

Christopher Osborne

From: DECC Balance of Competence <balanceofcompetence@decc.gsi.gov.uk>
Sent: 16 January 2014 11:00
To: Christopher Osborne
Subject: RE: Balance of Competence - UFU Call for Evidence

Dear Chris,

Thank you very much for your evidence. We will use this to inform our final report.

Kind regards,

Charlotte



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

Energy Review - Balance of Competence Team
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From: Christopher Osborne [mailto:christopher@ufuhq.com]
Sent: 16 January 2014 10:57
To: DECC Balance of Competence
Subject: Balance of Competence - UFU Call for Evidence
Importance: High

Please find attached the UFU contribution to the Call for Evidence. If you have any queries do not hesitate to get back to me.

Many thanks

C

Chris Osborne
Senior Policy Officer
Dairy and Rural Enterprise

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27 October 2009

Sandra McMillan
Sustainable Energy
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment
Netherleigh
Massey Avenue
Belfast
BT4 2JP

Dear Sandra,

UFU Response to the Bioenergy Action Plan

The Ulster Farmers' Union (UFU) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Bioenergy Action Plan 2009. With 12,500 farming members, the industry we represent has a significant role to play, both as a producer and as a consumer of energy.

From a producer point of view. There is an opportunity for our membership to diversify production and to branch out into new energy supply businesses, with biomass supply and bio-energy the key areas where agriculture will play an integral role. On the other side of the coin, as consumers, global attitudes to energy consumption is changing, mainly due to our reliance upon fossil fuels, particularly here in Northern Ireland.

The UFU welcomes the government's publication and development of this draft 5-year Cross Departmental Action Plan for the coordinated development of bioenergy in Northern Ireland. However, there is an element of disappointment there would appear to be nothing new contained in the Action Plan – this may, however, be due to the fact that this report is seen as a 'Roadmap' rather than a definitive policy document.

The UFU wishes to comment on the two main objectives contained in the draft Action Plan;

Objective 2 – create a supportive and encouraging policy and regulatory framework within which the bioenergy sector can develop and thrive.

Establishment of a Renewable Heat Market - UFU welcomes the establishment of a Renewable Heat market, however, as stressed previously, it is still very early days in this area and there will be much work to be done in the coming months and years.

Access to the Electricity Grid – When used for the generation of electricity, bioenergy is acknowledged as a reliable and predictable resource for grid management purposes. The UFU welcomes the acknowledgement given to the role of distributed or decentralized generation.