

# Views

## *Green tax not benefit*

*What, for example, is going to be the impact on energy management initiatives of the dramatic changes to the CRC. No longer a revenue-neutral scheme that rewards those organisations that invest time, expertise and money in energy management to drive down carbon emissions, the proceeds from the CRC will now go directly to the Treasury. This new 'tax' is expected to deliver £3.5bn in revenue for the Exchequer between 2011 and 2015. It is ironic that this 'green tax' arrived within a couple of weeks of the deadline for organisations to register under the rules – and be fined if they failed to do so! Now they are faced with administering bureaucratic scheme without benefiting directly - as promised - for reducing their energy consumption.*

*Billed as a simplification to 'reduce the burden on businesses', the first allowance sales for 2011-12 emissions will now take place in 2012 rather than 2011. Brian Rickerby of energyTEAM has calculated that from April 2012, participants with an average £1m gas and electricity bill can now expect to pay approximately £75,000 per year, without a recycling payment. Payments will rise each year, with a payment of approximately £110,000 by 2015, per £1m energy spend. "The removal of the recycling payment significantly increases the need for all participants to reduce energy consumption, in order to avoid paying a very high price for every tonne of CO2 emissions," he said.*