

**From:** [Hughes, Seamus](#)  
**To:** ["Gareth Moles"](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed changes to RHI - Drumcree Parish Church  
**Date:** 18 September 2015 11:32:20

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Good morning Gareth

Sorry I missed your call yesterday, I was in a meeting for most of the afternoon.

The 1314 hours is as you have calculated based on the standard tariff 6.4 pence by the output of the boiler and this is an annual allowance. Any additional hours in the year would be paid at the lower 1.5 pence per kWh rate. The only other thing I would highlight, (and it probably not going to be an issue for you), is that there is an annual cap of 400,000kWh for heat payments.

I hope this clarifies matters for you.

Regards

Seamus

Seamus Hughes  
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-----Original Message-----

From: Gareth Moles <mailto:> Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry  
Sent: 18 September 2015 11:21  
To: Hughes, Seamus  
Subject: RE: Proposed changes to RHI - Drumcree Parish Church

Good Morning Seamus,

I tried to call you yesterday but unfortunately you were unavailable. Could you please answer a query for me as I have received conflicting information from two separate installers regarding the new RHI tariffs which take effect in November.

The RHI final policy paper states "from 4 November 2015 where the first 1314 peak hours be paid at the standard tariff and hours thereafter reducing to 1.5 pence per kWh." I understand that this is 1314 hours x the kW output of the boiler up to 199kW to be paid at the peak rate of 6.4p. My query is, does that mean an annual allowance of 1314 hours will be paid at the peak rate or is it just the first 1314 hours of the installation and the rate drops off thereafter for the remainder of the 20years?

In other words if we as a church go down the route of installing a 198kW system would we be eligible to receive peak rate payments of 6.4p for up to 260172kWh each year for the 20 year duration of the incentive?

This is obviously significantly different if the incentive only allows peak rate for the first 1314 hours of the installation and the rate drops off thereafter for the remainder of the 20years and would have a big impact on our project.

I would be grateful if you could clarify this for me.

Thanks and Regards  
Gareth Moles

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On Wed, 26/8/15, Hughes, Seamus <Seamus.Hughes@detini.gov.uk> wrote:

Subject: RE: Proposed changes to RHI - Drumcree Parish Church  
To: "Gareth Moles" [Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry]  
Date: Wednesday, 26 August, 2015, 10:57

Hello Gareth

Just confirming that I have received your email.

It was good to chat yesterday and we now have your information on record. I was also speaking to Paul Lyttle this morning so he knows we had a chat.

I will keep you posted in relation to any developments on possible grace periods etc.

Regards

Seamus

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

From: Gareth Moles [mailto: [Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry]]

Sent: 25 August 2015 23:13  
To: Hughes, Seamus  
Subject:  
Proposed changes to RHI - Drumcree Parish Church

Hello Seamus,

Thank you for taking my call earlier today and for the information you provided regarding the forthcoming proposed changes to RHI in non-domestic installations.

As we discussed I currently am a member of the select vestry at Drumcree Parish Church in Portadown and for just over 14 months now we have been planning to change the heating system within the church and parochial hall to a renewable energy source, namely a biomass boiler. This decision was taken by the select vestry and I am sure you will appreciate was influenced by the RHI payments which would follow the installation of such a

system. Moving the process forward has been a protracted one simply because of the nature of the building involved, we have a considerable amount of protocols which must be followed in order to have full approval for the project, diocesan approvals, building control, planning permission, etc. We will also have to have an archeologist's present when ground is broken for the boiler house because there has been a place of worship on our site since the 1500's. All this has placed us at a distinct disadvantage with our time-frame compared to a commercial install for example. We have also already committed a financial outlay during the planning of this project, including architect's fees and the purchase of land adjacent to our church where the new boiler house will be situated. It is with all this in mind that we are concerned how any proposed changes to the RHI will affect our project, and with how quickly said changes are likely to be implemented considering no announcement has yet been published on the exact nature of the changes being introduced. We are currently at a stage with our project where we are only awaiting final planning permission to be granted in order to begin, plans were submitted just over 2 months ago so hopefully this approval is not too far ahead.

Can I ask that consideration be given to projects such as ours when alterations to RHI rates are being published and that the possibility of a grace period also be considered for projects already well underway.

Best regards  
Gareth  
Moles