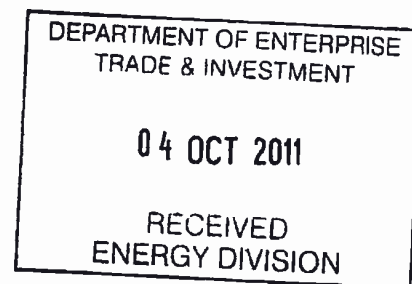


DFE-17174

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Our Ref: SOL 29872/2011/DARD

Mr Peter Hutchinson
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment
Netherleigh
Massey Avenue
Belfast
BT4 2JP

Dear Peter

RE: DRAFT RENEWABLE HEAT INCENTIVE REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2011

I refer to the above and to previous correspondence.

I have now had the opportunity to go through the above mentioned draft Regulations and enclose a draft with handwritten amendments marked upon it.

Many of the amendments are self-explanatory so I do not propose to comment on all of them. However I would like to comment on the amendments as set out below-

General

I have removed some of the references to the words 'and' and 'or' throughout the Regulations where they have been inserted between sub-paragraphs. Depending on the wording at the start of each provision, the intended meaning of the provision and the context, it is not always necessary to use the word 'and' or 'or' and indeed, the meaning of the provision itself could be altered incorrectly by the inclusion of these words where they are unnecessary. If in doubt, it is better to follow GB as their draftsmen will probably have considered the use of these words in some detail.

Layout

I advise that you have a Table of Contents to help the reader. I assume this is probably going to be included at a later stage.

You should use Chapter breaks in Parts 2 and 4 as has been done in GB. Northern Ireland Regulations may also use Chapter breaks. It would be much better to use Chapters than to have extra headings placed between various Regulations, for instance, as has been done between regulations 3 and 4, and 4 and 5, and 15 and 16. The current format is unusual. In light of this, those instances throughout the draft where regulation groups instead of Chapters are referred to will need to be amended. I have had a look over the draft and have attempted to amend such references but may have missed some. Please check this.

First Page – You have indicated in your letter dated 15th August 2011 that it is expected that the Regulations will be subject to the draft affirmative resolution procedure before the Assembly. If this is the case the words

“Draft Regulations laid before the Assembly under [insert statutory provision] for approval by resolution of the Assembly” should be inserted at the very top of the first page in italics. When Assembly approval has been given the italicized heading should be deleted from the copy being sent for final print and there should be added to the first page of that copy below the operative date – *“Affirmed by resolution of the Assembly on...”*

Footnotes – the normal drafting practice in NI is to letter footnotes (a), (b) (c) and so on and to start the lettering at (a) again at each new page.

Regulation 2 - Interpretation

Once the provisions of the Bill are finalised it will be necessary to check the definitions to ensure that none of the definitions in the parent Act are unnecessarily duplicated here. Given the provisions of our NI Interpretation Act (which I have attracted by inserting a sub-paragraph(2)), it is unnecessary to define terms which are already defined in the parent Act and which are intended to have the same meaning.

I have removed the definition of ‘the Gas Order’. This term is only used once, namely in the definition of ‘gas conveyor.’ It is therefore more appropriate to give the Order its full title in that latter mentioned definition than setting out a whole new definition for that purpose.

I have amended the definition of ‘pipe-line system’ to follow that used in the gas Order. I presume that these Regulations are meant to catch pipe-line systems in terms of what they are understood to mean in the Gas Order? If that is the case the exact wording should be followed otherwise you run the risk of people with pipe-line systems which consist of only one pipe attempting to wriggle out of the definition for the purposes of your Regulations despite being caught by the Gas Order.

As mentioned above, I have attracted the Interpretation Act (NI) 1954 to these Regulations by inserting reference to it in new sub-paragraph (2). This is the normal practice for most NI Regulations.

Part 4

Regulation 27 – Interpretation

I have removed the definitions of ‘allocating authority’, ‘waste collection authority’ and ‘waste disposal authority’ as I don’t believe they are relevant in the NI context. You will see that in the Renewables Obligation Order (NI) 2009 (“the 2009 Order”) district councils are merely referred to. The term ‘district council’ is recognized and does not need to be defined. You are not assigning duties to particular district councils within their own areas so don’t even have to specify this. Furthermore, the terms allocating authority and so on are not used anywhere else in the Regulations apart from in Regulation 28(7) which should also be amended anyway. Please also see my comments below with regards to Regulation 28(7).

