



Many of our New Year's resolutions may be weakening by now, but if yours was to make your business greener this year then NetRegs is here to help. It looks to be a busy year for environmental legislation, but we'll keep you right up to date with our **now monthly** newsletter.



### Spread the word

Businesses that subscribe to NetRegs' free email alerts save on average £2,615 per year, so if you know a business that would benefit from saving money and boosting their green credentials please [forward this email](#) to a friend.

### Have you seen the new look NetRegs?

We've made some big changes to NetRegs to make it faster and easier to use, helping you to keep on top of environmental regulations. We've improved the search facility, and you can also find guidance tailored to your business type. Don't forget to **update any bookmarks** to NetRegs pages as the addresses will have changed.

#### ► [NetRegs](#)

### Know where your substances go

If you landspread agricultural wastes, store oil, or work with agrochemicals and solvents, you'll know how careful you have to be to stop these substances polluting groundwater. But did you know that even rainfall run-off from car parks and buildings can cause pollution? New **groundwater regulations**, expected to come into force in England and Wales in February, tighten the rules on discharges and cover more substances. Check NetRegs to find out how to fulfil your legal duties and how to store and handle your potential pollutants safely.



#### ► [Water pollution](#)

### Confused about environmental permits?

### Help us to help you

We want to make sure that our guidance works for you, by telling you how environmental law affects your business. We're now updating our [animal by-products](#) pages, so if you have questions on this topic please write to us at [news@netregs.gov.uk](mailto:news@netregs.gov.uk) and we'll do our best to answer your questions on NetRegs.

### Dates for your diary

Meet the NetRegs team at Business Advice Open Days in **Portsmouth** on 5 February and **Maldon, Essex** on 26 February.

» [Business Advice Open Days](#)

### Word of the month

We are often asked what paperwork may be needed to carry out any activities that could affect



the environment, so here's a quick reminder. In **England** and **Wales**, environmental permits have replaced pollution prevention and control permits and waste management licences. If you previously held a PPC permit or WML they will have been automatically transferred to an environmental permit. In **Northern Ireland** and **Scotland** you may still require a PPC permit or WML.

- ▶ [Environmental permits](#)
- ▶ [Waste management licensing](#)
- ▶ [Pollution prevention and control permits](#)

## High energy businesses to record electricity use

You may have heard of the **carbon reduction commitment (CRC)** - the government energy saving scheme designed to reduce businesses' CO<sub>2</sub> emissions - and wondered if it affects you. Basically, it will only affect you if your total half-hourly electricity use, or 70kVA electricity use in Northern Ireland, exceeded 6,000 megawatt-hours in 2008. But you don't have to do anything right now. If you have a half-hourly meter you'll automatically get a letter from the Environment Agency in summer 2009, asking for information about your energy use, which your energy providers will be able to give you. This will determine whether you're going to be included in the CRC.



- ▶ [Carbon reduction commitment](#)

## Coming soon to NetRegs

### REACH Regulation changes

The guidance for **users, manufacturers and importers of chemical substances** is changing: pre-registration is still open, but only for new businesses and businesses that have passed the REACH thresholds for the first time. The complete list of phase-in substances will be published soon. We'll update our guidance for you as soon as the details are finalised.

### Check up on PCBs

If you have any PCB (polychlorinated biphenyl) contaminated equipment you need to check that it is registered and make plans to dispose of or decontaminate it. Contact your environmental regulator if you need advice. We'll update our guidance and bring you more details in the next issue.

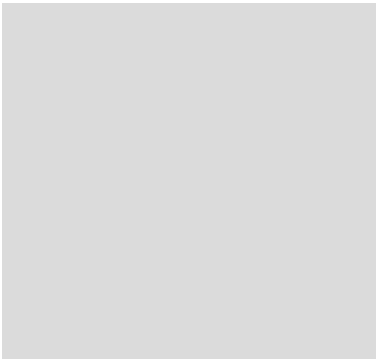
**bund** *noun* An outer container that tanks or barrels can be stored inside, designed to prevent oil, fuel or chemicals from escaping into the environment if the tank or barrel leaks or bursts

» [Oil storage](#)

### Has NetRegs helped you?

If you have saved money, saved time or reduced the amount of waste you produce as a result of using NetRegs, we would like to hear about it. Contact [news@netregs.gov.uk](mailto:news@netregs.gov.uk) to share your story.

▶ [Contact your environmental regulator](#)



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