

Co-operative Energy

Co-operative Energy is the only energy supplier in the UK owned by the customers, who all have a share in the profits. The National energy supplier is part of Midcounties Co-operative and supplies to homes and businesses across England, Scotland and Wales.

When asked what three things are deemed of high importance about your co-operative model Nigel Mason responded, "Trust, a share of profits, and member involvement". "Energy Co-operative fills a gap in the market at a time when there is a need for trusted energy suppliers at a time when energy bills are increasing and the country faces long term carbon reduction challenges".

Founded in 2010, Co-operative Energy has 16,000 customers; who automatically become a member of Midcounties Co-operative, meaning all customers receive a share of Midcounties' entire profits, not just the energy business. "I particularly like that fact that the company is run for our benefit and that we in essence own part of the business. This makes the prospect of paying a gas or electricity bill much more palatable." Jim Pettipher, Co-operative Energy customer.

Co-operative Energy are proud to be transparent- offering one simple price tariff - ethical, environmentally friendly, straight forward, as well as being fair; Co-operative Energy won the Best New Corporate Venture at the Market Gravity Corporate Entrepreneur Awards in 2011. "Customers value their share of the profits. When energy bills are rising, the profit sharing from a co-operative can reduce those bills by a material amount" Nigel Mason

Co-operative Energy's Business Development Manager, Nigel Mason, said: "Co-operative Energy has always been committed to the values and commitments which the Government is now appealing to the major suppliers to adopt. By providing a simple tariff and sharing profits with customers, Co-operative Energy customers can be assured of complete transparency when it comes to their gas and electricity bills."

Co-operative Energy pledge to help build a better world by April 2012; making efforts for energy used for electricity to have less than half the carbon content of the national average from the previous year. The ethical energy supplier trades with Co-operatives UK member, Westmill Windfarm Co-operative, as a source for all electricity.

Source: <http://www.uk.coop/casestudies/co-operative-energy-0>

