for an organisation to identify a 'principle place of activity'. This will provide further evidence of the level of participation and emission savings in Wales for those organisations registered in England.

We will working with the Welsh Assembly Government to determine how we apportion the total emissions for Wales in a way that does not increase the administrative burden.

Although participants will not be required to identify the specific location of emission sources, any CO₂ reduction in the UK will ultimately benefit the citizens of Wales.

Richard Griffiths
9th March 2010