

New report from the Green Grid shows impact of EMEA policies on the data centre industry

Comprehensive paper is available to members for free, non-members for a fee

A new report highlights the impact of established policies, recent and planned developments affecting the build and operations of data centres at the international, regional and national level. The research provides the data centre industry with advice on how data centre operators can best adapt to rapidly changing policy environments.

The report, [*Energy Policy Research & Implications For Data Centres In EMEA*](#), comes from The Green Grid (www.thegreengrid.org), the non-profit, open industry consortium to improve the resource efficiency of data centres and business IT. The report is free for Green Grid members, and is also available for non-members to purchase.

The comprehensive report summarises the key energy policy mechanisms across 12 key EMEA countries – comprising the UK, Spain, France, Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Russia, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates – as well as EU and international policies. The research focuses on four areas that affect data centres: government regulatory obligations (typically mandatory); relevant voluntary mechanisms; financial incentives for investing in the country and employing low carbon technology and practices; and the policies which add financial costs typically from an energy and carbon perspective.

Examples of key UK policies include:

- **Regulatory Obligations** - UK Building Regulations (Part L), which requires new developers to deliver increasing standards of energy performance
- **Financial Incentives** - Feed In Tariffs and Enhanced Capital Allowances are available as incentives to use renewable and energy efficient technologies
- **Financial Costs** - Mandatory schemes such as the Climate Change Levy (CCL) and the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC), and their implications for data centre operators

- **Voluntary Mechanisms** - schemes such as the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) environmental assessment methodology

“As well as exceptionally challenging economic conditions, data centre operators also have to contend with a uniquely complicated regulatory environment which is constantly evolving,” said Harkeeret Singh, the report’s editor and The Green Grid’s EMEA Technical Chair.

“The report provides policy transparency across all the countries covered, and shows how operators are subject to increasingly demanding building regulations aimed towards reducing energy use and carbon output. most notably in the EU where the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) continues to strive toward ‘nearly carbon neutral’ development,” continued Singh. “On top of that, there are numerous voluntary schemes that can have a serious impact on an organisations’ brand and reputation.”

“Keeping track of all the legislation, regulations, costs and incentives surrounding resource efficiency – and working out how it affects the data centre industry and your business – is a huge and time-consuming job. The Green Grid developed this report for the industry to be a single resource that informs business decisions and prepares data centres for the effects of current and pending changes in the regulatory environment, and ensures they can budget for and exploit these policies to gain a competitive advantage.”

“As an open industry consortium, The Green Grid is able to draw upon an unrivalled pool of experience and knowledge, and this new report is another example of how the industry can come together to provide business value to organisations and solve some of the most urgent issues facing us today,” concluded Singh.

The full report is available to download here:

<http://www.thegreengrid.org/en/Global/Content/white-papers/EnergyPolicyResearchAndImplicationsForDataCentresInEMEA>

– ends –

Note to editors

For further editorial information or to request an interview, please contact The Green Grid press office:

Rob Jessel / Robin Campbell-Burt

Spreckley Partners Ltd

T. 020 7388 9988

E. greengrid@spreckley.co.uk

About The Green Grid:

The Green Grid is a global consortium of companies, government agencies and educational institutions dedicated to advancing resource efficiency in data centres and business computing ecosystems.

The Green Grid does not endorse vendor-specific products or solutions, and instead seeks to provide industry-wide recommendations on best practices, metrics and technologies that will improve overall data centre resource efficiencies. Membership is open to organisations interested in data centre operational efficiency at the Contributor, General or Associate member level.

Additional information is available at www.thegreengrid.org and on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/TheGreenGrid>.