

21 February 2011

**TO: ALL RURAL ENTERPRISE POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Dear Member,

The next meeting of the Rural Enterprise Policy Committee will be held on:

**WEDNESDAY 2 MARCH  
IN  
CSL DUNGANNON  
AT 8PM**

**CHRIS OSBORNE  
SECRETARY**

**AGENDA**

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Minutes of meeting held 11 October 2010 (to be circulated at the meeting)
- 3 Matters Arising
- 4 Correspondence
- 5 Update on work to date
- 6 NIE and grid connection issues
- 7 Anaerobic Digestion
- 8 Commodity Watch – 5 March
- 9 Consultation responses
  - Reform of the Electricity Market (DECC)
  - Renewables Obligation – Biodiesel and other fossil derived bioliquid guidance
  - Charges to Suppliers for use of the Electricity Transmission
- 10 Biomass Challenge Fund Update
- 11 Any other business
- 12 Date of next meeting



**RURAL ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The Rural Enterprise Policy Committee met on Wednesday 2 March 2011 in CSL Dungannon.

**ATTENDANCE:** H Sinclair (Deputy President), D McElrea (Chairman), R Campbell, J Carson, T Crawford, M Harnett and B Richmond.

**APOLOGIES:** J McCleghan (Vice Chairman), R Craig and P Lundy

**IN ATTENDANCE:** C Osborne (Secretary)

**MINUTES:** The minutes of 11 October meeting were agreed and signed. Secretary noted minutes only distributed on day of meeting due to a time frame error, but in future will be distributed in advance of the meeting, possibly via email.

**MATTERS ARISING:** Matters covered in context of main Committee meeting.

**CORREONDANCE:**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**RURAL ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Chairman and Secretary provided an update on work to date since the last meeting;

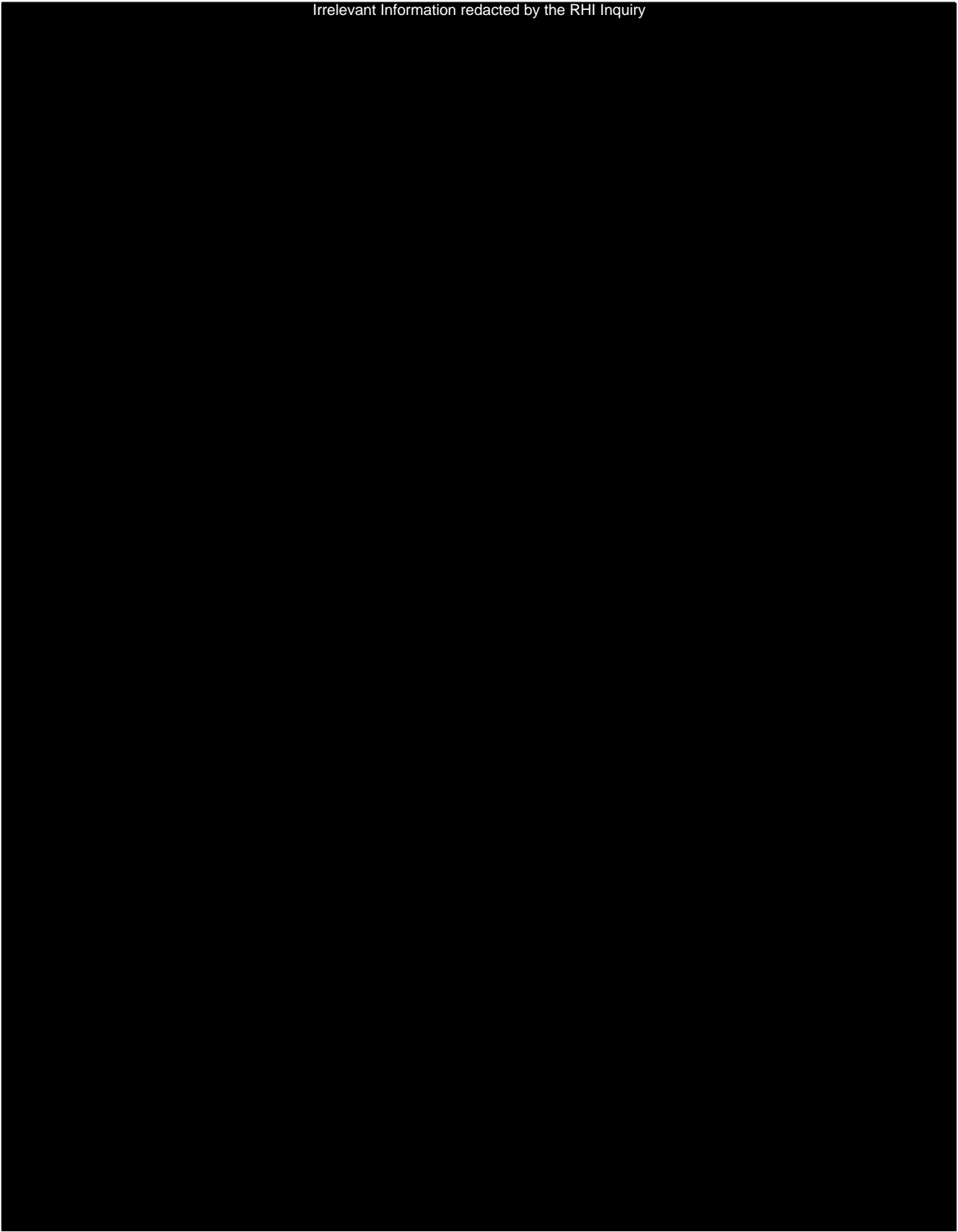
**CAFRE Event – 2 November @ Greenmount –**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**NI Assembly ETI Committee Inquiry and Report on Barrier to Renewables -**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry



