

RPC Position Statement: Energy & Carbon

Background

Climate change is a complex issue linked to increasing carbon emissions being released into the atmosphere leading to an increase in global temperatures. Climate change is seen as one of the greatest challenges facing humanity. In December 2015, 195 countries met in Paris and agreed to take action to avoid a 2 degree increase in global warming, this agreement was signed in 2016.

Industry accounts for a significant proportion of global energy use. Energy consumption, particularly in energy intensive industries that are dependent on fossil fuels, can be a major contributory factor to carbon emissions. With a rise of over 1 degree already having occurred, it is necessary that carbon emissions are closely monitored - especially in industries with heavy energy consumption - and minimised where possible.

RPC's Position

RPC's carbon emissions are linked directly with manufacturing, the majority of emissions being generated from the purchase and use of electricity, which is referred to as scope 2 emissions.

RPC aims to reduce emissions and achieve greater energy efficiency within manufacturing facilities including the investigation of non-fossil fuel sources of energy where suitable. RPC will calculate and report emissions for greater transparency and work with the supply chain to reduce the businesses carbon footprint beyond direct operations.

The Energy Management System ISO 50001 has been introduced at a number of RPC's manufacturing facilities in order to improve energy efficiency. The accreditation requires facilities to determine an energy policy, set targets for energy efficiency and provides the vehicle by which to measure, monitor and manage improvements in this area.

Electricity usage and carbon emissions are reported annually in the RPC Annual Report and Accounts as well as to requesting customers and investors through the Carbon Disclosure Project.

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