

The English Environmental State Aid Scheme

1. Member State

United Kingdom

2. Regions

East Midlands;
Eastern;
London;
North East;
North West;
South East;
South West;
West Midlands; and
Yorkshire and the Humber

3. Title of aid Scheme

The English Environmental State Aid Scheme

4. Government or statutory bodies authorised to implement the Scheme

The implementing body is the Department of Communities and Local Government.

The implementing body has a range of statutory functions which include funding projects in England which incentivise infrastructure improvements, the development of renewable energy facilities, green technology improvements, property development, encourage employment and/or attract business investment.

5. Legal Authority

The implementing body is authorised to award aid under domestic law. The legal authority for the implementing body to award aid is contained within:

- The European Communities Act 1972;
- The Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980;
- The Leasehold Reform, Housing and Urban Development Act 1993;
- The Local Government Act 2000;
- The Public Contracts Regulations SI 2006 No 5;
- The Local Government Act 2007;
- The Housing and Regeneration Act 2008; and
- The European Communities (Finance) Act 2008.

6. Duration

The English Environmental State Aid Scheme allows the implementing body to award and provide aid in England between 1 July 2011 and 31 December 2013.

7. **Basis of Scheme**

The English Environmental State Aid Scheme is exempted from the notification requirements of Article 108(3) of the TFEU as aid is awarded in accordance with the General Block Exemption Regulation ([Commission Regulation No 800/2008](#)) of 6 August 2008 (“GBER”).

The scheme utilises the following instruments of GBER:

Article 18 Investment aid enabling undertakings to go beyond Community standards for environmental protection or increase the level of environmental protection in the absence of Community standards;

Article 19 Aid for the acquisition of new transport vehicles which go beyond Community standards or which increase the level of environmental protection in the absence of Community standards;

Article 20 Aid for early adaptation to future Community standards for SMEs;

Article 21 Environmental investment aid for energy saving measures;

Article 22 Environmental investment aid for high-efficiency cogeneration;

Article 23 Environmental investment aid for the promotion of energy from renewable energy sources; and

Article 24 Aid for environmental studies.

8. **Aid Intensity**

The English Environmental State Aid Scheme allows the implementing bodies to award aid up to the maximum aid intensity allowable under Articles 18 to 24 of GBER, subject to the implementing body satisfying all the relevant provisions of GBER and the applicable terms of the scheme.

The maximum investment intensities are set out in the table below.

[Commission Recommendation C20031422/361/EC](#) (Official Journal L124, 20.5.2003) provides guidance on identifying the appropriate size of enterprise.

| Aid Measure | Maximum % aid intensity levels for: | | | Notification thresholds (€) |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Large Enterprises | Medium Enterprises | Small Enterprises | |
| Environmental Aid: GBER SECTION 4 | | | | |

| Aid Measure | Maximum % aid intensity levels for: | | | Notification thresholds (€) |
|---|---|--|--|-----------------------------|
| | Large Enterprises | Medium Enterprises | Small Enterprises | |
| <u>Article 18</u> Investment to go beyond community standards for environmental protection | 35% | 45% | 55% | 7.5m |
| <u>Article 19</u> Acquisition of transport vehicles that go beyond community environmental protection standards | 35% | 45% | 55% | 7.5m |
| <u>Article 20</u> Early adaptation to future environmental standards for SMEs | Not applicable | 10% | 15% 10% available where implementation of measures in question take place between one and 3 years prior to mandatory date for entry into force of relevant standards. | 7.5m |
| <u>Article 21</u> Investment in Energy Saving Measures | 60% (if net of operating benefits) 20% if not net of operating benefits) | 70% (if net of operating benefits) 30% (if not net of operating benefits) | 80% (if net of operating benefits) 40% (if not net of operating benefits) | 7.5m |
| <u>Article 22</u> Investment in High Efficiency Cogeneration | 45% | 55% | 65% | 7.5m |

| Aid Measure | Maximum % aid intensity levels for: | | | Notification thresholds (€) |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Large Enterprises | Medium Enterprises | Small Enterprises | |
| <u>Article 23</u> Investment in the Promotion of Energy from Renewable Energy | 45% | 55% | 65% | 7.5m |
| <u>Article 24</u> Environmental Studies | 50% | 60% | 70% | None specified |

Where the total funding from all public sources will exceed the above thresholds, no aid may be granted or otherwise committed until approval has been obtained from the European Commission.

