



Renewable Energy Feed-In Tariffs

£ for ⚡

Key Facts

- All renewable electricity systems (e.g. solar PV panels or small 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 will 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 will shortly be replaced by a system based on the European REFIT model (**Renewable Energy Feed-In Tariff**), 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), and index-linked. Payments for renewable heat (e.g. from solar thermal, heat pumps or wood pellet boilers) will also follow from April 2011.

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 13p/kWh:

Typical installed price:	£11,000
Import savings:	£139
FIT payment:	£735
Export bonus:	£21
Total annual benefit:	£895
Payback time:	12.3 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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