

Low Energy Company (LEC)

Proposed Structure



The Low Energy Company (LEC) has already been formed as Low Energy (UK) Limited, registered number 8442822. It was incorporated on 13 March 2013. This company will act as the auditing body for organisations that wish to be approved as LEC. The register will be held by Low Energy (UK), however, qualified companies will also be placed on an open register so others can verify their LEC status.

All LEC courses will be Carbon Management Association (CMA) approved. Each individual trained will be registered separately on the CMA register which is managed day-to-day by the Energy and Utility Skills Council.

The scheme will be launched in September 2013 at London Zoo. Companies that wish to support the LEC concept will agree to undertake staff energy management training, aiming to train a portion of employees to LEC standard within an agreed time frame. LECs will also pledge to assist their supply chain organisations to achieve the required status.

Between now and the launch in September, a Strategy Board, representing the various industry sectors, will be formed. This Board's role will be to set out the requirements and standards of LEC certification. These standards will be revisited on a regular basis to make sure they remain relevant. As more companies become LEC registered, and industry grows comfortable with the concept, it may be appropriate to raise the standards.

It is possible individual sectors will need to apply its own standards. By way of example, The Hospitality Carbon Reduction Forum has been tasked with finding agreed LEC standards for the hospitality sector. Representing 500,000 hospitality workers from organisations as diverse as Nandos, McDonalds, Mitchells & Butlers and Moto, it is ideally placed to do so. It is likely other sectors will adopt a similar approach.

Any company, internal or external, that has registered itself and its courses with the CMA, can deliver LEC training. However, LEC standards must be cognisant of CMA standards for Energy Management (Levels I and II are attached). The implementation, roll out and ongoing management of the approval process will be tasked to EU Skills.

The value of the LEC initiative will be based on the quality of the approval process. Companies that fail to meet the agreed standards will be prevented from lodging their candidates on the CMA website. A company achieving LEC status will release a reduction in energy spend affecting the bottom line. It will see a rise in staff satisfaction as energy management training improves job prospects in-house for employees, and when seeking new employment. It is also a starting point for employees to become a professional Energy Manager.