Factsheet: Using energy wisely



The Ministry of Defence (MOD) is committed to cutting emissions of greenhouse gases and the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) is responsible for all non-operation energy use. To do this, we are working with our partners on initiatives aimed at reducing our carbon footprint, increasing energy efficiency and the use of alternative lower-carbon energy sources (such as renewable or combined heat and power energy).

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) estate is responsible for just over 1 million tonnes of CO² a year, which is around 1% of the UK total.

How are we doing?

Reducing energy use is obviously better for the environment but it also helps to save the MOD, and therefore the taxpayer, money.

The Greening Government Commitments (GGC) contain a target that all departments are to reduce their energy consumption by 25% by 2015 compared to 2009/10 levels.





As part of MOD's work to meet this target, £108.76m has been invested in energy efficiency measures on 223 MOD sites between 2010 and the 2013/14 financial year. These sites are both in the UK and overseas.

This Spend to Save' investment is expected to generate savings of £70m per year against utility running costs and includes around 1,400 projects such as installing boiler controls, improving insulation and the introduction of Building Energy Management Systems.



1400 projects

£70m saving per year

What about Green energy?

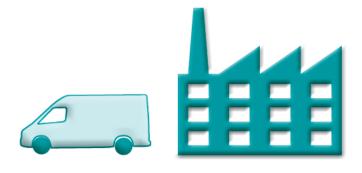
The majority of the MOD's electricity is now 'green' - generated from renewable energy sources. In the UK, the additional cost of green power is offset by the fact that this is exempt from the Climate Change Levy; it is actually slightly cheaper to go green than to use normal 'brown' electricity.

In Germany, Erneuerbare-Energien-Gesetz (EEG) legislation means that the majority of electricity supplied to MOD bases is also from renewable energy sources; over 75% of MOD electricity used in Germany is now from renewable energy sources.

What about carbon dioxide?

We have also made considerable savings in the amount of the 'greenhouse gas' carbon dioxide (CO²) emitted from the MOD estate.

Over three years of investment across 223 sites, a total of 291,969 tonnes of CO² had been saved at the end of the 2013/14 financial year. This is expected to rise to 407,773 tonnes during the 2014/2015 financial year.



291,969 tonnes of CO⁺ saved in 3 years

If achieved, that would save the equivalent amount of carbon dioxide of more than 200,000 plane journeys from London to Sydney or a car travelling around the earth's equator nearly 50,000 times!

