



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

# Residential burning policy in the UK

Brendan Mahon

CLRTAP Working Group on Strategies and Review – Geneva, Switzerland – 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018



Forestry Commission  
England



Environment  
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# The UK's Clean Air Strategy and Residential burning policy in the UK

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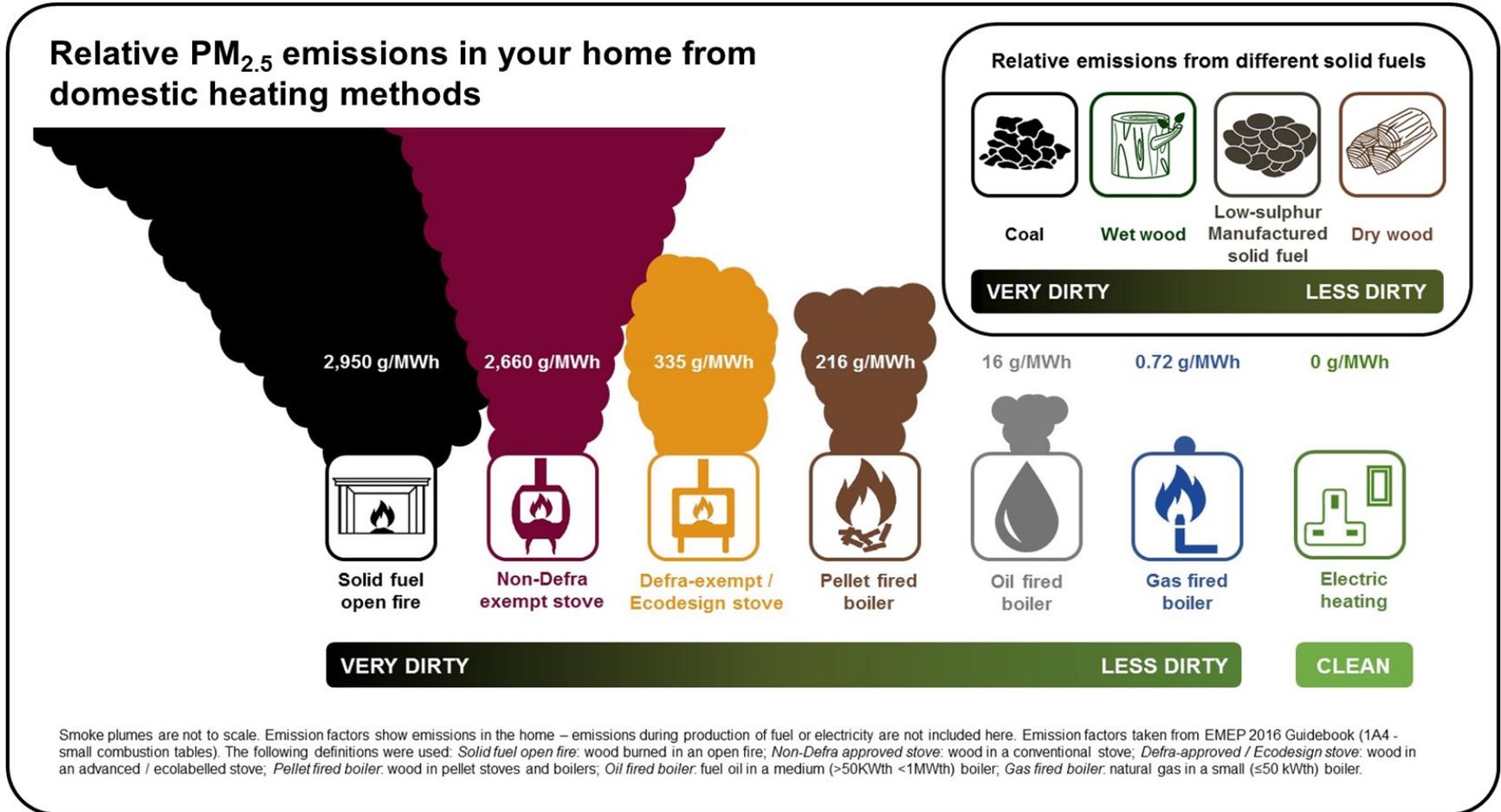
# Underway

- Broadening the message beyond road transport
  - Domestic burning is the single largest source of primary PM<sub>2.5</sub> in the UK
  - 38% of emissions come from residential burning
- Industry-led scheme to label and promote dry wood
  - Wood with moisture content of <20%
- Ecodesign ready





# Explaining the difference between appliances



Adapted with permission from a version by Puget Sound Clean Air Authority

# Forthcoming

- We will ensure that only the cleanest fuels and stoves for use at home will be available for sale, removing 8,000 tonnes of harmful particulate matter from the atmosphere each year
  - Restriction on wet wood in small volumes
  - Phase out of bituminous coal
  - Standards for manufactured solid fuel
  - Ecodesign stoves only by 2022

# Wet wood restrictions

- Consumers unaware of negative aspects of wood burning
- Consumer protection
- Allow those consumers buying over 2m<sup>3</sup> to season it on their own
  - Subject to consultation
- Benefits:
  - Expected *ca.* 8kt pa decrease in primary PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions
  - Most PM<sub>2.5</sub> from residential burning is black carbon

# Residential coal phase out

- More challenging to implement than wood due to socioeconomic considerations
- Exploring options for effective implementation
- Benefits
  - Reduction in PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions
  - Reduction in black carbon
  - Reduction in heavy metals
  - Reduction in POPs (PAHs)
  - Reduction in sulphur

# Manufactured solid fuel standards

- Current standards - 2% sulphur limit only in Smoke Control Areas
- Ambition to introduce at least a 2% limit nationwide
  - Subject to consultation
- Considering introduction of a minimum biomass content
  - Carbon benefits
- Benefits
  - Reduction in PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions
  - Reduction in black carbon emissions
  - Reduction in heavy metals
  - Reduction in POPs
  - Reduction in sulphur
  - Reduction in carbon emissions



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# Thank you for your attention



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