

## Christopher Osborne

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**From:** Savage, Patrick (DARD) <Patrick.Savage@dardni.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 13 December 2013 10:29  
**To:** Christopher Osborne; Elliott Bell  
**Subject:** Renewables in the NIRDP

Chris / Elliott

Following the consultation on the NIRDP, we are currently considering the position of renewables within the Rural Development Programme. As I understand it, this cuts across both your responsibilities for Renewable Energy and the Rural Development Programme. You will be aware of the context as regards grid connection while the relationship between capital grant and generation incentives has also come under scrutiny recently.

In the circumstances, we feel it would be useful to arrange a meeting to discuss renewables within the NIRDP and take further views from stakeholders on this issue. Grateful if you could advise whether you agree such a meeting would be useful. You may wish to invite your respective committee chairmen. Ideally we'd like to have the meeting before Christmas to allow decisions to be made early in the New Year. The issue of renewables is to be discussed at EU level next Wednesday so since it may be useful to wait until after that meeting, would either next Thursday afternoon (19<sup>th</sup> December) or Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December suit? I'm not sure when your office closes for the holidays.

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Happy to discuss.

Regards,  
Paddy

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