

FACTS ABOUT GREEN ENERGY AND BIOMASS IN N.I.

1. In the last few years a big push has been made to encourage businesses to use renewable energy sources to heat their business. In the last few years a government backed scheme, where the business owner installs a biomass boiler can receive payments for up to 20 years for the heat produced.
2. This scheme has been taken up by many businesses in N. Ireland, but we also believe it is being seriously abused by many, who are not working within the intended guidelines.
3. Where we believe the problems are arising is that the scheme is not being monitored and is very much left to the installer to vet whether you are a suitable business to enter this scheme.
4. Many people are availing of the scheme who have had no other means of heating previous to this, or if they presently have a heating system there is no comparison made between the cost of the current heating and the heating generated by the new system.
5. Examples of this are large factories who have had no previous heating have installed three biomass boilers and intend to run them 24/7 all year round. With the intention of collection approx 1.5 million over the next 20 years, approx £1500 per week, paid every 3 months.
6. Another example a local farmer who has no business or need for biomass boilers is aiming to collect 1 million ponds over the next 20 years heating an empty shed.

We feel the legislation was never intended to be abused like this.