

**Seamus Hughes**

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**From:** Katy Read [<mailto:Katy.Read@ofgem.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 13 July 2015 18:14  
**To:** Hughes, Seamus  
**Cc:** Wightman, Stuart; Edmund Ward; Sarah Driver  
**Subject:** RE: NI RO

Hi Seamus,

Thank you for sending these through. We are in the process of reviewing, but one key question to flag is:

The drafting is such that the current tariff table is entirely replaced by the new one. This means that existing installations (already accredited) would be affected by the banding and tiering changes. I thought it was only due to apply to accreditations from 5 October onwards. **Can you confirm what the intent is please?**

In the GB regs, when tariffs have been changed, the new tariff table has been *in addition* to existing ones in the legislation, and the provision added to say to whom the new tariffs apply. I.e. in May 2014 the tariff was changed for solar, GSHP and large biomass. Schedule 3A was the new tariff table:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2014/1413/regulation/29/made>

(9) The initial tariff for an accredited RHI installation which has a tariff start date on or after 1st April 2014 but earlier than 1st October 2014 and which uses a solar collector, is a ground source heat pump or is a large biomass plant is—

(a) for any part of the initial period which is earlier than the third relevant date, the tariff calculated in accordance with regulations 37A to 37D; and

(b) for the period commencing with the third relevant date and ending with 31st March 2015, the tariff set out in Schedule 3A in relation to its source of energy or technology.

Thanks,

Katy

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**From:** Hughes, Seamus [<mailto:Seamus.Hughes@detini.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 10 July 2015 11:34

**To:** Katy Read  
**Cc:** Wightman, Stuart; Edmund Ward; Sarah Driver  
**Subject:** RE: NI RO

Katy

Your email below and our subsequent discussion refers.

I can confirm that the banding and tiering of biomass will be proceeding and ready for implementation by October,( banding level still to be determined). The final policy is currently with the Minister for clearance and once this is obtained we will share it with Ofgem. I am at this stage attaching a copy of our draft amendment regulations which was sent to our solicitors yesterday. As discussed this morning we are taking the opportunity to include some of the other minor “**other issues**” amendments within this legislation bringing us into line with GB and you have confirmed that this should not pose any difficulties for you.

These changes are:-

- **Calculation method for annual inflationary adjustment**
- **Rules around processing within a building**
- **Allowing for the relocation of renewable heat plants**
- **Provide for the use of ground and surface water for heat pumps**

At this point we don't see that an implementation date of 5 October would not cause us a difficulty but if that changes we will let you know.

Regards

Seamus

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### **Please consider the environment - do you really need to print this e-mail?**

**From:** Katy Read [<mailto:Katy.Read@ofgem.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 08 July 2015 17:25  
**To:** Hughes, Seamus  
**Cc:** Wightman, Stuart; Edmund Ward; Sarah Driver  
**Subject:** RE: NI RO

Hi Seamus,

That's great thank you. We'll tweak the feasibility study in line with this.

On a slightly different note, I understand the policy was due to be finalised and draft regulations available a couple of days ago. Are these available?

Also, we need to start planning for any potential IT changes. We think that the biomass banding and tiering would really need to be an automated option due to the very high costs and risks of the manual option. Apologies that this is coming ahead of the feasibility study delivery – it's just that this is quite a short timescale relative to the usual IT development process. **So could you please give a formal confirmation regarding the level of certainty that the banding and tiering changes will be ready for implementation in October?**

We need this to start integrating the changes into our IT planning and allocating resource etc.

Also, our IT release in October is due on 5<sup>th</sup> October. Would it be possible for the banding and tiering places to be implemented on this date or would this be a problem? If so we can come up with a workaround.

Many thanks

Katy

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**From:** Hughes, Seamus [<mailto:Seamus.Hughes@detini.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 07 July 2015 13:51  
**To:** Katy Read  
**Cc:** Wightman, Stuart; Edmund Ward  
**Subject:** FW: NI RO

Katy

Please find attached updated cost control policy template as promised.

Regards

Seamus

## **Seamus Hughes**

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**From:** Hughes, Seamus  
**Sent:** 07 July 2015 10:56  
**To:** 'Katy Read'  
**Cc:** Wightman, Stuart; Edmund Ward; 'Sarah Driver'  
**Subject:** FW: NI RO