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Green Technologies and River Works Licences

Introduction

As of 1 January 2018, the PLA expects River Works Licence applications to contain an assessment for the potential for the installation of green technologies. This applies to applications for new works and/or applications to vary existing works.

Working together we can achieve the published Thames Vision goal to *encourage uptake of new and green technologies to reduce the Port's environmental impact.*



What are “green technologies”?

The PLA includes the following within the definition of “green technologies”:

- **Renewable Energy** – such as wind, solar, heat source and tidal power;
- **Shore Power** (also known as “cold-ironing”) – the provision of electric shore connections for vessels;
- **“Green” technologies** – such as energy efficient equipment (LED lighting, motion detectors etc);
- **Resource efficiency** – the use of recycled and sustainable materials, waste recycling and rainwater harvesting.

Why install shore power?

- Reduce local air quality emissions during longer stays alongside (see Air Quality Strategy pla.co.uk/environment/Air-Quality-and-Green-Tariff/Air-Quality);
- Connection to shore power is usually cheaper than running ship on-board generators.

Why install renewable energy?

- Reduce carbon footprint by utilising renewable energy;
- Security of energy supply;
- Typically less complicated than installing mains power in remote areas;
- Reduced cost of energy.



Wind turbine on PLA lighthouse



Solar panel on PLA buoy

Examples on and near the Thames include:

- Photo-voltaic (solar) panels on Blackfriars Bridge and Tower Pier and on PLA navigation buoys;
- Wind turbines at the Port of Tilbury, Standard Wharf (Erith) and Fords (Dagenham) and at PLA lighthouses;
- PV panels, ground-source heat pump, rainwater harvesting and sheeps-wool wall insulation at the RSPB visitor centre at Rainham.

Where do I find further information?

Further guidance on the PLA website: pla.co.uk/Environment/Green-and-New-Technologies

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