For administration purposes, aid will be awarded under sub-schemes which align with the relevant measures of Section 4 of GBER. These schemes can be found at Appendix A. The implementing body should inform the aid recipient of the relevant sub-scheme.

9. Scheme Objectives

The object of the English Environmental State Aid Scheme is to provide State Aid cover for awards of aid that incentivise business to take environmentally friendly action.

Any award made under the English Environmental State Aid Scheme will be made at the discretion of the implementing body, taking into account considerations such as whether the award of aid will help incentivise environmentally friendly action and whether State Aid is the appropriate instrument to achieve the objective.

10. Forms of aid

Aid for projects funded under this scheme may take the form of grants only.

11. Mechanism for granting of aid under the Scheme

Each project under this scheme shall comply fully with the relevant identified sub-schemes.

With the exception of sub-scheme 7, no one undertaking shall receive more than €7.5m of aid from any single sub-scheme without notifying the European Commission. In the event that more than €7.5m worth of aid is to be provided to one undertaking in the same form as set out in Sub-schemes 1 to 6 then a separate notification will need to be made to the European Commission in advance of grant.

12. Procurement of suppliers

Aid provided under the English Environmental State Aid Scheme shall only usually be made available on the condition that the recipient agrees to select all goods and services funded under the scheme through an open and competitive tender process consistent with the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 (as amended). Where, for whatever reason, an open and competitive tender is not adopted, the recipient is required to keep records to demonstrate that the costs for each item or service are equal or lower than that which would have been established had the goods or services been selected through an open and competitive tender process. The implementing body reserves the right to require the recipient to instruct an independent expert, at the recipient's cost, to verify whether the costs are equal or below that which would have been established through an open and competitive tender process.

13. Incentive Effect

The implementing body will take all necessary steps to ensure the Incentive Effect requirements in Article 8 of GBER are satisfied before aid is awarded.

In accordance with European Commission notice "Incentive effect in relation to large enterprises" Comp/H4/CS/dg-D*2011/097439, dated 20 September 2011, to ensure compliance with Article 8 (3) of GBER, all projects using this scheme involving large enterprises will:

- Produce an internal document analysing the viability of the aided project activity with the proposed aid and without the proposed aid;
- Ensure the document contains credible analysis and demonstrates the incentive effect; and
- Shall submit that document to the implementing body, prior to the aid being legally committed.

14. Excluded aid

The English Environmental State Aid Scheme allows aid to all sectors other than those listed below:

- Fisheries and aquaculture;
- Shipbuilding;
- Coal industry;
- Steel industry;
- Synthetic fibres; and
- Primary production of agricultural products (listed in Annex 1 of the Treaty; cork products under CN codes 4502, 4503, 4504; products used to substitute for milk/milk products).

This scheme shall not allow aid:

- which constitutes export aid or favours domestic over imported products;
- that has the objective of the establishing and /or financing of distribution networks in other countries;
- where implementing body has reasonable grounds to believe the recipient of funds will be within the definition of undertaking in difficulty (as set out in 2.1 of the

¹; and

- where the recipient of the aid is the subject of an outstanding recovery order relating to a previous European Commission decision in which aid has been declared illegal and / or incompatible with the Common Market.

15. Cumulation

The aid exempted in this Scheme may be cumulated with any other aid under the GBER as long as those aid measures are for different identifiable, eligible costs.

However aid under the English Environmental State Aid Scheme may not be cumulated with any other aid exemption (for example another measure under GBER or the De Minimis Regulations 1998/2006) where the funding covers the same eligible costs and the effect is to exceed the applicable maximum aid intensity or aid amount applicable.

16. Notice of Scheme

Where aid is provided under the English Environmental State Aid Scheme, the implementing body shall inform the recipient in writing of the name of the scheme and that it is notified under GBER.

17. Administration

The European Commission requires information on the use of all GBER schemes. Therefore whenever an implementing body project makes use of the English Property Development State Aid Scheme, they shall:

- write to Alexander Rose at the Legal Department, Department of Communities and Local Government to inform him that they are using the scheme and shall provide the required reporting information upon reasonable notice; and
- agree to collect information to meet the requirements of Articles 10 and 11 of GBER.

The requirements of Articles 10 and 11 of GBER, include records of the:

- Scheme title;
- Commission block exemption reference number;
- the decision date;
- the name and address of recipients;
- the amount of aid and evidence of gap calculations;
- the date and amount of aid payments;
- information on the form of each tranche of aid;
- the status of any undertaking where the level of aid is dependent on its status as an SME; and
- evidence that the incentive effect has been met for each award of aid.

