

**Christopher Osborne**

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**From:** McParland, Angela <Angela.McParland@niassembly.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 06 June 2014 12:14  
**To:** Christopher Osborne  
**Cc:** McManus, Jim; McVeigh, Nathan; Holt, Jacqueline  
**Subject:** RE: ETI Review of Electricity Policy

Chris,

Thank you for your email below. This will be included in papers for consideration by the Committee at its next meeting on 12th June 2014 which is be held at Invest NI.

As regards to the timescale for submitting individual case studies, it would be helpful if the Clerk could have this information no later than Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2014. This will allow for the submissions to go before the Committee at its meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2014. There is no limit to the number of words.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Regards,  
 Angela

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**From:** Christopher Osborne [<mailto:christopher@ufuhq.com>]  
**Sent:** 06 June 2014 08:02  
**To:** McParland, Angela  
**Cc:** McManus, Jim; McVeigh, Nathan; Holt, Jacqueline  
**Subject:** RE: ETI Review of Electricity Policy  
**Importance:** High

Good morning Angela,

Thanks for getting in touch.

We would wish it to be put on record that the UFU are disappointed that we will not be able to present oral evidence to the Committee before the summer recess such is the severity of the problems on the ground in relation to grid connection of small scale renewables. Our Enterprise Committee met on Wednesday and the message was that the situation is worsening on the ground, with (as stated in my written evidence) the number "conditional offers" being issued by NIE increasing, as is the lack of transparency when seeking information as to the cost and likelihood of getting connected to the grid.

My point being after reading the evidence from NIRIG and Action Renewables, I do not believe that either of them mentioned "conditional offers" specifically. NIRIG mentioned the capacity problem, AR touched on cost and time scale,

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however no one mentioned the "conditional offers" being issued by NIE . The very lack of transparency is down to the issuing of these and the uncertainty it creates with a landowner not knowing whether or not they will be connected unless other applicants further up the queue withdraw their offer. The transparency issue is that NIE refuse to tell an applicant how many people are in the queue ahead of them, the level of capacity involved (this would help the decision whether or not to go ahead with the project).

With over 1,000 applications pending from landowners, the vast majority of these are UFU members and we are conscious that there is much money at stake should these projects not materialise and we are now having to look at a possible exit strategy.

In the meantime we welcome the Committee agreement to consider individual case studies of landowners experience with NIE, what is the time scale on this, is there any limit on number of words? I conscious of the fact the summer recess is not far away.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Chris Osborne

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**From:** McParland, Angela [<mailto:Angela.McParland@niassembly.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 05 June 2014 15:57  
**To:** Christopher Osborne  
**Cc:** McManus, Jim; McVeigh, Nathan; Holt, Jacqueline  
**Subject:** RE: ETI Review of Electricity Policy

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Chris,

At its meeting today, the Committee considered your request below to provide oral evidence to the Committee on grid connection.

The Committee agreed to inform you that, although the Committee has a full schedule of evidence sessions between now and summer, members would welcome individual case studies where there have been major problems with regards to grid connection to help inform the Committee's deliberations.

Therefore if you feel that you or any of your members would have such case studies to bring before the Committee please forward the information to the Committee Clerk at [jim.mcmanus@niassembly.gov.uk](mailto:jim.mcmanus@niassembly.gov.uk).

Please note you can access previous evidence taken by the Committee for its Electricity Policy Review Part III Grid Connection at - <http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Assembly-Business/Committees/Enterprise-Trade-and-Investment/Minutes-of-Evidence-Hansard/>.

Regards,  
Angela

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**ANGELA MCPARLAND**  
*Assistant Assembly Clerk*

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Committee for Enterprise Trade and  
Investment

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**From:** Christopher Osborne [<mailto:christopher@ufuhq.com>]  
**Sent:** 30 May 2014 11:27  
**To:** McManus, Jim; McParland, Angela  
**Subject:** RE: ETI Review of Electricity Policy

Good morning Jim and Angela,

I have noticed that oral evidence was given on 1<sup>st</sup> May to the Committee with another date of 12<sup>th</sup> June scheduled.

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The purpose of this email is that I am writing to make sure that you are aware that would like to provide oral evidence to the Committee. Grid Connection is a major problem facing our members and we need to bring the severity of the situation to the attention of the Committee.

It so happens that we are at Stormont on the 12<sup>th</sup> giving evidence to the Environment Committee.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Chris Osborne  
Senior Policy Officer

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**From:** McParland, Angela [<mailto:Angela.McParland@niassembly.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 07 May 2014 09:48  
**To:** Christopher Osborne  
**Subject:** ETI Review of Electricity Policy

Dear Chris,

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I am writing in regards to your written submission of 24<sup>th</sup> April 2014 to the ETI Committee for its Review of Electricity Policy Part III Grid Connections.

Are you content for your submission to be published onto the Assembly website?

Regards,  
Angela



**ANGELA MCPARLAND**  
*Assistant Assembly Clerk*  
Committee for Enterprise Trade and  
Investment

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