The Cost Effective Energy Measures Bill

A Bill to promote and accelerate cost effective energy measures including energy efficiency, the more efficient use and production of energy in and from buildings, community energy and other measures; and for connected purposes.

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Act is to help to achieve the following objectives at minimum cost to the UK economy

(a) The achievement of the carbon budgets set by the Committee on Climate Change pursuant to the Climate Change Act 2008
(b) an overall 80% reduction in emissions of CO2 by 2050 based on 1990 levels; and
(c) the achievement of energy security; and
(d) ending fuel poverty.

2. Duty of Secretary of State

(1) Within 12 months of the passing of this Act the Secretary of State must, subject to subsections (2) - (4), publish a Cost Effective Energy Measures White Paper ('the White Paper') to achieve the purposes specified in section 1 and to promote and accelerate the use of those measures specified in subsection 2.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality the White Paper must set out means to ensure the use of energy measures designed to deliver the objectives contained in section 1 of this Act.

(3) Before publishing the White Paper the Secretary of State must consult

(a) Organisations representing persons who in his opinion have an interest in promoting the purposes of this Act; and
(b) Such other persons who have expressed an interest to the Secretary of State in promoting the purposes of this Act and in participating in the consultation; and
(c) Such other persons whom in his opinion it is desirable to consult.

(4) The White Paper must, pursuant to subsection (5), include an analysis of the full costs and benefits to the UK economy of all measures available for the furtherance of the objectives in section 1.

(5) Without prejudice to the generality, the analysis required by subsection (4) must include an analysis of the benefits to health and education of the energy measures specified in subsection 2.

(6) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State to implement the White Paper.

3. Interpretation

In this Act the following terms shall have the following meanings, that is to say:-

'a White Paper' is a strategy presented to Parliament setting out the policies to be implemented by the Secretary of State pursuant to this Act, a road map for the achievement of those policies, the total costs and total benefits to society of the measures required to achieve those policies and a time line for review of progress.

'energy measures' includes cost effective measures to

(a) promote energy efficiency and demand management;

(b) increase the proportion of energy produced in and from buildings;

(c) increase the proportion of energy produced by community energy co-operatives and other community energy schemes;

(c) produce energy from other sources that in the opinion of the Secretary of State, following consultation with persons referred to in section 2 of this Act, are cost effective for the UK economy.

'cost effective' means that particular regard shall be given to a comprehensive assessment of the lifetime costs and benefits of all measures to the UK economy, with costs and benefits compared between different measures on a like for like basis, and including a reasonable estimate of how different measures will reduce in cost over time as their deployment increases.