Failure to provide information may mean that the aid is invalid. The implementing body requires that beneficiaries take reasonable steps to ensure records are retained for at least 10 years from the date of the last payment.

¹ other than SMEs that have been incorporated for less than 3 years unless they are insolvent under UK legislation

In the event that any part of this scheme is inconsistent with GBER, the provisions of GBER shall take priority.

18. Claw back

Any recipient of aid under this scheme may be required to pay back the award with interest in the event of a breach of State Aid law, including but not limited to a failure to follow the requirements of GBER.

19. Budget

The maximum sum allowable in each calendar year under the English Environmental State Aid Scheme shall be £150m per sub-scheme. This sum is provided for State Aid purposes only and does not reflect a committed government budget.

20. Sources of Funding

The awards of aid provided under each sub-scheme may come from structured funds or otherwise.

21. Contact Details

Alexander Rose
Senior Projects Solicitor
Re: State Aid
Legal Department
Department of Communities & Local Government
Citygate
Gallowgate
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4WH

Appendix 1 - The Sub-Schemes

- **Sub-scheme 1 / Article 18**
“Aid Beyond Community Standards”
- **Sub-scheme 2 / Article 19**
“New Transport Vehicles”
- **Sub-scheme 3 / Article 20**
“Early adaptation for SMEs”
- **Sub-scheme 4 / Article 21**
“Energy Saving Measures”
- **Sub-scheme 5 / Article 22**
“High Efficiency Co-Generation”
- **Sub-scheme 6 / Article 23**
“Promotion of Renewable Energy”
- **Sub-scheme 7 / Article 24**
“Environmental Studies”

Sub-Scheme 1: 'Aid Beyond Community Standards'

Article 18 - Investment aid enabling enterprises to go beyond Community Standards for environmental protection or to increase the level of environmental protection in the absence of Community Standards

Availability of Aid

Aid is given entirely at the discretion of the respective implementing body. The levels of assistance listed, represent the maximum values and percentages legally possible. The publication of this scheme does not indicate current availability of aid of this type. Grant funding for individual projects is awarded in accordance with the implementing body's project appraisal and investment decision making process, as well as available budgets. Publication of this scheme can not be considered to constitute any expectation of assistance.

Purpose of the Scheme

- Is to promote high levels of environmental standards by encouraging early adoption of Community Standards;
- Contribute to the EU and UK targets for reduction of CO2 emissions; and
- To reduce contributions to Climate Change.

The scheme utilises to the provisions of GBER Section 4, Article 18 allowing up to the relevant maximum threshold.

Eligible Beneficiaries

Enterprises based in England that are seeking funding for investment to increase their level of environmental protection.

Large companies are potentially eligible for the minimum intervention rate limited. SMEs will be eligible for additional bonuses.

SMEs are defined in line with Commission Recommendation C200314122/361/EC on the definition of small and medium sized enterprises.

Exclusions

This notification shall not cover property investment schemes. Property investment schemes are covered under the **English Property Development State Aid Scheme**.

Eligible costs

The additional costs shall be the extra investment costs necessary to achieve a level of environmental protection higher than the level required by the Community Standards, without taking into account operating benefits and operating costs.

The investments shall be in the form of tangible and/or intangible assets.

Where the costs of investing in the environmental protection measures can be easily identified in the total investment cost, this precise environmental protection-related cost shall constitute the eligible costs.

In all other cases, the extra investment costs shall be established by comparing the investment with a technically comparable investment meeting the current mandatory Community Standards, which provides a lower level of environmental standard. Technically comparable investment means an investment with the same production capacity and all

other technical characteristics which is a credible commercial alternative to the proposed assistance.

Aid Intensity

The maximum aid intensity is 35% of the eligible costs plus 10% of the eligible costs for medium sized enterprises and 20% for small size enterprises.

If an enterprise has received capital under a state aid risk capital measure, for the 3 years following this investment, the maximum intervention rates will be reduced by 50% in non-assisted areas and 20% in assisted areas.

Maximum grant shall not exceed €7.5m per enterprise per project.

Sub-Scheme 2: “New Transport Vehicles”

Article 19 - Aid for the Acquisition of new transport vehicles which go beyond Community Standards or which increase the level of environmental protection in the absence of Community Standards

Availability of aid

Aid is given entirely at the discretion of the respective implementing body. The levels of assistance listed, represent the maximum values and percentages legally possible. The publication of this scheme does not indicate current availability of aid of this type.

