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CEMENT AND LIME SECTORS ACHIEVE CLIMATE CHANGE TARGET

The Mineral Products Association (MPA) is pleased to announce that the Cement and Lime sectors within the United Kingdom have achieved their energy efficiency goals as detailed in their Climate Change Agreements for the target period 4, (2008).

Collectively the cement manufacturers have exceeded their targets of improving specific energy consumption by 26.6% over 1990 levels ahead of schedule, recording an actual reduction level of 33.7%. Within the lime sector, the manufacturers have achieved a specific energy consumption of 940kW h/tonne against a target of 955kW h/tonne.

This will secure retention of the full rebate on the Climate Change Levy applied to its fuels.

The five UK cement participants in the cement sector Climate Change Agreement (Hanson Cement, CEMEX UK Operations, Tarmac Buxton Lime & Cement, Lafarge Cement and Quinn Cement) account for 100% of the UK Portland Cement production. All participants have underlying agreements that underpin challenging energy efficiency targets against a 1990 baseline. Improvements in sector energy efficiency from new and updated plant have been supplemented by further use of waste-derived fuels.

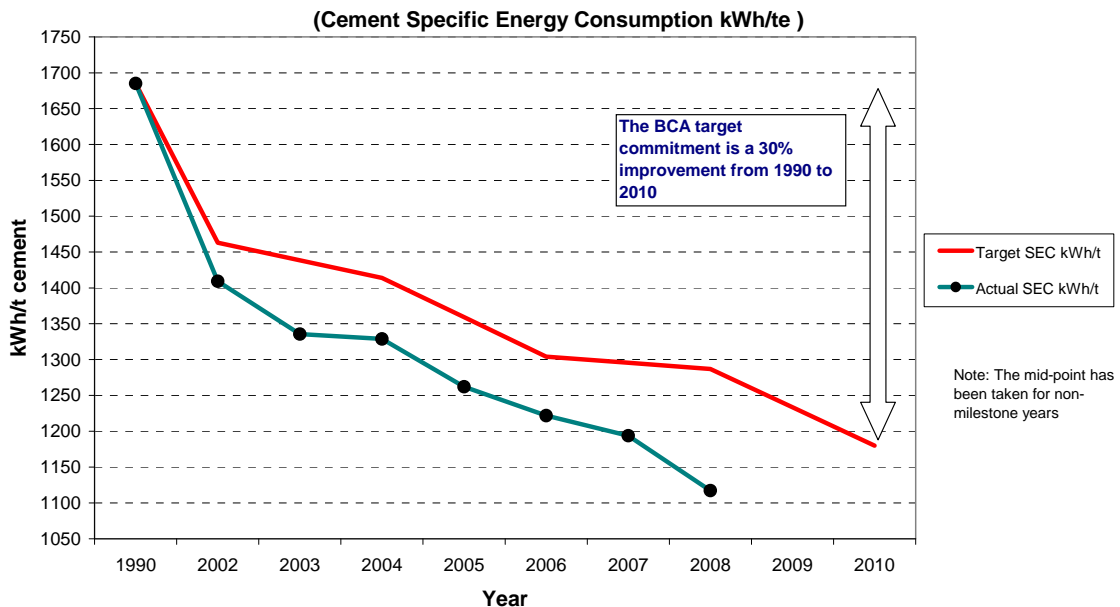
MPA Cement's Executive Director, Dr Pal Chana said 'The UK industry is committed to tackling climate change through reducing emissions and providing energy-saving solutions through its products'. 'This impressive performance was achieved despite the present state of the market, and our members remain committed to further improve performance, working towards the government's target of an 80% reduction by 2050'.

ENDS

Notes to editors:

1. The Mineral Products Association has been formed through the merger of the British Cement Association (BCA), the Quarry Products Association (QPA) with its membership covering land based, marine, recycled and secondary aggregates, asphalt, ready-mixed concrete, agricultural lime, industrial lime, mortar, silica sand and The Concrete Centre. It represents 222 members across the UK.
2. The MPA represents 100% of GB cement production, 90% of GB aggregates production and 95% of GB asphalt and ready-mixed concrete production, and 95% of lime production.
3. Industry size:
 - Aggregates: 248 million tonnes.
 - Cement and cementitious materials: 13 million tonnes.
 - Lime: 1.6 million tonnes.
 - Asphalt: 25 million tonnes.
 - Ready-mixed concrete: 20 million cubic metres.
4. The members of the MPA with cement UK cement manufacturing operations (Hanson Cement, CEMEX UK Operations, Tarmac Buxton Lime & Cement and Lafarge Cement) are the major domestic manufacturers of Portland cement producing over 90% of the Portland cement sold in the UK.
5. MPA Cement administers the umbrella agreement of the Climate Change Levy on behalf of its members and Quinn Cement, Northern Ireland.
6. The members of the MPA with lime manufacturing operations are Hanson, Tarmac Buxton Lime & Cement, Singleton Birch, Lhoist UK and Steetley Dolomite.
7. Actual vs Target performance for the cement industry

BCA Climate Change Agreement Performance 1990 to 2008



8. The performance of the cement sector in target period 4 was 1117kW h/tonne against a target of 1287kW h/tonne.
9. The cement industry has an annual turnover of £775 million and is a major supplier to the construction industry. It employs around 3,500 people directly with a further 15,000 jobs depending upon its operations.
10. The lime industry has an annual turnover of £116 million and is a major supplier to the iron & steel and construction industries. It employs around 331 people directly with a further 373 jobs depending upon its operations.
11. The Climate Change Levy for the cement manufacture in the UK is administered by the Mineral Products Association through an umbrella agreement between the MPA and DECC. This agreement incorporates all UK Portland Cement producers.
12. The Climate Change Levy for the lime manufacture in the UK is administered by the British Lime Association, (a member of the Mineral Products Association) through an umbrella agreement between the BLA and Defra. This agreement includes the five cement manufacturers within the MPA plus two non-MPA Members; British Sugar and Specialty Minerals.
13. The views expressed in this Press Release are those of the Mineral Products Association and do not necessarily reflect other within the Climate Change Agreements it administers.

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