

## ENERGY POLICY AND PRACTICE - A EUROPEAN VIEW

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### *Energy Policy - Formulation*

As the Energy Efficiency Engineer of the UK's Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) from 1994 to 2000, I was involved in the formulation of BBSRC's current Energy Efficiency Policy. There was considerable debate as to what should or should not be included. The statement of policy objective that resulted is deliberately short, simple and 'to the point': "To reduce the BBSRC's energy bill to the lowest practical level commensurate with the needs of the research programme".

The policy objective reflects two important points:

1. Cost saving is the driver of BBSRC's Energy Efficiency activities.
2. BBSRC's Energy Efficiency Measures should not have an adverse impact on the core business of the organisation.

### *Energy Policy - Support*

The BBSRC supports its policy by funding the BBSRC Energy Office. Activities of the Energy Office include co-ordination & promotion of energy efficiency initiatives and providing financial support for energy efficiency measures taken at research sites within the BBSRC group. It also collates a group-wide energy cost and consumption database, which is used to monitor performance against targets, provide an annual report to senior management and facilitate 'Energy Trading'.

### *Energy Policy in Practice*

As Head of Facilities of a BBSRC supported institution, I am involved in putting the policy into practice. IACR have considered a number of efficiency measures concerning Controlled Environments. These have included: energy efficient lighting units, siting ballast units remote from the conditioned space, operation of CE daytime cycles during off peak electricity times, use of Combined Heat and Power with absorption chilling, use of roller benching to make more efficient use of space, electronic control of electric motors, recycling heat by use of heat pumps/energy packs.

Electricity represents our greatest energy cost and we tend to favour measures that save electricity.