

Green Construction Roundup

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Construction News

Contractors face green tax crackdown

Contractors may have to pay millions of pounds in back tax after it emerged that HM Revenue & Customs is clamping down on projects thought exempt from the aggregates levy.

Building. 11 December (Pg. 12)

Whitbread plans eco hotel

Whitbread, the owner of the Premier Inn chain, has announced that it will green its entire stock of hotels and build a low carbon hotel. The group has enlisted architect Axiom to design a 60-bedroom hotel and restaurant at Burgess Hill in West Sussex.

Meanwhile, Whitbread is to spend £3 million in 2010 on a raft of measures to cut the carbon emissions of its existing hotels and restaurants.

Building. 11 December (Pg. 13)

<http://www.building.co.uk/story.asp?storycode=3154877>

PFI contractors could be left to foot energy fines

Firms fear they face thousands of pounds of penalties for occupants' bills under new legislation. Under the terms of the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC), which penalises companies that do not reduce carbon emissions, the organisation that pays a building's energy bills is liable for penalties even if it is not the tenant. The legislation will be introduced in April 2011.

Building. 11 December (Pg. 15)

<http://www.building.co.uk/story.asp?storycode=3154883>

One Planet partners in 'Pay as you save' bid success

Homeowners in the London Borough of Sutton will be testing out new ways to finance whole house energy makeovers under the Government's £4 million 'Pay as you save' scheme. Following an open competition, a partnership between B&Q, BioRegional and Sutton Council is among the four bids chosen to deliver individual projects in the first ever UK trials.

A total of around 500 homes across England will take part in the trial which will provide evidence of how to foot the bill for the Great British Refurb – the Government's plan to make the 22 million existing homes in the UK more energy efficient.

BioRegional News. 07 December 2009

<http://www.bioregional.com/news-views/news/pay-as-you-save/>

Periodical Articles

Carbon capture and storage: How we blew it

Carbon capture and storage was supposed to be an area where British expertise could thrive, but a lack of clarity on the government's plans and how it intends to fund them is squandering UK talent.

Jeff Chapman, chief executive of the Carbon Capture and Storage Association thinks that the UK is in a superb position, with an abundance of storage in the North Sea and an skills in process and geological engineering, he says. "We have everything going for us but the race is on."

This article looks at whether the UK can claw back its former position at the head of this technology.

Building. 11 December (Pg. 38-39)

<http://www.building.co.uk/story.asp?storycode=3154910>

End Note

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