Regulation 28(7)

You will note that in Article 3(5) of the 2009 Order it is provided –

“But where the operator of a generating station in which waste is used satisfies the Authority –

(a) by reference to data published by the Department of Environment or a district council, that the proportion of the municipal waste so used, which is, or is derived from fossil fuel, is unlikely to exceed 50 per cent, and

(b) that the municipal waste so used has not been subject to any process before being so used that is likely to have had materially increased that proportion,

that constitutes evidence of the fact that the proportion of the municipal waste so used which is, or is derived from, fossil fuel is 50 per cent.”

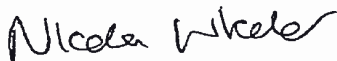
Given that DETI seems to be trying to make the same provision as this, should DETI also be referring to the Department of Environment as publishing the data along with district councils? Who does actually publish the data? Please check this and confirm.

I note that NI follows GB in relation to the technical nature of the subject matter. I cannot comment on the technical nature given that I have no expertise in this regard. I have merely checked the drafting to ensure that the drafting conventions commonly used within NI are applied, and that NI legislative references are correct. Once the Bill has been given Royal Assent it will of course be necessary to check the parent powers to ensure that DETI is acting ultra vires. I understand that GB are still working on their draft and that further amendments will more than likely become necessary as that GB draft takes its final shape. I therefore look forward to receiving a revised NI draft once it becomes available. I ask that any future revised drafts indicate what amendments have been made so that I do not have to unnecessarily check the whole draft again.

I should also add that it would be helpful if the Department could find out whether the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments raise any issues with the GB Regulations. Our Examiner will receive copies of their comments and will comment on the same issues so it would be useful to avoid them altogether.

If you wish to discuss any of my suggested amendments in further detail, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Wheeler
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In Italics

- Table of Contents written on 11/11/11
- should have chapter divisions as in 68.

AC DRAFT 30.08.11 - RESTRICTED LEGAL ADVICE SUBJECT TO FURTHER REVIEW AND COMMENT

Draft Regulations laid before the Assembly under ^(stat provision) for approval by resolution of the Assembly.

STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2011 No. ***

ENERGY

The Renewable Heat Incentive Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011

check powers once confirmed.

Made	-	-	-	-	[•] 2011
Coming into operation	-	-	-	-	[•] 2011

(Fechmode) (a)

[The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section [•] of the Energy Act 2011 ~~for the purposes of establishing in Northern Ireland an incentive scheme to facilitate and encourage the renewable generation of heat and the production and injection of biomethane and making provision regarding its administration.~~]¹

PART 1

INTRODUCTORY

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Renewable Heat Incentive Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011 and shall come into operation on [•] 2011.

Interpretation

⁽¹⁾
2. In these Regulations—

¹ NOTE TO DETI - Wording to be confirmed.

(a) 2011 c [???

Will need to check definitions once Bill receives Royal Assent to ensure that definitions set out in the Bill are not unnecessarily duplicated here.

“the Department” means the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment;

“eligibility criteria” has the meaning given by regulation 4;

“eligible installation” means a plant which meets the eligibility criteria;

“eligible purpose” means a purpose specified in regulation 3(2);

“EN 45011” means British Standard EN 45011 which prescribes certain requirements for bodies operating product certification systems; (a)

“gasification” means the substoichiometric oxidation or steam reformation of a substance to produce a gaseous mixture containing two or all of the following: oxides of carbon, methane and hydrogen;

the term the gas order appears to only be used in the definition above so necessary to define.

