



# ***Manufacturing Energy Cost Risk Checklist***

Use this before renewal to reduce cost risk  
and avoid surprises.

Designed for UK manufacturers with higher  
consumption (typically 0.5GWh+).

***Business energy  
made simple.***



## Contract and Renewal Readiness

- Contract end date confirmed (and notice period checked)
- Renewal planning started early enough to keep options open
- Estimated annual consumption validated (do not rely on old assumptions)
- Any expected operational changes noted (new lines, shift changes, closures, expansion)

### Quick prompt:

If we were buying today, would we be doing it by choice or because we have to?

## Know Your Real Delivered Cost (Not Just Unit Rate)

Ask for a quote that clearly shows:

<input type="checkbox"/> Unit rate (p/kWh)	<input type="checkbox"/> What might change during the contract term
<input type="checkbox"/> Standing charge	<input type="checkbox"/> Billing assumptions stated clearly (consumption profile, peak periods, site type)
<input type="checkbox"/> Expected total delivered cost (£/MWh)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Which charges are fixed vs pass-through	

### Red flag:

If the supplier or broker can't explain what's fixed and what can change.

## Non-Energy Charges and Pass-Through Checks

- Network charges clarified (what's included, what's outside control)
- Pass-through charges listed in plain English
- Any uplifts or admin fees identified upfront
- VAT and CCL status confirmed
- Site meter data validated (MPANs, profiles, current meter types)

### What to ask:

“What percentage of our expected bill is non-energy cost?”

## Contract Structure and Risk Fit

- Contract type chosen for a reason (not just habit): Fixed / Flex / Hybrid
- Internal risk appetite agreed (Finance + Ops aligned)
- Decision owner confirmed (who signs off and when)
- Clear approach to volatility (how much exposure is acceptable)

### Simple risk test:

Would we rather lock certainty, or reduce risk by spreading purchases?

## Operational Reality Check (Site-Level Cost Drivers)

These checks often reveal avoidable cost quickly:

- Out-of-hours consumption understood  
(overnight and weekends)
- Baseload known and challenged  
(what should be running and why)
- Peak demand behaviour reviewed  
(what drives peaks and can anything be staggered)
- Shift handovers reviewed  
(equipment left running unnecessarily)
- Shutdown routines consistent across teams

### Common baseload drivers to confirm:

- Compressed air systems
- HVAC and air handling
- Extraction and dust systems
- Refrigeration/chillers
- Lighting and plant areas
- Process equipment kept warm/idle

## Visibility and Data (Can You Prove What's Happening?)

- You can see usage at the right level (site, building, meter, circuit where possible)
- You can separate production vs non-production load
- You can compare day vs night and weekday vs weekend
- Abnormal usage spikes can be identified quickly
- Consumption data supports compliance and reporting needs

**Prompt:**

If a customer asks for energy/carbon data, can we supply it without a scramble?

## Compliance and Reporting Alignment (Without Overcomplicating It)

- ESOS Phase 4 readiness considered (data, audits, action plan)
- SECR reporting needs understood (if applicable)
- Customer Scope 3 requests considered (what you can provide now vs later)
- Internal ownership confirmed (who is responsible for energy reporting)

**Focus:**

You don't need perfect reporting overnight. You need a plan and reliable data.

## Final Supplier Confidence Check

Before signing, confirm:

- All commercial terms are written clearly
- No hidden fees or unclear pass-through wording
- Billing process and support model confirmed  
(who resolves issues)
- Change of tenancy / multi-site additions handled correctly
- Contract start date and switch timing confirmed
- A documented audit trail exists  
(quotes, assumptions, approvals)

**Final question:**

“If we reviewed this contract in 12 months, would we still agree it was the right decision?”

## *Want a second opinion before you renew?*

Share your latest bill and contract summary, and we'll provide a one-page breakdown of what's driving your delivered cost and what to challenge before renewal.



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