

Subject: RE: Production inconsistency from batch feed boilers CRM:0114444

Dear Dermot

Thank you for your query regarding the non domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI).

As long as the capacity stated in the application is the rated capacity of the boiler fluctuations in the generation of heat won't be an issue.

I hope this has been helpful, however if you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Neil

The best place to find information on the NI RHI scheme is our [website](#).

For a comprehensive breakdown of our eligibility requirements, please consult [Volume One](#) of our Guidance document.

----- Original Message -----

From: dermot@dragonheat.ie

Received: 04/11/2014 23:40

To: RHI Enquiries

Subject: Production inconsistency from batch feed boilers

Hi Rebecca

Thank you so much for sending me the link to the detail surrounding the RHI.

I am having trouble finding info on one particular item for a project which is Northern Ireland based, i would be ever so grateful if you could be so kind as to shed some light and even possibly confirm the following inquiry for me at your nearest possible convenience by return. Please see below.

Boiler Output,

The issue i have is regarding a batch feed biomass boiler, as you are aware these are boiler's which are loaded up in a chamber with a large amount of fuel at once and then burned over a certain period of time/hours. Being that of a natural product/ solid biomass material ie. wood, straw etc. it will have different burn production rates throughout its burn cycle as it is of a natural property, sometimes the material might be quite dry and sometimes not so dry. Well one of the direct issues of this naturally produced products is that although the boiler is rated at let's say 99kw's for the purpose of the inquiry, that during the burn cycle it might produce 200kw's for 2 hours and nothing for 3 hours thus giving us an average of approximately 80kw's per hour for that burn cycle. However with dryer material put in for the next burn cycle it might produce nothing for the first hour or at least very little until the fire is fully established but then produce 150kw's for 4 hours and nothing for the last 2 hours thus giving you an hourly average of approximately 85kw's per hour over that 7 hour burn cycle.

Well the question i have is, is it ok for the batch boiler to over produce on some hours and under produce on some hours during each burn cycle as long as the quarterly allowance of 99kw's per hour for the entire quarter which equates to just over 200,000kw's is not exceeded. Or is it in fact a requirement of Ofgem that the boiler has a consistent production for every hour its working or is an average rate of production per hour acceptable once there is no quarterly allowance exceeded. The reason i ask this is that it is virtually impossible for a batch feed boiler to produce consistent as the nature of a fire is to start low in output and have a premium production in the middle of the established fire and then of course it starts to drop way down in production for the latter part of the fire, hope that makes sense

I do hope you can clarify the above email for me by return, and i hope i have explained it clearly enough for you to understand as its a bit of a mouthful to be honest.

I look forward to hearing from you tomorrow.

Kind Regards

Dermot Murphy

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On Mon 03/11/14 11:41 , RHI Enquiries RHI.Enquiry@Ofgem.gov.uk sent:

> Dear Applicant,
>
> I refer to our earlier telephone conversation and have attached our
> Volume One Guidance document for your viewing.
>
> I hope this is useful. The information on IRMAs starts on page 96.
>
> Kind regards,
> Rebecca
> Non domestic RHI Team
>
> Ofgem E-Serve
>
> www.ofgem.gov.uk/rhi [1]
>
> 0845 200 2122
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