**Forum Renewable Energy Development in Northern Ireland (FREDNI) –** 

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry



NIE -

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry



Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**NIE Energy –**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**LECs (Levy Exemption Certificates) -**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**Anaerobic Digestion –**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

- **Renewable Heat Incentive** - £25m is to be made available for the Renewable Heat Incentive in Northern Ireland. UFU involved in working group which looked at Heat needs in NI. Closely working with DETI on roll out of RHI and how it will be distributed. Committee discussed rumours about who will be receiving the money. District Heating partnerships is one area where the RHI could be directed and the money should be used to establish and sustain the uptake of Renewable Heat in Northern Ireland.

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**Biomass Challenge Fund –**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

#### **DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on 4 May 2011, possibly in NIE Craigavon.

**RURAL ENTERPRISE POLICY COMMITTEE**

The Rural Enterprise Committee has met on 2 occasions since the 2010 AGM.

Main issues addressed were:

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**EVIDENCE TO NI ASSEMBLY ETI COMMITTEE ON BARRIERS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY/HEAT:** UFU were invited to give evidence to the NI Assembly Enterprise, Trade and Investment Committee: Chairman and Secretary provided oral evidence on 14 October at Stormont. In February 2011, the ETI Committee published their report and findings and these closely mirrored those raised by the UFU. UFU to continue lobbying NI Executive in addressing and overcoming barriers.

**CAFRE – PRACTICAL ON-FARM RENEWABLE ENERGY DAY:** UFU worked closely with CAFRE in setting up the day at Greenmount. The event took place in the Greenmount Resource Centre and the focus of the day was Practical on-farm Renewable Energy. The day consisted of a series of seminars, workshops and a tour of the Greenmount facilities. Speakers included Action Renewables, DETI, NIE, AFBI, Planning Services, Ulster Bank, Northern Bank and the UFU. Subject areas included Biomass production, Heat from Biomass, Anaerobic Digestion, Wind, Energy Efficiency, Funding, NIROCs, Grid Connection, Hydro and Solar Hot Water. The event will be repeated later in 2011. We used this opportunity to launch a leaflet with the UFU position on on-farm renewables.

**STRATEGIC ENERGY FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE:**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**FORUM ON RENEWABLE ENERGY IN NORTHERN IRELAND (FREDND):**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**NIE:**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**Distribution Code:**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**Grid Connection Developments:**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**Grid Connection Costs:**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**Feasibility Study:**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**NIE Energy:**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**ANAEROBIC DIGESTION:**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

- **Renewable Heat Incentive** – Money is to be made available for the Renewable Heat Incentive in Northern Ireland. UFU sat on a working group which looked at Heat needs in NI. UFU



working with DETI on roll out of RHI and how it will be distributed. UFU were invited to sit on this group in April and May, culminating in a report from AECOM and POYRY Development of Renewable Heat in Northern Ireland. This was incorporated into the Strategic Energy Framework with mention of a 10% Heat target from Renewables.

- **Biomass Challenge Fund –**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**Consultation Responses in 2010/2011:**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**CHAIRMAN: DAVID MCELREA**  
**SECRETARY: CHRIS OSBORNE**

**SEEDS AND CEREALS**

Irrelevant Information redacted by the RHI Inquiry