

**ULSTER FARMERS' UNION NEWS RELEASE****Date: 8 February 2011****Cyclo No: 16/2011****UFU welcomes enhanced support for Anaerobic Digestion**

The UFU has broadly welcomed confirmation that Anaerobic Digestion (AD) projects accredited under NIRO from 1 April 2011, will be able to avail of enhanced NIROC support.

Speaking after the publication of the Department of Enterprise Trade and Investment (DETI) response to the statutory consultation on proposed changes to the Northern Ireland Renewables Obligation (NIRO), UFU Rural Enterprise Chairman David McElrea said; "Previously the support was 2 ROCs/MWh and now it will be increased to 4 ROCs/MWh for capacity up to 500kW.

"This is much welcomed as AD is not only an emerging form of renewable technology, but it is ideally suited to a broad range of farming sectors in NI. Due to the split nature of the AD products, farmers have the potential to be the provider of feed stocks and also utilise of the renewable products created from the AD process, namely Biogas and Digestate."

David added; "Aside from the farming benefits attached, AD is a dispatchable source of energy, which means that it can be turned on and off according to demand, which sets it part when compared to other forms of renewable technology."

Changes to the NIRO will be made by way of an amendment to The Renewables Obligation Order (Northern Ireland) 2009 and are expected to take effect by 1 April 2011.

**ENDS//****Media Contact: Taryn Carlton      028 9037 0222 or**

Personal information redacted by  
the RHI Inquiry