

**Christopher Osborne**

---

**From:** Harris, Michael <Michael.Harris@detini.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 31 August 2012 16:51  
**To:** Christopher Osborne  
**Cc:** Clydesdale, Alison; Martin, Olivia  
**Subject:** RE: CONSULTATION ON POLICY PROPOSALS FOR AN ENERGY BILL [Scanned]

Chris

Susan has passed your e-mail to me. Happy to sit down next week to discuss this. I think it's important to bear in mind that we have no option but to close the NIRO to new generation in 2017. You may recall that the Department was heavily criticised for not introducing a small scale FIT in 2010 alongside the rest of the UK. In the recent NIRO consultation, UFU was the only respondent on this issue to disagree with the introduction of a small scale FIT.

The Energy Bill is intended to give us the enabling powers to introduce a small scale FIT, something that we did not have back in 2010. These powers are at a very high level and were never intended to set out the detail – this can only come in secondary legislation following extensive consultation.

If you want to suggest some meeting dates/times we can set something up.

1

Regards

Michael

**Michael Harris**

Renewable Electricity Policy & Legislation  
Department of Enterprise, Trade & Investment  
Netherleigh

Massey Avenue  
Belfast, BT4 2JP

Tel: 028 9052 9269 (ext: 29269)

Mob: Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

Textphone: 028 9052 9304

Web: [www.detini.gov.uk](http://www.detini.gov.uk)

*The new website for the European Sustainable Competitiveness Programme for NI is now available - visit [www.eucompni.gov.uk](http://www.eucompni.gov.uk)*



[www.ni2012.com](http://www.ni2012.com)

2

---

**From:** Christopher Osborne [mailto:christopher@ufuhq.com]  
**Sent:** 31 August 2012 08:52  
**To:** Stewart, Susan  
**Cc:** gary.hawkes [Personal information redacted by the sender]  
**Subject:** RE: CONSULTATION ON POLICY PROPOSALS FOR AN ENERGY BILL [Scanned]

Good morning Susan,

The consultation on policy proposals for an Energy Bill was debated by our Rural Enterprise Committee last night and we have grave concerns about the lack of detail in the consultation on the actual workings of the proposed FIT for small scale renewables. I accept that the document does state that technical detail will follow at a later date but it does say that the new FIT would be aligned with GB, and there no further detail than this.

We feel that this is too vague in its current form for us to put our names to. With landowners being the principle stakeholders who will be affected by any new incentive for small scale renewables we would not be easy endorsing any FIT without further clarification.

3

I am conscious that the information seminar will be taking place next Friday but I wanted to raise this in advance and time is running short with the deadline for submission looming and see if there was any chance of a meeting to discuss this further?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Chris Osborne  
UFU Senior Policy Officer

This is an e-mail from Ulster Farmers Union and is intended only for the addressee named above. The contents of this message should not be disclosed to any other person nor copies taken or forwarded without written permission. Any views or opinions presented are solely those of the sender and do not necessarily represent the views of Ulster Farmers Union.

We do not accept any responsibility for the contents of this message and although this message has been scanned for viruses prior to transmission we would recommend that you check before opening any attachments as we cannot accept

4

liability for any damage sustained as a result of any software viruses. Please notify the sender immediately if you have received this e-mail by mistake and delete it from your systems, or report it to our support database at [info@ufuhq.com](mailto:info@ufuhq.com)

For more information about the services we provide please visit our web site at [www.ufuni.org](http://www.ufuni.org)