THE COST EFFECTIVE ENERGY MEASURES BILL

This Bill would require the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change to draw up a 'Cost Effective Energy Measures White Paper', namely a national strategy to promote and accelerate the use of cost effective energy measures.

WHY A NEW WHITE PAPER IS URGENTLY NEEDED

Current energy policy prioritises energy generation from large power stations often far distant from where the energy produced is consumed. Overwhelming evidence exists in support of energy measures in buildings being given much greater emphasis in meeting the country's energy needs.

1. **A national programme** to make buildings energy efficient would[1]:-
   - Increase annual GDP by £13.9bn by 2030.
   - Create 108,000 jobs per annum over the period of 2020 to 2030.
   - Result in £1.27 in tax revenue for every £1 of Government investment.
   - Pay for itself by 2024 and thereafter generate tax revenue for the Government.

2. **Research** carried out using Government figures and Treasury methods[2] shows that:-
   - Large scale power generation costs on average £108 per MWh; low carbon and renewable energy from buildings cost on average £91 per MWh; energy saving methods on average cost -£9 per MWh (i.e. they save the country money).
   - A strategy relying on energy from buildings would save the country around £12bn annually.

3. **Decentralised and community energy**
   - DECC itself estimates[3] that with the right support community energy schemes could supply electricity to 1m homes by 2020, resulting in lower prices and fewer emissions.
   - Half the energy in large distant power stations is lost as heat; electricity is lost in distribution. Locally generated, decentralised energy greatly reduces this wastage.
   - Community (renewable) energy can provide alternative funding options for generation and efficiency.
   - The 20,000 Community Buildings across the UK could be used as demonstration sites and hubs for deep retrofit / energy efficiency, saving on average 15% of energy costs[4].

4. **The 'Manifesto for Warmth'[5]** estimates that failing to solve the cold homes crisis will over the next 15 years:-
   - Cost the NHS £22bn on cold related illnesses.
   - Result in 100,000 premature winter deaths as a result of living in cold homes.

5. **New buildings** can be constructed to achieve high energy efficiency standards and reduce running costs by up to £200 per annum.[6]

This could become a reality if a new White Paper setting a new strategy to achieve these objectives is drawn up. The Cost Effective Energy Measures Bill would require the Secretary of State to do this; **save the country money and help reduce the deficit**.

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[1] Research carried out by Verco and Cambridge Econometrics, Oct 2014.
[2] Sustainable Energy Association manifesto, 2015.
[3] In its Community Energy Strategy, 2014
[4] www.greencommunitybuildings.org
[5] Published by National Energy Action, 2015.
[6] Research carried out for Hastoe Housing Association 2014