Purpose of the Scheme

- Is to promote high levels of environmental standards by encouraging transport vehicles which go beyond Community Standards or increase environmental protection;
- Contribute to the EU and UK targets for reduction of CO2 emissions; and
- To reduce contributions to Climate Change

The scheme utilises to the provisions of GBER Section 4, Article 19 allowing up to the maximum allowable threshold.

Eligible Beneficiaries

Enterprises based in England that are seeking funding to acquire transport vehicles which go beyond Community Standards or which increase the level of environmental protection in the absence of such standards.

The scheme will be available to SMEs as defined in Commission Recommendation C20031422/361/ec on the definition of small and medium size enterprises.

Eligible costs

The eligible costs shall be those relating directly to the acquisition of new transport vehicles for road, railway, inland waterway and maritime transport.

The costs of retro-fitting existing vehicles for roads, railway, inland waterway and maritime transport will also be eligible where the transport is upgraded to environmental standards either not yet in force at the date of the work done to upgrade the vehicle or if the transport is not subject to any environmental standard.

The aided investment shall fulfil one of the following conditions:

- a. the investment shall enable the beneficiary to increase the level of environmental protection resulting from its activities by going beyond the applicable Community Standards, irrespective of the presence of mandatory national standards that are more stringent than the Community Standards; or
- b. the investment shall enable the beneficiary to increase the level of environmental protection resulting from its activities in the absence of Community Standards

The investments shall be in the form of tangible and/or intangible assets.

The costs shall be established by comparisons to a technically comparable investment meeting the current standards. The eligible costs shall be the extra investment costs necessary to achieve environmental protection higher than community standards.

Aid Intensity

The maximum aid intensity is 35% of the eligible costs for large enterprises increasing to 45% for medium sized enterprises and rising to 55% for small enterprises.

If an enterprise has received capital under a state aid risk capital measure, for the 3 years following this investment, the maximum intervention rates will be reduced by 50% in non-assisted areas and 20% in assisted areas.

Maximum level of assistance will not exceed €7.5m per enterprise.

Sub-Scheme 3 “Early adaptation for SMEs”

Article 20 - Aid for early adaptation to future Community standards for SMEs

Availability of aid

Aid is given entirely at the discretion of the respective implementing body in their respective regions. The levels of assistance listed, represent the maximum values and percentages legally possible. The publication of this scheme does not indicate current availability of aid of this type.

Purpose of the Scheme

- Is to promote high levels of environmental standards by encouraging early adoption of Community Standards;
- Contribute to the EU and UK targets for reduction of CO2 emissions; and
- To reduce contributions to Climate Change

The scheme relates to the provisions of GBER Section 4, Article 20 allowing up to the maximum allowable threshold.

Eligible Beneficiaries

SMEs based in the England seeking funding to increase the level of environmental protection resulting from its activities.

The scheme will be available to SMEs as defined in Commission Recommendation C20031422/361/EC on the definition of small and medium size enterprises

Exclusions

Measures related to the management of waste by enterprises.

Eligible costs

The additional costs shall be the extra investment costs necessary to achieve the level of environmental protection required by the Community standard compared to the existing level of environmental protection required prior to the entry into force of this standard. The standard must be legally adopted, but not yet in force. The investment must take place at least a year before the entry into force of the standard.

The investments shall be in the form of tangible and / or intangible assets. The costs shall be established by comparison to a technically comparable investment meeting the current standards and which could compete in the same business market.

Aid Intensity

The maximum aid intensity is 15% of the eligible costs for small enterprises and 10% of the eligible costs for medium size enterprises if fully implemented 3 years before the date of entry into force of the relevant Community Standard reduced to 10% for small enterprises only if between one and three years of entry into force of the standard.

If an enterprise has received capital under a state aid risk capital measure, for the 3 years following this investment, the maximum intervention rates will be reduced by 50% in non assisted areas and 20% in assisted areas.

Maximum level of assistance will not exceed €7.5m per enterprise.

Sub-Scheme 4: “Energy Saving Measures”

Article 21 - Environmental investment aid for energy saving measures

Availability of aid

Aid is given entirely at the discretion of the respective implementing body. The levels of assistance listed, represent the maximum values and percentages legally possible. The publication of this scheme does not indicate current availability of aid of this type.

