



# Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS)

## A short guide

**ESOS is a new UK scheme to encourage large organisations/undertakings to save energy and money. This includes organisations that come under the definition of a “large undertaking”.**

Organisations are required to undertake regular assessments to identify cost-effective energy saving measures for **buildings**, **industrial processes** (including energy used on construction activities) and **transport** (i.e. journeys to work paid for by the organisation including deliveries to sites in owned or leased vehicles).

### ESOS key dates

You will need to confirm compliance by **5 December 2015**. Participation is re-assessed for the second and subsequent compliance periods every four years.

### What is a “Large Undertaking”?

A ‘large undertaking’ is an organisation engaged in a trade or business which:

- employs at least 250 persons; or
- has an annual turnover above €50 million (£38,937,777) and an annual balance sheet above €43 million (£33,486,489).

Compliance Period	Qualification Date	Compliance Deadline
1st period: 6 Dec 2011 – 5 Dec 2015	31 Dec 2014	5 Dec 2015
2nd period: 6 Dec 2015 – 5 Dec 2019	31 Dec 2018	5 Dec 2019

**Summary of requirements** Organisations that have been independently audited to the ISO 50001 energy management standard won’t need to complete any additional assessments or audits for the purposes of ESOS. They will just need to notify the Environment Agency that they comply with ESOS by this route.

Other organisations covered by ESOS that are not fully certified to ISO 50001 will need to conduct an ESOS Assessment. This will include:

- measuring their total energy consumption from buildings; industrial processes and transport (desk top review of utility & transport information);
- identifying their areas of significant energy consumption (at least 90% of the total);
- selecting a route to compliance in respect of each area of significant energy consumption and undertaking the activity to comply via this route - these include ESOS-compliant energy audits, certified ISO 50001 coverage, a Green Deal Assessment or a Display Energy Certificate;
- appointing a ‘Lead Assessor’ to undertake, oversee or review their audits and overall assessment.
- notifying compliance: notify the Environment Agency when ESOS Assessments are complete.

### ESOS COMPLIANT AUDITS

Where audits are required they can take place any time during a compliance period, so organisations who know they will qualify for ESOS in each period can plan a rolling audit programme. Audits already carried out before ESOS was introduced can contribute to its implementation as long as they meet the scheme’s requirements.

#### An ESOS-compliant energy audit is one that:

- is based on 12 months’ verifiable data for a continuous period, beginning no earlier than 6 December 2010 for the first compliance period and no more than 24 months before the start of the audit (the data also may not have been used for an energy audit in a previous compliance period);

- analyses the Contractor’s energy consumption and energy efficiency;
- identifies practicable ways to improve their energy efficiency in corporate offices and site locations;
- recommends cost-effective energy saving opportunities for offices, sites and within transport; and identifies the

- estimated costs and benefits of the energy saving opportunities recommended.
- there is no regulatory requirement to implement the recommended measures.

### ESOS Lead Assessors

Organisations that are not fully covered by ISO 50001 will need a Lead Assessor to undertake, oversee or sign-off their ESOS Assessment. Lead Assessors can be employees of the organisation or external contractors, as long as they are on an approved register.

### Further Information

If you need additional information please contact Iain Fraser who is a Lead Assessor ([iain.fraser@greengage-env.com](mailto:iain.fraser@greengage-env.com)) or Lesley Treacy ([lesley.treacy@greengage-env.com](mailto:lesley.treacy@greengage-env.com)).