

**From:** Johnston, Chris  
**To:** [Irwin, Tim;](#)  
**Subject:** RE:  
**Date:** 04 November 2013 19:52:00

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Tim,

Did the brief outline below help last week with your meeting with NIEA and DARD. I would hope that NIEA revealed a positive outlook due to the recent work on the use of willows for waste water treatment and their very real interest and willingness to push on with this technology.

Regards  
Chris

Chris Johnston  
Tel:- 02892681540  
email:- [chris.johnston@afbini.gov.uk](mailto:chris.johnston@afbini.gov.uk)

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**From:** Johnston, Chris  
**Sent:** 31 October 2013 10:49  
**To:** Irwin, Tim  
**Cc:** McCracken, Alistair  
**Subject:** RE:

Tim,

Alistair and I need to put together a proper 1 to 2 pager for you and we are just up to our eyes. In the short term, what we are trying to do is expand the stakeholders of the research we are conducting to include yourselves and others as we feel this work answers questions we all have in all the different departments. All our discussions in this regard have been extremely positive (NIW and DRD also) and there does seem to be a strong recognition of this and a strong willingness to work with and support us.

Please see a 2 page outline of what we have been discussing. It is put together in haste and we can certainly work on this.

Thank you again for your positive engagement with this.

Regards  
Chris

Chris Johnston  
Tel:- 02892681540  
email:- [chris.johnston@afbini.gov.uk](mailto:chris.johnston@afbini.gov.uk)

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**From:** Irwin, Tim  
**Sent:** 31 October 2013 10:07  
**To:** Johnston, Chris  
**Subject:** RE:

Chris

Many thanks for this. I will ask Dan Kennedy (from our air quality team) to investigate this further and liaise with the RHI team in GB and with DETI here. I will let you know the outcome of the discussions.

In respect of the overall issue which we discussed (a project around the biomass supply chain) I am attending a meeting with both NIEA and DARD colleagues this morning. I would intend to flag this up and identify a few of the potential opportunities around such a project to get some initial views/discussions going. However it would be helpful to get the 1-2 page project outline we discussed to try to firm up on the nature of what is being suggested.

Regards

Tim

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**From:** Johnston, Chris  
**Sent:** 30 October 2013 19:36  
**To:** Irwin, Tim  
**Subject:** FW:

Dear Tim

Thank you very much for your time last week. It was good to meet you again and have the opportunity to openly discuss with you our work. We appreciate your enthusiasm and understanding of the wider meaning of this work and the potential cross departmental and cross discipline aspects it realises.

I mentioned to you the current issue regarding the RHI in GB I had heard about within the trade sector and you requested I outline this to you in more detail. Essentially it is with regards to the test certificate the 'boiler testing houses' must produce in GB in order that ofgem can accept the specific biomass heat system into the RHI payments scheme. My understanding is that it is a policy document error and misdrafting which by default, requires boilers <500kW to comply with certain test standards

namely ....

- EN 14792:2005 in respect of NO<sub>x</sub>, and;
- EN 13284-1:2002 or ISO 9096:2003 in respect of PM

These tests are even more stringent for boilers >500kW. Although boilers <500kW may comply, the test houses cannot apply these standards so part 4 (d) of the test of the emissions certificate is unanswerable. If this is answered 'no' then ofgem will refuse RHI accreditation. If this is answered 'yes' then ofgem will require the proof which cannot be provided!!! This 4 (d) should be sitting with part 4 (c) and not out on its own.

*My understanding from the industry is that boilers under 500kW are not required to be tested in the same manner. Indeed there is no similar standard for testing boilers under 500kW. However the testing labs know no other way so in theory these boilers are tested in line with the standard EN 14792:2005 and EN 13284-1:2002 but this cannot be declared.*

I have attached the test certificate provided indicating the issue.

Ultimately this means practically all biomass installations <500kW are excluded from RHI payments until the certificate is rewritten.

Regards

Chris

**Chris Johnston** | Environment and Renewable Energy Centre | AFBI | Tel: +44 (0) 28 92681540 | [chris.johnston@afbini.gov.uk](mailto:chris.johnston@afbini.gov.uk)

Sustainable Agri-Food Sciences Division

Agriculture Branch

Large Park

Hillsborough

BT26 6DR