

From: [Johnston, Chris](#)
To: [Patterson, Margaret](#); [McAdam, Jim](#)
Cc: [Jackson, Mary](#)
Subject: RE: Query - Renewable energy and biomass research
Date: 09 December 2016 13:19:43
Attachments: [AFBI 2020 PROPOSALS-RENEWABLES PROGRAMME AND EREC Ministerial Resoponse Document 131215.docx](#)

Thanks Margaret,

Those are the two statements I was referring to wrt to rationale for the biomass boiler. Attached is the original document Jim and I prepared – is this what you were looking for? A lot of this has realised and we now have significant funding and I understand the E&I 0741 is also approved within DAERA (recent communication with my DAERA Policy Lead) however we have received nothing in writing at this point.

With view to the email chain below, I don't believe the RHI and fall out should have anything to do with DAERA and AFBI. The work we are doing and continuing to access funding for are for sustainable biomass production with combined environmental protection and agriwaste management. Joining the circle at farm level – and ref “The Sustainable Agri-Land Use Strategy” !! This is the complete antithesis of what the RHI fall out is all about in my opinion. Our work and demonstration is on energy cropping and more latterly underused biomass streams (not small RHI boilers burning imported pellets) If there is an opportunity to explain any of this to anyone, I am willing and keen.

Regards
Chris

Chris Johnston
Tel:- 02892681540
email:- chris.johnston@afbini.gov.uk

From: Patterson, Margaret
Sent: 09 December 2016 11:47
To: McAdam, Jim; Johnston, Chris
Subject: RE: Query - Renewable energy and biomass research

Jim/Chris,
I found this as part of a response (from Jim) in a reply to the DARD proposals on potential reductions in some areas. It was dated August 2015. Is this of any relevance?
Margaret

“Note: DARD supports the need to retain EREC at Hillsborough as a functional unit capable of delivering KTT and renewable energy for the station. This will require a staff input and security of funding. Most staff are able to be reallocated/redeployed to Crossnacreevy in the medium term to meet Agency staff demands and potential VE cover.

Note: DARD supports AFBI seeking external funding in this area. This is being very actively pursued with several promising leads. There is a need to maintain

the research platform (ie expertise, skills and biomass plots) to take advantage of these externally funded R&D options. With potential VE and recent retirements in other key work areas etc at Loughgall, staff can be partially absorbed into other sections yet be available for new work”

From: McAdam, Jim
Sent: 09 December 2016 11:34
To: Johnston, Chris
Cc: Patterson, Margaret
Subject: Fw: Query - Renewable energy and biomass research

Chris

Have you this document we prepared to hand? Can you forward to Margaret please. I have no access to my files for the rest of the day

Thanks

Jim

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Patterson, Margaret <Margaret.Patterson2@afbini.gov.uk>
Sent: Friday, 9 December 2016 11:29
To: McAdam, Jim
Subject: FW: Query - Renewable energy and biomass research

Jim,

Sinclair asked that we send the info that you prepared previously in response to the proposal to potentially stop AFBI work in this area. Do you have anything easily to hand?

Margaret

From: Jackson, Mary
Sent: 08 December 2016 15:31
To: McDowell, Stanley; Mayne, Sinclair; Patterson, Margaret
Subject: FW: Query - Renewable energy and biomass research

FYI – response to my last query on this issue. Will update you by correspondence following on from call with Alistair next week. In the meanwhile, if there is any paperwork on the issue that could be forwarded to me please?

M

From: Carson, Alistair (DAERA)
Sent: 08 December 2016 13:51
To: Jackson, Mary
Cc: Mcilveen, Lisa-Jane
Subject: Re: Query - Renewable energy and biomass research

Mary,

Yes, this is on my to-do list and will look to respond asap. Currently trying to align what's in the SCM report in terms of activities and costs and the proposal within the afbi

correspondence earlier in the year.
I will give you a further update early next week.
Alistair

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Jackson, Mary
Sent: Thursday, 8 December 2016 09:50
To: Carson, Alistair (DAERA)
Cc: Mcilveen, Lisa-Jane
Subject: Query - Renewable energy and biomass research

Alistair,

When you get a chance, can we follow up on some possible outstanding responses re: DAERA funding for renewable energy and biomass research. Probably pertinent in the light of the recent Nolan show among other things!

M

Mary Jackson
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