



Renewable Energy Feed-In Tariffs

£ for ⚡

Key Facts

- Accredited renewable electricity systems (e.g. solar PV panels or wind turbines) installed since 15 July 2009 are eligible for **premium payments** for all power generated
- Payments are index-linked and **guaranteed for 20 or 25** years in most cases, depending on technology
- Tariffs for renewable heat may follow in April 2011

Background

The UK government has been consulting for some time on a more effective way to promote the growth of small-scale renewable energy systems, on homes, businesses, public sector and community buildings.

The prior grant-based support mechanism has now been replaced by a system based on the European REFIT model (**R**enewable **E**nergy **F**eed-**I**n **T**ariff), already common in other EU countries. This pays you a **premium price** for all electricity generated, with rates **guaranteed for 20 years** (or **25 years** for solar PV), tax free and index-linked. Payments for renewable heat (e.g. from solar thermal, heat pumps or wood boilers) may also follow in 2011, subject to government review.

All you need to do is to choose both an installer and a product that are accredited under the national Microgeneration Certification Scheme (**MCS**). There are already plenty to choose from.

Rates (per kWh)

The government published the final feed-in tariff rates in February 2010:

- Solar PV new build (< 4 kW) **36.1p**
- Solar PV retrofit (< 4 kW) **41.3p**
- Solar PV retrofit (4—10kW) **36.1p**
- Wind turbine (1.5—15 kW) **26.7p**
- Wind turbine (15—100 kW) **24.1p**
- Hydro (< 15 kW) **19.9p**
- Micro CHP pilot (< 2 kW) **10.0p**

Rates are paid for **all generation**, including power you use yourself; in addition, a **3p/kWh** export bonus applies for units spilled to the grid.

Benefit Illustration

Example: a retrofit **2.1 kW solar PV** system generating 1,780 kWh per year, of which 40% is exported, assuming an average imported electricity price of 12p/kWh:

Typical installed price:	£9,000
Import savings:	£128
FIT payment:	£735
Export bonus:	£21
Total annual benefit:	£884
Payback time:	10.2 years

The arrival of Feed-In Tariffs means there has never been a better time to install a clean electricity micro-generation system in Gloucestershire.



Further Information

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