

**New Survey Results Demonstrate Public Support for Renewable Energy Production**  
*Utility Customers Overwhelmingly Support Move to Clean Energy; Highly Unaware of the Scale of Subsidies Given to Traditional Energy Technologies Such as Nuclear*

**6 December 2011 – London** – Engensa, one of the UK’s leading solar energy companies, today announced the results from a recent survey conducted by TNS that examines UK consumers’ knowledge and understanding of their energy bills. The survey, conducted in November 2011, highlights three important trends about consumer attitudes toward renewable energy (such as solar, wind and hydropower) and their understanding of the real costs of energy production.

Survey findings included:

**1) Widespread feeling that utilities are over-charging:**

The survey shows 60% of respondents view their rising energy bills as a sign that utilities are overcharging, with nearly one in five (19%) correctly attributing the majority of energy bill rises to the costs of fossil fuels. Utility prices have risen by 14% in 2011 and are continuing to rise by an estimated 12% each year.

**2) Overwhelming support for development of renewables:**

The vast majority of respondents (89%) feel it is important or vitally important to generate electricity from sources such as solar, wind and hydropower in the next five-to-10 years. Seventy-seven per cent of respondents support the idea of producing free energy from renewable sources in the next five-to-10 years rather than from fossil fuels from utility companies.

**3) Lack of awareness of true cost of energy subsidies:**

The survey reveals widespread confusion among consumers about the costs for different energy sources.

- 60% of respondents are unsure about how much UK households pay for solar energy subsidies, with only 6% of respondents providing the correct answer of “less than £2 per year.”
- 65% of respondents did not know the average household contribution to the nuclear industry, when only 4% of respondents correctly answered “more than £250 per year.” The actual cost each UK household pays for [nuclear decommissioning](#) is £266.

“The results of this survey show that homeowners don’t realise that the solar subsidy in the UK only costs £2 per year,” said Toby Darbyshire, CEO Engensa. “It would be tragic if the current proposals to halve the subsidy go ahead, as solar is not only affordable for homeowners but it offers freedom from growing electricity bills and creates tens of thousands of jobs. People are not aware that the nuclear industry costs UK taxpayers hundreds of pounds more than solar does, and that solar energy will be cheaper than nuclear in just a few years.”

TNS is a leading global market research and insight provider. The survey involved interviews with 858 adults in Great Britain between 25 and 64 years old.



### **About Engensa**

Founded in 2009, Engensa is a leading provider of home energy generation, including [free solar energy](#) installation and maintenance. Engensa's expert team works closely with homeowners to design, finance, install and maintain solar energy and energy efficiency systems that match any budget and style. With the highest customer satisfaction rating in the industry, 92% of Engensa's customers would go out of their way to recommend Engensa to their friends or neighbours. Engensa is privately funded and headquartered in London. For more information, visit [www.Engensa.com](http://www.Engensa.com).

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