

Vulnerability & Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA)

Project Eligibility Assessment (PEA) *Climate Genie*

Philip Burrows
January 2022



Gas Network Vulnerability & Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA) Governance Document - Project Eligibility Criteria

Section 1 - Eligibility criteria for company specific projects (excluding boiler repair & replacement)	
In order to qualify as a VCMA project, a project must:	
VCMA Eligibility Criteria	Criteria Satisfied (Yes/No)
a) Have a positive Social Return on Investment (SROI), including the potential to have a Net Benefit to the customers on the funding GDN's network(s);	Yes
b) Either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Provide a direct Net Benefit to consumers in vulnerable situations, or ii. Provide awareness on the dangers of CO, or iii. Reduce the risk of health issues caused by CO; 	Yes
c) Have defined outputs and deliverables;	Yes
d) Have defined outcomes, where considered appropriate by the GDN;	Yes
e) Relate to energy, or CO safety;	Yes
f) Go beyond activities that are funded through another price control mechanism or required through licence obligations; and	Yes
g) Not be delivered through other external funding sources directly accessed by a GDN, including through other government (national, devolved or local) funding.	No
Section 2 - Eligibility criteria for company specific boiler repair and replacement projects	
Condemned boiler repairs or replacements are eligible as VCMA projects where:	
a) A GDN has to isolate and condemn an unsafe boiler following a supply interruption or as part of its emergency service role;	N/A
b) The household cannot afford to repair or replace the boiler, and;	N/A
c) Sufficient funding is not available from other sources (including national, devolved or local government funding) to fund the boiler repair or replacement.	N/A

Section 3 - Eligibility criteria for collaborative VCMA projects	
In order to qualify as a collaborative VCMA project, a project must:	
a) Meet the above company specific and boiler repair and replace (if applicable) project eligibility criteria;	N/A
b) Have the potential to have a direct Net Benefit to customers on the participating networks; and	N/A

c) Involve two, or more, gas distribution companies.	N/A

Gas Network Vulnerability and Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA) Governance Document - Project Registration Table 2

Information Required	Description
Project Title	Climate Genie
Funding GDN(s)	Cadent
Role of GDN(s) *For Collaborative VCMA Projects only	N/A
Date of PEA Submission	January 2022
VCMA Project Contact Name, email and Number	Philip Burrows Phil.m.burrows@cadentgas.com 07773545451
Total Cost (£k)	£100,000.00
Total VCMA Funding Required (£k)	£50,000.00
Problem(s)	<p>Every year there are around 40 deaths caused by carbon monoxide in England and Wales. This means that in any given year, c.30 Cadent customers may die through an incident related to CO.</p> <p>There is relatively low awareness of the causes and consequences of CO poisoning and this is in part demonstrated by the proportion of homes that still do not have a CO alarm installed.</p> <p>CO alarm ownership across Cadent's networks is between 60%-70%.</p> <p>Whilst it is important to have CO alarms in your homes, it is also important to educate people of the dangers of CO and how people can keep themselves and their families safe. This includes raising awareness of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual gas appliances services • Understanding the signs and symptoms of CO <p>Children are at much greater risk of being affected sooner by CO poisoning because they breathe faster than adults and therefore show the signs of CO much quicker and become very poorly.</p> <p>Over the last 5 years we have provided educational awareness classes to primary school children through two separate initiatives:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety Seymour (ages 6-7yrs) • The CO Crew (ages 9-11yrs) <p>Both programmes have and continue to be successful however we also acknowledge that one style doesn't necessarily suit all learning and educational styles.</p>
<p>Scope and Objectives</p>	<p>Working with Climate Genie (financially contributing partner) we have created an educational package centred around Minecraft. The package is played online through a world within the game and is made of various individual "modules" and "mini games" that focus on raising awareness of CO.</p> <p>Participants will learn about how CO is made, where it comes from, what the signs and symptoms are and how to stay safe. The game and various units have been trialled through the creation of a children's panel involving school children between the ages of 7 and 14.</p> <p>We are looking at targeting areas of deprivation and CO hotspot areas to ensure that we get the most positive reach for our customers.</p> <p>We are planning to have a soft launch into schools during the academic year of 2021/22 to reach the following:</p> <p>2021/22 500 children 2022/23 1000 children 2023/24 2000 children 2024/25 3000 children 2025/26 4000 children</p> <p>The sessions will have an option to be led by the teacher or utilising an educational specialist either online or in person. The children will learn at their own pace throughout the module of each game and will have an in-game journal to complete with key learning activities that they have picked up within the game.</p> <p>The hope and expectation is that the students will then act as ambassadors to their parents, grandparents and family members spreading the learning that they have picked up from the sessions on CO.</p>
<p>Why the Project is Being Funded Through the VCMA</p>	<p>The CO school education programs directly reduces the likelihood of customers becoming ill or dying from CO related incidents. We have demonstrated the value delivered through educational programmes in RIIO-1 and this project will ensure we reach even more of our customers in RIIO-2 and in an alternative way. This project also falls well within the governance document and requirements set out below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Have a positive, or a forecasted social return on investment (SROI) including for the gas consumers b) Either

