



PRESS RELEASE FROM THE STOVE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

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Electrification Not the Only Solution: The SIA Responds to E3G Briefing Paper

The Stove Industry Association (SIA) welcomes E3G's briefing paper [Low Carbon, Lower Heating Bills](#) published yesterday (28th August 2025) and its focus on lowering household heating bills and decarbonising UK homes. However, the SIA believes it is important to recognise that there is no single solution to the energy bills crisis.

Electrification will undoubtedly play a vital role, but a strategy that relies on one technology alone is risky and excludes millions of households for whom heat pumps are not yet practical or affordable.

Modern Ecodesign-compliant stoves can offer:

Affordable, renewable heat – Using locally sourced, sustainably managed wood, they provide a cost-effective alternative or back-up to gas and electricity.

Very low emissions – Independent testing shows Ecodesign stoves cut particulate emissions by up to 90% compared with open fires, and by around 80% compared with older stoves, with seasonal efficiencies above 75%.

Grid resilience – Stoves help reduce peak electricity demand during the winter months and cold snaps and provide reliable heating in the event of power cuts or supply interruptions.

Choice for hard-to-treat homes – Many heritage, off-grid, or rural properties are poorly suited to heat pumps. Modern stoves ensure these households are not left behind in the transition to low-carbon heating.

Wellbeing and security – Beyond economics, stoves deliver warmth, comfort and peace of mind.

In short, electrification is a key part of the UK's energy future, but it is not the only solution.

A balanced approach which includes modern, low-emission wood burning stoves alongside heat pumps, solar, and insulation will deliver the most resilient, affordable and fair heating transition for UK households.

ENDS

Notes:

- The Stove Industry Association was formed in 2008 and is a trade association of stove, flue, component and fuel manufacturers, suppliers and distributors, independent retailers, installers and chimney sweeps, training organisations, competent person schemes and other interested industry bodies.
- With over 230 members, the SIA represents the stove industry in discussion with government departments such as Defra and DESNZ, Welsh Government, Scottish Government, and the Greater London Authority.
- The SIA represents the UK in CEFACD, the European Committee of Manufacturers of Domestic Heating and Cooking Appliances and engages openly with all stakeholders.
- Further information on the work of the SIA can be found at www.stoveindustryassociation.org

SIA Top Tips:

- Choose an Ecodesign compliant stove such as a [clearSkies](#) certified appliance. If you currently use an open fire or an older, very basic stove, consider upgrading. A modern Ecodesign compliant stove releases up to 90% less emissions than an open fire and can be up to 80% less than some older stoves. Your local [SIA Retail Group member](#) can help advise on the best stove for you and your family.
- If you live in a [Smoke Control Area](#), your stove will also need to be Defra exempt. All clearSkies Level 3 and above models are certified as Defra exempt.
- Visit your local stove retailer for guidance on choosing the right size stove for your property and for a detailed installation quote. You can find your nearest [SIA Retail Group member showroom here](#).
- Ensure your stove is fitted by an appropriately qualified competent person such as one who is [HETAS](#) or [OFTEC](#) registered.
- Ensure you use quality fuel. Look for the [Ready to Burn](#) logo to ensure your wood logs are at or below 20% moisture content. Never use chemically treated wood or burn waste on your stove.
- Ensure your stove is serviced and your chimney swept at least once a year – the SIA recommends NVQ qualified sweeps for the ongoing maintenance and servicing of your stove and chimney. The [Federation of British Chimney Sweeps](#) has links to all the main sweep associations. Chimney sweeps are a valuable source of information for good practice and advice.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions when using your stove.