“gas conveyor”⁴ means the holder of a licence to convey gas from one place to another in an area authorised by a licence granted under Article 8(1)(a) of the Gas Order (Northern Ireland) 1996 (b)

~~“the Gas Order” means the Gas (Northern Ireland) Order 1996;~~

“heat meter” has the same meaning as that given in Annex MI-004 of the Measuring Instruments Directive;

“ineligible purpose” means a purpose which is not an eligible purpose;

“injection” means the introduction of gas into a pipe-line system operated by a gas conveyor;

“installation capacity”, in relation to a plant, means the total installed peak heat output capacity of the plant;

“kWh” means kilowatt hours;

“kWhth” means kilowatt hours thermal;

“kW(th)” means kilowatt thermal;

“MCS” means the Microgeneration Certification Scheme^(c) or an equivalent scheme accredited under EN 45011 which certifies microgeneration products and installers in accordance with consistent standards;

“Measuring Instruments Directive” means Directive 2004/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 on measuring instruments^(d);

“municipal waste” has the same meaning as in section 21 of the Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003^(e);

(a) ISBN 0580294153. Copies can be obtained from the British Standards Institution at www.bsigroup.com.

4 Replaces “Gas Transporter” to accord with the terminology used in the Gas (Northern Ireland) 1996 (1996 No 275) (NOTE TO DETI this provisions of the equivalent section 7 of the Gas Act 1996 (as amended), are more prescriptive than the Gas(Northern Ireland) Order 1996, however, the effect on the definition is much the same).

(c) Details of which are available at www.microgenerationcertification.org

(d) NOTE TO DETI CONFIRMED applicable in NI The Renewable Obligations (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2011 - OJ L 135, 30.4.2004, p. 1, amended by Commission Directive 2009/137/EC (OJ L 294, 11.11.2009, p. 7

(e) 2003 c.33 (NOTE TO DETI CONFIRMED term applicable in NI)

(b) S.I. 1996/275 (N.I.2)

“MWhth” means megawatt hours thermal;

“MWth” means megawatt thermal;

“ongoing obligations” means the obligations specified in Part 4;

“participant” means—

- (a) the owner of an accredited RHI installation or, where there is more than one such owner, the owner with authority to act on behalf of all owners in accordance with regulation 22(3); or
- (b) a producer of biomethane who has been registered under regulation 25;

“periodic support payments” have the meaning given in regulation 3;

“pipe-line system”⁸ means *a pipe (together with any apparatus and works associated therewith), or* a system of pipes (together with any apparatus and works associated therewith) for the conveyance of gas, not being—

- (a) *a pipe or* a system of pipes constituting or comprised in apparatus for heating or cooling or for domestic purposes;
- (b) *a pipe or* a system of pipes wholly situated—
 - (i) within the site of any apparatus or works to which certain provisions of the Factories Act (Northern Ireland) 1965⁹ apply by virtue of section 125(1) of that Act (building operations and works of engineering construction);
 - (ii) within the boundaries of any land occupied as a unit for purposes of agriculture (within the meaning of the Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland) 1949,¹⁰ where the system of pipes is designed for use for purposes of agriculture; or
 - (iii) in premises used for the purposes of education or research;¹¹

“process” means any process other than the generation of electricity;

“pyrolysis” means the thermal degradation of a substance in the absence of an oxidising agent (other than that which forms part of the substance itself) to produce char and one or both of gas and liquid;

“quarterly period” means, except where otherwise specified, the first, second, third or fourth quarter of any year commencing with, or with the anniversary of, a participant’s tariff start date;

“retail prices index” means—

- (a) the general index of retail prices (for all items) published by the Office of [National Statistics]¹²; or

⁸ NOTE TO DET1 - This definition has been taken from the Gas Order

⁹ 1965 Chapter 20

¹⁰ 1949 Chapter 2

¹¹ As extracted from the Gas (Northern Ireland) Order 1996

- (b) where the index is not published for a year, any substituted index or figures published by that Office;

“scheme” (except in this regulation) means the incentive scheme established by these Regulations;

“solar collector” means a liquid filled flat plate or evacuated tube solar collector;

“statement of eligibility” has the meaning given by regulation 22(6)(f);

“steam measuring equipment” means all the equipment needed to measure to the Authority’s satisfaction the mass flow rate and energy of steam, including at least the following components —

- (a) a flow meter;
- (b) a pressure sensor;
- (c) a temperature sensor; and
- (d) a digital integrator or calculator able to determine the cumulative energy in MWhh which has passed a specific point;

“tariff” means the payment rate per kWh in respect of an accredited RHI installation and per kWh in respect of biomethane injection;

“tariff end date” means the last day of the tariff lifetime;

“tariff lifetime” means—

- (a) in relation to an accredited RHI installation, the period for which periodic support payments are payable for that installation; or
- (b) in relation to a participant who is a producer of biomethane, the period for which that person is eligible to receive periodic support payments; and

“tariff start date” means the date of accreditation of an eligible installation or, in relation to a producer of biomethane, the date of registration.