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. provide support to consumers in vulnerable situations and relate to energy safeguarding, or II. provide awareness of the dangers of CO, or III. reduce the risk of harm caused by CO.
Evidence of Stakeholder/Customer Support	Following the creation of the children's panel, we sought feedback on the mine craft sessions that they had tested and received the main points that we wanted to get over were well received including, symptoms, spotting the signs and how to stay safe.
Outcomes, Associated Actions and Success Criteria	<p>This programme will reach around 500 school children in the first year and then increasing each year. Each of the participants will then be able to share their learning and experience with their family and friends. Using a simple calculation of each child/participant then raising awareness to a further 2.4 people. This will equate to around 1200 people in the first year.</p> <p>There has been extensive research conducted which demonstrates that adults are more likely to take positive action (or change) when their child (or grandchild) asks them to (rather than other adults, even those seen as experts in their field).</p> <p>The social return on investment has been calculated based on the reduction of A&E visits, hospital stays, deaths, ambulance visits and time lost from not being able to work. The detailed calculation will be provided upon request.</p> <p>Based on a conservative forecast of around 2000 children per year being reached over the remaining 4 years of the price control (8000 equates to £111,714 (gross) SROI over 4 years -£50,000 (design and implementation costs) £61,714.92 (gross)).</p>
Project Partners and Third Parties Involved	We are working with Climate Genie and they are matching Cadent's investment of VCMA.
Potential for New Learning	We will be able to understand if using an alternative and innovative approach to educating on CO
Scale of VCMA Project and SROI Calculations	See section above
VCMA Project Start and End Date	Start date: 1 st January 2022 End Date: 31 th March 2023
Geographical Area	Across all of our networks

Remaining Amount in the Allowance at Time of Registration	N/A
---	-----

Gas Network Vulnerability and Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA) Governance Document - PEA Control Table

In order to ensure that a VCMA project is registered in accordance with the Ofgem VCMA governance document (incl. project eligibility assessment), the below table should be completed as part of the project registration process.	
Stage 1: Customer Strategy Team PEA Peer Review	
Date Immediate Team Peer Review Completed: 27/01/2022	Review Completed By: Ed Allard
Stage 2: Customer Strategy Team Management Review	
Date Management Review Completed: Gemma Norton	Review Completed By: 01/03/2022
Step 3: Director of Sustainability and Social Purpose Sign-Off Mark Belmega	
Director of Sustainability and Social Purpose Sign-Off Date: 01/03/2022	
Step 4: Upload PEA Document to the Website & Notification Email Sent to Ofgem (vcma@ofgem.gov.uk)	
Date that PEA Document Uploaded to the Website: March 22	
Date that Notification Email Sent to Ofgem: March 22	

Cadent

Your Gas Network

