

For immediate release

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UK consumers discontent with energy companies' profits

84% of UK consumers agree that energy suppliers maximise profits at the expense of customers

Recent research from a [report by YouGov SixthSense](#) has found that over eight in ten (84%) UK consumers agree that energy suppliers maximise profits at the expense of customers. And over half of consumers (59%) agree with the statement 'energy suppliers treat people with contempt'.

In reaction to the February 2012 price cuts, 56% of UK consumers agreed with the statement 'It's about time – the energy companies make too much profit' compared to only 12% of consumers who are very relieved that their bills will drop. 16% of consumers feel it will not make real difference as the drop is too small to have any real impact. However, one in five consumers (22%) say they have difficulty paying their energy bills, just under a third of UK consumer (31%) have made cutbacks to pay their bills and over a third (34%) say that their house feels cold.

Commenting on the findings YouGov SixthSense Research Director James McCoy says: 'The strength and negativity of feeling regarding the energy companies' profits is clearly demonstrated. The findings suggest that many people are more outraged by the profits being made than by their actual energy bill.'

-ENDS-

Notes to editors:

Figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc. The survey was carried out online.

YouGov SixthSense Utilities 2012: Energy Usage report. Total sample size was a nationally representative sample of 2,042 UK adults aged 16+. Fieldwork was undertaken between the 23rd and 27th February 2012.

[Click here to find out more about the Utilities 2012: Energy Usage report](#)

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About SixthSense

SixthSense, part of YouGov plc, is a provider of comprehensive business intelligence. It offers a powerful type of consumer-driven market intelligence report and online information platform, designed to help businesses make better and quicker decisions.

Bespoke data is collected through YouGov's proprietary panel of over 350,000 UK consumers. Highly qualified analysts use this data to deliver insight, comment, opinion and advice on the latest market trends and conditions.

For further information, visit yougovsixthsense.com

About YouGov

YouGov is an international, full service market research agency offering added value consultancy, qualitative research, field and tab services, syndicated products such as the daily brand perception tracker BrandIndex, fast turnaround omnibus and comprehensive market intelligence reports. YouGov's sector specialist teams serve financial, media, technology and telecoms, FMCG and public sector markets.

YouGov is considered a pioneer of online market research and has a panel of 2.5 million people worldwide, including over 350,000 people in the UK representing all ages, socio-economic groups and other demographic types.

As the most quoted market research agency in the UK, YouGov has a well-documented and published track record illustrating the accuracy of its survey methods.

For further information visit yougov.co.uk