(52) *The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(a) shall apply to these Regulations as it applies to an Act of the Northern Ireland Assembly.*
Renewable heat incentive scheme

3.—(1) These Regulations establish an incentive scheme to facilitate and encourage the renewable generation of heat and make provision regarding its administration.

(2) Subject to Part 7 and regulation 24, the Authority must pay participants who are owners of accredited RHI installations payments, referred to in these Regulations as “periodic support payments”, for generating heat that is used in a building for any of the following purposes—

- (a) heating a space;
- (b) heating water; ~~✗~~

12 NOTE TO DEFI To be confirmed whether this will be undertaken by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

(a) 1954 c.33 (N.I.)

(c) for carrying out a process.

(3) Subject to Part 7, the Authority must pay participants who are producers of biomethane for injection periodic support payments.

PART 2

ELIGIBILITY AND MATTERS RELATING TO ELIGIBILITY

**Chapter 1
Eligible installations**

X

Eligible installations

4.—(1) A plant meets the criteria for being an eligible installation (“the eligibility criteria”) if—

- (a) regulation 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 or 11 applies;
- (b) the plant satisfies the requirements set out in regulation 12(1);
- (c) regulation 15 does not apply; and
- (d) the plant satisfies the requirements set out in ~~regulations 16 to 21.~~

Chapter 3

X

(2) But this regulation is subject to regulation 14.

**Chapter 2
Eligibility criteria for technologies**

X

Eligible installations generating heat from solid biomass

5. — This regulation applies if the plant complies with all of the following requirements—

- (a) it generates heat from solid biomass;
- (b) the heat from the solid biomass is generated using equipment specifically designed and installed to use solid biomass as its only primary fuel source;
- (c) in the case of a plant with an installation capacity of [45k Wth or less]¹³, regulation 13 applies.

X

Eligible installations generating heat from solid biomass contained in municipal waste

6. — This regulation applies if the plant generates heat from solid biomass contained in municipal waste.

¹³ Valuc relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

Eligible installations generating heat using solar collectors

7. — This regulation applies if the plant complies with all of the following requirements—

- (a) it generates heat using a solar collector;
- (b) it has an installation capacity of [less than 200k Wth]¹⁴; ~~and~~ X
- (c) in the case of a plant with an installation capacity of [45k Wth or less]¹⁵, regulation 13 applies.

Eligible installations generating heat using heat pumps

8. — This regulation applies if the plant is a heat pump and complies with all of the following requirements—

- (a) it generates heat using naturally occurring energy stored in the form of heat from one of the following sources of energy—
 - (i) the ground other than naturally occurring energy located and extracted from [at least 500 metres]¹⁶ below the surface of solid earth; or
 - (ii) surface water;
- (b) in the case of a heat pump with an installation capacity of [45k Wth or less]¹⁷, regulation 13 applies; ~~and~~ X
- (c) it has a coefficient of performance of [at least 2.9]¹⁸.

Eligible installations which are CHP systems

9.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), this regulation applies if the plant is a CHP system which complies with one of the following requirements—

- (a) it generates heat and electricity from solid biomass and either regulation 6 applies or the plant complies with the requirement in regulation 5(b);
- (b) it generates heat and electricity from biogas and complies with regulation 11(b) and (c); ~~and~~ X
- (c) it generates heat and electricity utilising naturally occurring energy located and extracted from [at least 500 metres]¹⁹ beneath the surface of solid earth.

(2) This regulation does not apply if the plant—

¹⁴ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI
¹⁵ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI
¹⁶ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI
¹⁷ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI
¹⁸ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI
¹⁹ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

- (a) uses solid biomass to generate heat and electricity;
- (b) is accredited under the Renewables Obligation Order (Northern Ireland) 2009²⁰; or
(a)
- (c) is, or at any time since it was accredited in accordance with sub-paragraph (b), has been a qualifying CHP generating station within the meaning of Article 2 of that Order.

