



# NEWS RELEASE

17 August 2007

## **ENERGY PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATES CONTINUE ROLL-OUT National Energy Services welcomes Government decision to extend Energy Performance Certificates to 3-bed properties**

The Government moved a step closer to full market implementation of Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) by extending the scheme to all properties with 3 or more bedrooms from 10 September.

Following the launch of EPCs on 1 August for properties with 4 or more bedrooms, the latest commencement order means that around 60% of all properties in the UK will need an energy efficiency rating as part of the Home Information Pack (HIP).

Brian Scannell, Managing Director of NES said: "This latest announcement is fantastic news for home buyers and sellers, as well as all those individuals who have invested so much time and energy into becoming Home Inspectors and Domestic Energy Assessors.

"NES invented energy ratings for homes over 17 years ago and has been supporting energy efficiency professionals ever since. The EPC is an extremely powerful tool for us to measure and reduce the carbon emissions released from our homes. The benefits for home buyers and sellers are clear – the information contained in the EPC can help them save hundreds of pounds from their fuel bills.

"Today's news provides the 3,000 accredited energy assessors with the security and confidence that they will have access to a far greater number of jobs from September onwards. What we need to see now is a clear strategy from the Government to roll-out HIPs to all properties as soon as possible."

With full implementation of HIPs, the full benefits of the EPC will be realised. The next step is to increase awareness of the Home Condition Report (HCR), an optional component of the HIP.

Brian Scannell said: "Every home buyer will have access to detailed energy efficiency information about any potential purchase. We need to educate the public about the benefits of the HCR, which provides equally in-depth and valuable information about the condition of the property, and highlights

any potential problems which might otherwise go unnoticed. The HCR could save millions of pounds wasted on failed transactions each year.”

## **ENDS**

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## **Notes to Editors**

1. On 17 August 2007 the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) made a commencement order that will lead to all homes with 3 or more bedrooms requiring a Home Information Pack after 10 September. The EPC forms part of the HIP. This is designed to meet the demands of Article 7 of the EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive which requires an EPC to be produced whenever a building is constructed, sold or rented out. Under the Directive, EPCs can only be produced by “suitably qualified and/or accredited experts.”
2. National Energy Services (NES) owns and operates both the NHER scheme and SAVA. Since the company was launched in 1994, the NES team has grown to over 80 people, including software developers, environmental scientists, building services engineers, building physicists, business management specialists, statisticians and residential surveyors. NES is a trading subsidiary of the National Energy Foundation, an independent charity set up in 1988 to promote energy conservation and provide help to improve energy efficiency in residential buildings.
3. The National Home Energy Rating (NHER) scheme provides technical and business support for individuals and organisations involved in domestic energy efficiency. The NHER runs a training and assessment programme for Domestic Energy Assessors (DEA), and an accreditation scheme for DEAs. [www.nher.co.uk](http://www.nher.co.uk) / [www.dea-training.co.uk](http://www.dea-training.co.uk)
4. SAVA is a leading provider of training and software to Home Inspectors. SAVA was also the first certification scheme for home inspectors. [www.sava.org.uk](http://www.sava.org.uk)