

A renewable fuel replacement for heating oil

Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) is a fossil-free, low-carbon sustainable fuel that is made from 100% renewable waste, residues and vegetable oils.

It is currently be trailed as a renewable replacement for heating oil. Although heating oil has been a popular choice for over 50 years, the Government's mission to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050 has meant there is a need for a fossil-free heating alternative. We're working with UKIFDA (the Trade Association for the liquid fuels distribution industry) to help tackle climate change and achieve the UK's net zero target.



Here are some answers to your questions around HVO:

When will this alternative be ready?

HVO as a renewable fuel replacement for heating oil is currently be trailed and tested across the UK to see how it interacts with our diverse weather conditions and what it is like with different appliances within households. It is hoped that these trials will be complete in early 2022, conversations are currently happening between UKIFDA and the Government to ensure the right policies are going to be put in place to ensure maximum roll out.

What are the benefits of switching to HVO?

With a switch to HVO you can reduce your carbon emissions up to 90%, compared to traditional heating oil. It allows you to significantly reduce your carbon footprint. HVO is completely odourless, and it improves air quality, where it is being burned. It is also made from 100% renewable waste, residues, and vegetable oils, a sustainability certification is available with every order. The switch to HVO will help decarbonise your home, alongside the rest of the UK.

Does HVO have the same fuel quality?

HVO for domestic use should comply with BS EN 15940. Also, HVO actually performs better during the colder, winter months due to it having a higher cetane number (up to 90) and a low cloud point (-32°C). Furthermore, HVO only contains 2% of the sulphur content of Kerosene. HVO has proven to be more efficient than Kerosene, trials have shown consumption is lower in certain appliances

What is your supply like for HVO?

We have a substantial supply of HVO for all our customers. This will continue to rise with demand for the product.

HVO would be delivered in the exact same way as your current heating oil delivery, however our difference is that our trucks will be running on HVO as well. This allows us to help fuel change within our industry and shows that we are also passionate about reducing our carbon emissions. HVO is not classed as a flammable liquid nor a pollutant, therefore the safety concerns of transportation of HVO is greatly reduced compared to Kerosene.

Do we need to change our tanks?

Recent trials have shown that there are no changes needed to your current tank to store HVO if your tank has been well maintained, however a slight retrofit to your boiler is required. We do recommend that you have your tank cleaned before you make the switch so that you can see the full benefits of using HVO, however this isn't necessary. Although, it could be the perfect opportunity whilst you are switching to upgrade your tank and install a bunded oil tank. A bunded tank would provide you with more security and protection against spillages and therefore eliminate environmental concerns.

Kerosene and HVO are 100% compatible to mix, however if your boiler's been converted to use HVO then it would not be able to run on Kerosene as well. Furthermore, there is no need for permissions from your local authority to switch to HVO.

The aim is to start introducing HVO in 2022, subject to the completion of successful trials and obtaining Government approval for its use as a heating fuel. To reach this goal, we need the help of heating oil users like you to get HVO supported as part of future government policy.