Eligible installations generating heat using geothermal sources

10.— This regulation applies if the plant generates heat using naturally occurring energy located and extracted from [at least 500 metres]²¹ beneath the surface of solid earth.

Eligible installations generating heat using biogas

11.— This regulation applies if the plant complies with all of the following requirements—

- (a) it generates heat from biogas;
- (b) it has an installation capacity of [less than 200k Wth]²²; ~~and~~ X
- (c) it does not generate heat from solid biomass.

Other eligibility requirements for technologies

12.—(1) The requirements referred to in regulation 4(b) are—

- (a) installation of the plant was completed and the plant was first commissioned on or after [15th July 2009]²³;
- (b) the plant was new at the time of installation;
- (c) the plant uses liquid or steam as a medium for delivering heat to the space, water or process; ~~and~~ X
- (d) heat generated by the plant is used for an eligible purpose.

(2) The requirements of paragraph (1)(a) and (b) are deemed to be satisfied where the plant was previously generating electricity only, using solid biomass or biogas, and was first commissioned as a CHP system on or after [15th July 2009]²⁴.

(3) But the requirements of paragraph (1)(a) and (b) are not satisfied where the plant was previously generating heat only and was first commissioned as a CHP system on or after [15th July 2009]²⁵.

(a)

S.R. 2010 No. 134 and S.R. 2011 No. 169
~~20 S.R. 2009 No.154 as amended by the Renewables Obligation (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2010~~

21 Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations - position to be confirmed for NI

22 Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations - position to be confirmed for NI

23 Incentive retrospective start date from draft GB Regulations - position to be confirmed for NI

24 Incentive retrospective start date from draft GB Regulations - position to be confirmed for NI

MCS certification for microgeneration heating equipment

13.—This regulation applies where the plant for which accreditation is being sought is certified under the MCS and its installer was certified under the MCS at the time of installation.²⁶

Plants comprised of more than one plant

14.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), and without prejudice to regulation 43(5)(b), the eligibility criteria are not met if the plant is comprised of more than one plant.

(2) Where two or more plants—

- (a) use the same source of energy and technology;
- (b) form part of the same heating system; and
- (c) are not accredited RHI installations;

those plants (the “component plants”) are to be regarded as a single plant for the purposes of paragraph (1) provided that paragraph (3) applies.

(3) This paragraph applies where each component plant meets the eligibility criteria; and for that purpose a component plant can be taken to meet the eligibility criteria notwithstanding that regulation 13 does not apply.

Excluded plants

15.—(1) This regulation applies where the plant—

- (a) is generating heat solely for the use of one domestic premises;
- (b) is, in the Authority’s opinion, generating heat solely for an ineligible purpose;
or
- (c) is a plant which—
 - (i) is additional RHI capacity within the meaning of regulation 43(2) and was first commissioned [more than 12 months]²⁷ after the original installation was first commissioned;
 - (ii) generates heat from biogas or using a solar collector; and
 - (iii) has an installation capacity which, together with the installation capacities of all related plants, is [200k Wth or above]²⁸.

(2) For the purposes of this regulation—

²⁵ Incentive retrospective start date from draft GB Regulations - position to be confirmed for NI

²⁶ NOTE TO DET1 – Confirmed applicable in NI

²⁷ Time period from draft GB Regulations - position to be confirmed for NI

²⁸ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations - position to be confirmed for NI

“domestic premises” means single, self contained premises used wholly or mainly as a private residential dwelling where the fabric of the building has not been significantly adapted for non-residential use;

“related plant” means any plant for which an application for accreditation has been made (whether or not it has been accredited) which uses the same source of energy and technology and forms part of the same heating system as the plant referred to in paragraph (1)(c).

Chapter 3

Eligibility criteria in relation to metering and steam measuring

Metering of plants in simple systems

16.—(1) This regulation applies where—

- (a) the plant is generating and supplying heat solely for one or more eligible purposes within one building;
- (b) no heat generated by the plant is delivered by steam; and
- (c) the plant is not a CHP system.

(2) Where this regulation applies, a class 2 heat meter must be installed to measure the heat in kWhth generated by the plant.

