

NERC Energy Policy

The Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) is part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and is the UK's main organisation for funding and managing research, training and knowledge in the environmental sciences.

NERC undertakes a diverse range of research projects, tackling major issues such as climate change, environmental influences on human health and the genetic makeup of life. Working internationally, NERC operates from many diverse locations throughout the world, runs a fleet of research ships, aircraft and other infrastructure and invests in satellite technology. NERC operates a number of wholly owned research centres, a number of collaborative centres and also funds research within UK Universities.

NERC recognises the important role it has in managing the impact of its day-to-day operations on the environment and in promoting the principles of sustainability in all of its activities.

1. NERC is committed to:

- 1.1 developing and implementing a NERC Sustainability Strategy to drive continual improvement across the investment portfolio,
- 1.2 reducing carbon emissions from its owned large assets, infrastructure and estate,
- 1.3 developing strategic plans for energy management and carbon reduction within NERC and across our investment portfolio,
- 1.4 monitoring, targeting & reporting energy usage including setting of science based reduction targets for energy consumption and CO_{2e} emissions and monitoring performance against targets, and
- 1.5 maintaining the Carbon Trust Standard across the UK Estate.

2. NERC is committed to achieving energy efficiency best practice throughout its activities by:

- 2.1 regular energy audit and assessment of buildings within NERC estate in order to identify energy efficiency opportunities,
- 2.2 striving for BREEAM 'excellent' for all new build projects on the UK Estate,
- 2.3 promoting the efficient use of energy through training of staff, contractors on energy issues, and stating that minimising energy impact while carrying out NERC business is requirement in line with NERC values,
- 2.4 investment in alternative energy sources where practicable,
- 2.5 working with the RCUK Shared Business Service Procurement in obtaining the best available energy efficient equipment,
- 2.6 implementation of site or asset specific energy efficiency programmes,
- 2.7 reporting on the achievement of energy targets and energy savings projects undertaken,
- 2.8 evaluating energy management and carbon reduction projects including quantification of savings and other benefits, and
- 2.9 working with other UKRI Partners, HEIs and external organisations to develop and share best practice in energy and carbon management.

NERC will regularly review this policy and ensure that corrective and preventative actions have been taken to ensure continual improvement.

Approved by: NERC Operations Group
15th November 2018