Purposes of the Scheme

- Enabling enterprises to reduce their use of energy

To contribute to:

- EC Directive: Energy end-use efficiency and energy services (Directive 2006/32/EC) target of 9% saving by 2015
- EU Energy Efficiency Action Plan target of saving 20% of EU primary energy consumption by 2020
- UK Energy Efficiency Action Plan target of 9% saving by 2015
- Contribute to the EU 20% and UK 80% targets for reduction of CO₂ emissions from the level of 1990 by 2020
- To reduce contributions to Climate Change

The scheme utilises to the provisions of GBER Section 4, Article 21 allowing up to the maximum allowable threshold.

Eligible Beneficiaries

Large companies are potentially eligible for the minimum intervention rate limited. SMEs will be eligible for additional bonuses.

SMEs based in the respective Parties' regions seeking funding to increase the level of environmental protection resulting from its activities.

The scheme will be available to SMEs as defined in Commission Recommendation C20031422/361/EC on the definition of small and medium size enterprises

Eligible costs

The costs shall be in the form of a tangible and / or intangible investment.

The eligible costs shall be:

If calculated net of operating costs

The costs related to the extra investment costs necessary to achieve energy savings beyond the level required by the Community Standards. These shall be calculated net of any operating benefits and costs related to the extra investment for energy saving during the first:

- 3 years of the life of the investment for SMEs;
- 4 years for large undertakings that are not part of the EU CO₂ emission Trading System;
OR
- 5 years for large undertakings that are part of the EU CO₂ Emission Trading System.

Eligible cost calculation must be certified by an external auditor.

If not calculated net of operating costs

The costs related to the investment which are directly related to environmental protection and these shall be calculated by reference to either:

- a. The precise environmental protection related cost (where the total investment can be calculated); or
- b. The uplift costs identified by comparing the investment to the cost of a technically comparable investment² which provides a lower degree of environmental protection (corresponding to mandatory community standards, if they exist) and which could be credibly realised without aid to establish the extra investment costs required).

The eligible costs are calculated without taking account of operating benefits and operating costs.

Aid Intensity

Net of operating costs

The maximum aid intensity is 60% for large enterprises plus an additional 10% for medium size companies or 20% for small enterprises.

If not net of operating costs

The maximum aid intensity is 20% for large enterprises plus an additional 10% for medium size companies or 20% for small enterprises.

If an enterprise has received capital under a state aid risk capital measure, for the 3 years following this investment, the maximum intervention rates will be reduced by 50% in non assisted areas and 20% in assisted areas.

Maximum grant shall not exceed €7.5m per enterprise per project

² (that from a business perspective would be considered a credible alternative to the investment under assessment)

Sub-Scheme 5: “High Efficiency Co-Generation”

Article 22 - Environmental investment aid for high-efficiency cogeneration

Availability of aid

Aid is given entirely at the discretion of the respective implementing body. The levels of assistance listed, represent the maximum values and percentages legally possible. The publication of this scheme does not indicate current availability of aid of this type.

Purpose of the Scheme

To promote more environmentally protective and efficient forms of energy generation

To contribute to:

- EC Directive: Energy end-use efficiency and energy services (Directive 2006/32/EC) target of 9% saving by 2015;
- EU Energy Efficiency Action Plan target of saving 20% of EU primary energy consumption by 2020;
- UK Energy Efficiency Action Plan target of 9% saving by 2015;
- Contribute to the EU 20% and UK 80% targets for reduction of CO2 emissions from the level of 1990 by 2020; and
- To reduce contributions to Climate Change.

The scheme utilises to the provisions of GBER Section 4, Article 22 allowing up to the maximum available threshold.

Eligible Beneficiaries

Enterprises based in England that are seeking environmental investment aid for high-efficiency cogeneration.

Cogeneration means the simultaneous generation in one process of thermal energy and electrical and/or mechanical energy.

High efficiency cogeneration means cogeneration meeting the criteria of Annex III to Directive 2004/8/EC of the European Parliament and the Council and satisfying the harmonised efficiency reference values established by Commission Decision 2007/74/EC.

Eligible Costs

The eligible costs shall be the extra investment costs necessary to realise a high efficiency cogeneration plant as compared to separate production. Where the investment is to improve an existing facility the costs will relate to the necessary costs of investment which will result in primary energy savings in comparison to the original investment. These costs will be calculated without taking account of operating benefits and operating costs.

The extra costs should be calculated without taking into account other support measures granted for the same eligible costs with the exception of environmental investment aid.

Aid Intensity

The maximum intervention will be 45% for a large enterprise, plus an additional 10% if the recipient is a medium sized enterprise or 20% if a small size enterprise.

