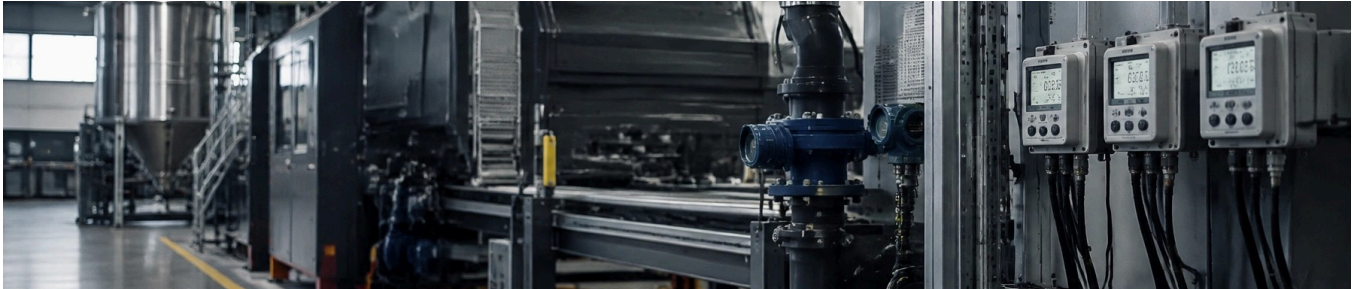


Market-wide Half-Hourly Settlement, ESOS and BICS

Three separate frameworks that affect energy costs and obligations, and how they relate to manufacturing sites.



West Yorkshire Manufacturing Services (WYMS) is a charity built by manufacturers, for manufacturers, supporting the future of manufacturing and engineering through workforce development, industry collaboration and business support. This session was delivered at Junction25 at WYMS, Brighouse.

Market-wide Half-Hourly Settlement (MHHS)

Market-wide Half-Hourly Settlement is a UK industry change programme that moves the electricity market to settle supply using actual half-hourly meter data for all metering systems, rather than estimated profiles for a large part of the market. In plain terms, the market is moving from settling on assumed consumption patterns to settling on real, time-stamped consumption. What it means in practice for sites:

- **Consumption will be settled as it actually occurs.** Time of use increasingly matters to how electricity is billed, which strengthens the commercial case for understanding and managing load shape.
- **Half-hourly data becomes the operating norm.** Sites already working with their half-hourly data will be ahead of the ones scrambling to find it when settlement changes.
- It is an industry-wide programme with its own timetable managed through the industry governance process. Sites should track supplier communications on readiness and data access. MHHS is a market change, not a compliance obligation on your site. But it means the analysis in the Monitoring and Evidence download is worth money whether or not you act on it.

ESOS

The Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) is a mandatory UK energy assessment scheme. Organisations that meet the qualification thresholds, generally large undertakings, are required to carry out an energy audit covering their buildings, industrial processes and transport at intervals, led by an approved lead assessor. The practical relevance for manufacturers:

- Check your qualification position against the current criteria rather than assuming. Group structures and growth both change the answer.
- **The audit is only worth what happens next.** An ESOS report that identifies opportunities and is then filed produces no savings. The recommendations that survive technical and commercial scrutiny become a project pipeline.
- Evidence gathered for ESOS, such as consumption data and site records, is the same evidence base that monitoring, heat and solar decisions need. Run the work once and reuse it.

BICS and the British Industry Supercharger are different things. These two terms are sometimes used interchangeably. They should not be. They are separate schemes with separate eligibility criteria and separate benefits, and qualifying for one does not imply qualifying for the other or receiving the same benefits. The British Industry Supercharger is the government scheme package of energy cost exemptions and reliefs for eligible energy-intensive industries. BICS is a separate certification scheme with its own eligibility rules, deadlines and benefits, each defined in official government guidance. Treat every detail on this page as orientation only and verify against current official guidance before acting.

BICS: the 30 November 2026 provisional deadline

BICS is a certification scheme relevant to manufacturers in its own right, separate from the British Industry Supercharger as set out above. The currently indicated application deadline is 30 November 2026, marked provisional and subject to change through official channels.

- **Timing matters.** If the site could qualify under BICS, the window to confirm eligibility and complete certification closes on the deadline. Miss it and you wait for a future window, with the money on hold.
- **Do not self-assume eligibility.** BICS eligibility requires Companies House registration, an eligible SIC sector, manufacture of eligible products, and at least 33 MWh of grid electricity per year at the site.
- **Do not assume the benefit.** BICS exempts eligible sites from the indirect costs of the Renewables Obligation and Feed-in Tariffs from April 2027, and the Capacity Market from October 2027.
- **Track the official channel.** Because the deadline is provisional and scheme details can change, confirm dates, criteria and process through the official government guidance before acting.

How the three fit together

They operate independently but share a theme: energy cost and energy evidence. MHHS changes how consumption is settled and makes load shape commercially material. ESOS requires large organisations to assess energy use periodically. BICS is a separate certification scheme whose eligibility and benefits are defined in official guidance. A site that monitors its half-hourly data is better prepared for all three.

Scheme details verified against current official guidance before reliance. This download summarises MHHS, ESOS and BICS at a general level for orientation. Deadlines shown are confirmed against official guidance, including the BICS application deadline of 30 November 2026, 11:59pm. Eligibility criteria, rates, relief values and process details should still be checked against current official government guidance before being relied on. Last verified: 16 October 2026 against GOV.UK ESOS Phase 4 guidance (30 July 2026) and the GOV.UK BICS guidance for applicants.

Next step

Timing matters: the first BICS window is open from 1 October to 30 November 2026, 11:59pm, with MHHS rolling out alongside. If you want eligibility checked against your bills and SIC codes, or your ESOS position assessed, we can do the evidence work. Email hello@hawleyenergy.co.uk. www.hawleyenergy.co.uk/wyms | 01484 958761



About Hawley Energy

Hawley Energy is an independent energy consultancy based in West Yorkshire. We turn energy compliance pressure into measurable progress: data analytics and reporting (Enerlyse), transparent procurement (Baseline Power), coordinated project delivery and flexible financing (PowerPacks), with one point of contact and complete accountability. Certified to ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001, and led by a CIBSE-accredited ESOS Lead Assessor, we replace guesswork with evidence-driven insight. The cheapest source of capital is the energy you are wasting.

Talk it through: no pressure

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30-minute call · I love a challenge

Scan for the full WYMS resource hub: guides, spreadsheets and templates, no account needed



Downloaded from the WYMS session resource hub, 22 October 2026. West Yorkshire Manufacturing Services (WYMS) is a charity built by manufacturers, for manufacturers, supporting the future of manufacturing and engineering through workforce development, industry collaboration and business support. This session was delivered at Junction25 at WYMS, Brighouse.

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