







## **ESOS Newsletter**

## Issue 20 April 2024

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

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### **MESOS Reporting System Update**

The Manage your Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme reporting system (MESOS) went <u>live</u> on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, with over 2000 accounts now successfully created to date. If you have not yet registered, we recommend you do so as soon as possible in preparation for completing the notification of compliance. Guidance on registration is covered later in this newsletter.

As previously reported MESOS is being released in two stages. The initial release allows all participants to register their Phase 3 user and organisational accounts, and the second release will enable participants to complete and submit their notifications of compliance. This second release is scheduled, subject to satisfactory final testing, to be by the end of April.

#### MESOS Webinar – Wednesday 24 April

Following the webinar on Phase 3 changes which took place in January, a recording of which can be found <u>here</u>, the next webinar will provide an update on the new "<u>Manage your Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme</u>" (MESOS) reporting system – the first phase of which went live on 19<sup>th</sup> March.

The hour's session will look at the next release which will enable participants to start completing and submitting notifications of compliance. Additionally, we will cover Action Plans and other areas where we have received questions from scheme participants. We will also provide an opportunity for you to raise questions using Slido.

Depending on interest, we may run more than one session on this date. You can indicate interest and your preferred option <u>here</u>. We will try to accommodate your preference however we are limited by technology as to how many participants each session can host so are unable to guarantee your first choice. We may also need to









limit attendees from the same organisation to ensure as many as possible can participate.

A recording of the webinar will be shared via this newsletter shortly afterwards.

Registration will close **11pm Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April**. A link to the event confirming your place will be circulated by **COP Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April**.

# Compliance Notification Enforcement Extension Position Statement

With the new IT system now live 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 of 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 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 Registration Guidance**

Please find attached guidance that will assist users when carrying out their initial onboarding registration. These cover three scenarios, for which videos are also linked:

- ESOS New User Account and Organisation Set-up video
- ESOS Pre Onboarded User Account and Organisation Set-up video
- ESOS User Management <u>video</u>

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









### **Users Being Added to Multiple Accounts**

There will be instances where users who represent more than one organisation are added to multiple MESOS accounts. As per the ESOS User Management guidance, there are 3 steps that need to be followed here:

Add User	Account Status	Comment
Step 1: New User added	Awaiting Confirmation	Account Status will be in "Awaiting Confirmation"
Step 2: When New User set-up account	ACCEPTED	Account Status changes to "ACCEPTED"
Step 3: Advanced User should <b>manually</b> change the status from ACCEPTED → ACTIVE	ACTIVE	For New User, can log in but cannot see organisation account until their account status is changed to ACTIVE

Please ensure that step 3 is being followed in all cases, as until the status is changed from 'accepted' to 'active' the added user will not be able to access the account.

## Registering a "Do Not Qualify" status.

If you would like to notify us that you do not qualify for ESOS Phase 3 then you can do so within the new Digital service. The first step will be to complete the registration process (available now). When the second release goes live (due the end of April) you will then need to complete only the first task of the Notification of Compliance. This will ask if you qualify for ESOS with two options of Yes or No. If you select the No option, you can add text as to why you don't qualify and then submit your response.

## Contact us

For any IT specific queries now the Registration element of the MESOS Reporting System is live, please contact our new IT helpdesk at <u>esos-it@environment-agency.gov.uk</u>.

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 <u>ESOS Guidance</u> in the first instance or email <u>esos@environment-agency.gov.uk</u>.

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.