

Farmers and rural businesses to get more help to boost energy efficiency

With the RE:think Energy Scheme now extended across the whole West Midlands region, farmers are to benefit twice following the introduction of a one-off interest free loan by the Carbon Trust to invest in energy efficient technology for their business.

“This means that with 50% funding offered by RE:think plus this interest free loan of up to £20,000 - energy efficiency projects today look particularly attractive,” says Richard Jackson, Director of 7Y Business.

“This will be very appealing to high energy users in agriculture and should be taken advantage of whilst it is there,” he says, pointing out that many of the latest technologies have pay back periods of less than the term of the loan.

“For example, for dairy producers, water heating, milk cooling and vacuum pumps are just some of the areas where a change of equipment will provide immediate savings”

“As Government has at last defined its Renewable Energy Strategy with its recently announced Feed in Tariffs (FIT) and the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI), the momentum for looking seriously at renewable energies has never been greater,” says Mr Jackson. “As well as energy efficiency, the emerging opportunities for land based business to get involved in energy generation are very exciting”

“If you don’t know your FIT from your RHI, 7Y can provide help through several funded advice schemes and there are capital grants for energy generation and energy efficiency projects.”

7Y is now running a series of Resource Efficiency Courses to farmers in the West Midlands to help guide them through the intricacies of available funding and the required process. Call Catherine Hughes at 7Y now to book onto this course on 07815 103 855 or email catherine.hughes@7y.co.uk