Metering of plants in complex systems

17.—(1) This regulation applies where regulation 16(1) does not apply.

(2) Subject to regulation 19—

- (a) where heat generated by the plant is delivered by liquid, class 2 heat meters must be installed to measure both the kWhth of heat generated by that plant and the kWhth of heat used for eligible purposes by the heating system of which that plant forms part; and
- (b) where heat generated by the plant is delivered by steam, the following must be installed—
 - (i) steam measuring equipment to measure both the heat generated in the form of steam by the plant and the heat in the form of steam used for eligible purposes; and
 - (ii) a class 2 heat meter or steam measuring equipment to measure any condensate or steam which returns to the plant.

(3) Where this regulation applies, and more than one plant is supplying heat to the heating system supplied by the plant, steam measuring equipment or class 2 heat meters must be installed, as appropriate, to measure the heat generated in kWhth by all plants supplying heat to that heating system.

Shared meters

18.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the heat generated by the plant must be individually metered.

(2) Subject to regulation 43(8), the heat generated by two or more plants may be metered using one meter provided that—

- (a) the plants use the same source of energy and technology;
- (b) the plants will, once given accreditation, be eligible to receive the same tariff;
- (c) the plants will then share the same tariff start date and tariff end date; and
- (d) it is the Authority's opinion that a single meter is capable of metering the heat generated by all of those plants.

Metering of CHP systems generating electricity only before [15th July 2009]²⁹

19.—(1) This regulation applies where the plant is a CHP system and the requirements of regulation 12(1)(a) and (b) are deemed to be satisfied in accordance with regulation 12(2).

(2) Where this regulation applies, any existing heat meter or steam measuring equipment installed before the date of commencement of these Regulations may continue to be used by a participant to measure the heat generated by the CHP system and used for eligible purposes, provided that the CHP system was registered under the CHPQA before that date.

(3) For the purpose of this regulation, "the CHPQA" means the Combined Heat and Power Quality Assurance Standard, Issue 3, January 2009, as prepared by the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and published by the Department of Energy and Climate Change³⁰ (ca)

Matters relating to all heat meters and steam measuring equipment

20.—(1) All heat meters installed or used in accordance with these Regulations must, where applicable—

- (a) be calibrated prior to use;
- (b) be calibrated correctly for any water/ethylene glycol mixture; and
- (c) be (or have been) properly installed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

(2) All steam measuring equipment installed or used in accordance with these Regulations must be—

- (a) calibrated prior to use;
- (b) capable of displaying measured steam pressure and temperature;

²⁹ Incentive retrospective start date from draft GB Regulations - position to be confirmed for NI

³⁰ NOTE TO DET1 - CONFIRMED - applicable in NI.

(ca) A copy is available on

- (c) capable of displaying the current steam mass flow rate and the cumulative mass of steam which has passed through it since it was installed; and
- (d) properly installed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

Additional metering requirements for plants generating heat from biogas

21.—(1) This regulation sets out additional requirements in relation to metering where a plant is generating heat from biogas.

(2) In that case—

- (a) a class 2 heat meter must be installed to meter any heat directed from the plant combusting the biogas to the biogas production plant; and
- (b) a class 2 heat meter must be installed to meter any heat supplied to the biogas production plant from any source other than—
 - (i) the plant combusting the biogas; and
 - (ii) where the biogas has been produced by anaerobic digestion, the feedstock from which it was produced.

PART 3

ACCREDITATION AND REGISTRATION

Applications for accreditation

22.—(1) An owner of an eligible installation may apply for that installation to be accredited.

(2) All applications for accreditation must be made in writing to the Authority and must be supported by—

- (a) such of the information specified in Schedule 1 as the Authority may require;
- (b) a declaration that the information provided by the applicant is accurate to the best of the applicant's knowledge and belief; and
- (c) a declaration that the applicant is the owner, or one of the owners, of the eligible installation for which accreditation is being sought.