If an enterprise has received capital under a state aid risk capital measure, for the 3 years following this investment, the maximum intervention rates will be reduced by 50% in non assisted areas and 20% in assisted areas.

Maximum award shall not exceed €7.5m per enterprise per project.

Sub-Scheme 6 - "Promotion of Renewable Energy"

Article 23 - Environmental investment aid for the promotion of energy from renewable energy sources

Availability of aid

Aid is given entirely at the discretion of the respective implementing body. The levels of assistance listed, represent the maximum values and percentages legally possible. The publication of this scheme does not indicate current availability of aid of this type.

Purpose of the Scheme

- To promote renewable and sustainable forms of energy; and
- To reduce environmental pollution throughout the EU community

To contribute to:

- EU target of 20% of energy consumption to be from renewable sources by 2020;
- Draft UK Renewable Energy Strategy target of 15% of consumption to be provided from renewable sources by 2020 due to be published in Spring 2009;
- Contribute to the EU 20% and UK 80% targets for reduction of CO2 emissions from the level of 1990 by 2020; and/or
- To reduce contributions to Climate Change.

The scheme utilises to the provisions of GBER Section 4 Article 23 allowing up to the maximum available threshold.

Eligible Beneficiaries

Enterprises based in England seeking support for investment for the promotion of energy from renewable energy sources.

Eligible Costs

The eligible costs are the extra costs borne by the enterprise in comparison with a conventional power plant or with a conventional heating system with the same capacity to produce effective energy.

Investment for production of bio fuels shall be exempted only to the extent the investments are used exclusively for the production of sustainable bio fuel.

In the case of hydro power installations, the two fold impact in terms of positive reduction of greenhouse gas and potentially negative affect in terms of water systems and biodiversity shall be considered as part of the appraisal of the necessity of providing aid.

Where the cost of investing in renewable energy sources can be easily identified in the total investment cost, this precise environmental protection-related cost shall constitute the eligible costs.

In all other cases, the extra investment costs shall be established by comparing the investment with a technically comparable conventional power plant meeting the current mandatory Community Standards.

Technically comparable investment means an investment which from a business point of view.

The eligible costs are calculated without taking account of operating benefits and operating costs.

The extra costs should be calculated without taking into account other support measures granted for the same eligible costs with the exception of environmental investment aid.

Aid Intensity and Conditions

The maximum intervention will be 45% for a large enterprise, plus an additional 10% if a medium sized enterprise or 20% if a small size enterprise.

If an enterprise has received capital under a state aid risk capital measure, for the 3 years following this investment, the maximum intervention rates will be reduced by 50% in non assisted areas and 20% in assisted areas.

Maximum award shall not exceed €7.5m per enterprise per project.

Sub-Scheme 7: “Environmental Studies”

Article 24 - “Aid for environmental studies”

Availability of aid

Aid is given entirely at the discretion of the respective implementing body. The levels of assistance listed, represent the maximum values and percentages legally possible. The publication of this scheme does not indicate current availability of aid of this type.

Purpose of the Scheme

- To promote renewable and sustainable forms of energy; and
- To reduce environmental pollution throughout the EU community

To contribute to:

- EC Directive: Energy end-use efficiency and energy services (Directive 2006/32/EC) target of 9% saving by 2015;
- EU Energy Efficiency Action Plan target of saving 20% of EU primary energy consumption by 2020;
- UK Energy Efficiency Action Plan target of 9% saving by 2015;
- Contribute to the EU 20% and UK 80% targets for reduction of CO2 emissions from the level of 1990 by 2020;
- EU target of 20% of energy consumption to be from renewable sources by 2020; and/or
- To reduce contributions to Climate Change.

The scheme utilises to the provisions of GBER Section 4 Article 23 allowing up to the maximum available thresholds.

Eligible Beneficiaries

Enterprises based in England seeking support for investment for the promotion of energy from renewable energy sources, investments to exceeding Community standards, or investments to improve energy efficiency.

Eligible Costs

Aid for studies directly linked to investments to enable enterprises to go beyond Community standards for environmental protection, investments in energy saving measures, and investments for promotion of energy from renewable energy sources.

Aid Intensity

50% of eligible costs where the enterprise is large, plus an additional 10% where they are a medium sized enterprise or 20% where they are a small enterprise.

If an enterprise has received capital under a state aid risk capital measure, for the 3 years following this investment, the maximum intervention rates will be reduced by 50% in non assisted areas and 20% in assisted areas.

Maximum award shall not exceed €7.5m per enterprise per project.