

## ESOS Newsletter

Issue 17 March 2024

Welcome to the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) newsletter, keeping you updated with key information relating to the scheme. In this issue:

- ➔ Phase 3 Compliance Update
- ➔ Compliance Notification Enforcement Extension Position Statement
- ➔ MESOS Supporting Guidance

### Phase 3 Compliance Update

The Manage your Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme reporting system (MESOS) will go live on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

MESOS will be released in two stages, with the initial release allowing all participants to register their Phase 3 user and organisational accounts, and a further release allowing participants to start filling in their notifications of compliance planned for the second half of April 2024. We will confirm the exact date of this second release by the end of March 2024 and will host a webinar to support this release in early April 2024.

We will contact all subscribers to the newsletter on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024 providing the link which will direct participants to the new IT service.

Thank you to all contacts who have provided us with their details during the recent pre-onboarding exercise, as previously detailed those users will already be pre-verified and will receive a direct email with information on next steps on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

### **Compliance Notification Enforcement Extension Position Statement**

With the new IT system going live on the 19 March and the requirement of a two-stage compliance notification process, the Environment Agency have taken steps to help participants complete compliance in a timely manner by providing this position statement. This follows extensive discussions with the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero who lead on ESOS policy.

For organisations qualifying for Phase 3 of ESOS, the deadline for submitting a compliance notification is the 5 June 2024 and organisations should still look to meet this compliance notification deadline where possible. However, the Environment Agency and Regulators for the Devolved Administrations will not take enforcement action against you if you do not comply with this legal requirement provided that you meet both the following conditions:

- registration of your account in the new IT system has been completed by the 5 June 2024, and
- you submit your notification of compliance by the 6 August 2024

This is in response to stakeholder representations made to UK Government and the Environment Agency on the implementation of ESOS Phase 3, including in relation to the Environment Agency's 'How to Comply' guidance and delays in finalising the new ESOS IT system.

This regulatory enforcement extension period will cease after the 6 August 2024.

We will monitor compliance levels during this extension period and request that participants and lead assessors contact us if they feel they will be unable to submit a notification of compliance by this extension deadline.

## MESOS Supporting Guidance

Please find attached guidance that will assist users when carrying out their initial onboarding registration. These cover three scenarios:

- ESOS New User Account and organisation Set-up
- ESOS Pre Onboarded User Account and Organisation Set-up
- ESOS User Management

For security purposes each time you access the new IT system you will need 2 Factor Authentication (2FA). We have created a [2FA video guide](#) to help you with this requirement.

The guidance aims to work alongside legislation and help participants in understanding the requirements, but the ultimate source of ESOS requirements is the legislation, namely the [Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme Regulations 2014](#), as amended (including amendments in relation to Phase 3 made by the [Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme \(Amendment\) Regulations 2023](#)), and guidance may not be able to cover every combination of circumstances. The guidance aims to balance comprehensiveness and brevity, with the use of worked examples to provide additional context. In response to feedback from user testing of the new digital system and from the recent webinar, the guidance will be updated. Updated guidance will be provided ahead of the compliance deadline, and participants will be informed through the EA newsletter when the updated guidance is available.

## Contact us

If you have any queries relating to ESOS or if there is anything specific you would like to see in future ESOS newsletters, please consult the [ESOS Guidance](#) in the first instance or email [esos@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:esos@environment-agency.gov.uk).

The Environment Agency have been engaging with DESNZ where questions have been policy-related and to see if further information would help on areas where a number of questions have been raised.

For any IT specific queries once the new MESOS Reporting System goes live please contact our new IT helpdesk at [esos-it@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:esos-it@environment-agency.gov.uk)