(3) The Authority may, where an eligible installation is owned by more than one person, require that—

- (a) an application submitted under this regulation is made by only one of those owners;
- (b) the applicant has the authority from all other owners to be the participant for the purposes of the scheme; and

- (c) the applicant provides to the Authority, in such manner and form as the Authority may request, evidence of that authority.
- (4) Before accrediting an eligible installation, the Authority may arrange for a site inspection to be carried out in order to satisfy itself that a plant should be accredited.
- (5) The Authority may, in granting accreditation, attach such conditions as it considers to be appropriate.
- (6) Where an application for accreditation has, in the Authority's opinion, been properly made in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3) and the Authority is satisfied that the plant is an eligible installation the Authority must (subject to regulation 23 and regulation 47(3))—
- (a) accredit the eligible installation;
 - (b) notify the applicant in writing that the application has been successful;
 - (c) enter on a central register maintained by the Authority the applicant's name and such other information as the Authority considers necessary for the proper administration of the scheme;
 - (d) notify the applicant of any conditions attached to the accreditation;
 - (e) in relation to an applicant who is or will be generating heat from solid biomass, having regard to the information provided by the applicant, specify by notice to the applicant which of regulation 28, 29 or 30 applies; ~~and~~ 7
 - (f) provide the applicant with a written statement ("statement of eligibility") including the following information—
 - (i) the date of accreditation;
 - (ii) the applicable tariff;
 - (iii) the process and timing for providing meter readings;
 - (iv) details of the frequency and timetable for payments; and
 - (v) the tariff lifetime and tariff end date.
- (7) Where the Authority does not accredit a plant it must notify the applicant in writing that the application for accreditation has been rejected, giving reasons.
- (8) Once a specification made in accordance with paragraph (6)(e) has been notified to an applicant, it cannot be changed except where the Authority considers that an error has been made or on the receipt of new information by the Authority which demonstrates that the specification should be changed.

Exceptions to duty to accredit

23.—(1) The Authority must not accredit an eligible installation unless the applicant has given notice (which the Authority has no reason to believe is incorrect) that, as applicable—

(a) no grant from public funds has been paid or will be paid in respect of any of the costs of purchasing or installing the eligible installation; or

(b) such a grant was paid in respect of an eligible installation which was completed and first commissioned between [15th July 2009]³¹ and the date on which these Regulations come into force, and has been repaid to the person or authority who made it.

(2) In this regulation, “grant from public funds” means a grant made by a public authority or by any person distributing funds on behalf of a public authority.

(3) The Authority must not accredit an eligible installation if it has not been commissioned.

(4) The Authority may refuse to accredit an eligible installation if its owner has indicated that one of the applicable ongoing obligations will not be complied with.

(5) The Authority may refuse to accredit a plant which is a component plant within the meaning of regulation 14(2).


Changes in ownership

24.—(1) This regulation applies where ownership of all or part of an accredited RHI installation is transferred to another person.

(2) No periodic support payment may be made to a new owner until—

- (a) that owner has notified the Authority of the change in ownership; and
- (b) the steps set out in paragraph (3) have been completed.

(3) On receipt of a notification under paragraph (2), the Authority—

- (a) may require the new owner to provide such of the information specified in Schedule 1 as the Authority considers necessary for the proper administration of the scheme; 
- (b) may review the accreditation of the accredited RHI installation to ensure that it continues to meet the eligibility criteria and should remain an accredited RHI installation.

(4) Where the Authority has received the information required under paragraph (3)(a) and is satisfied as to the matters specified in paragraph (3)(b) it must—

- (a) update the central register referred to in regulation 22(6)(c);
- (b) where the new owner is the participant, send the new owner a statement of eligibility setting out the information specified in regulation 22(6)(f); and
- (c) where applicable, send the new owner (if the new owner is the participant) a notice in accordance with regulation 22(6)(e).

(5) If, within a period of 12 months from the transfer of ownership of the accredited RHI

³¹ Incentive retrospective start date from draft GB Regulations - position to be confirmed for NI

installation, no notification is made in accordance with paragraph (2) or paragraph (4) does not apply, the installation will on the expiry of that period cease to be accredited and accordingly no further periodic support payments will be paid in respect of the heat it generates.

(6) The period specified in paragraph (5) may be extended by the Authority where the Authority considers it is just and equitable to do so.

(7) Subject to paragraph (8), following the successful completion of the steps required under paragraphs (3) and (4), the new owner of an accredited RHI installation will receive periodic support payments calculated from the date of completion of those steps for the remainder of the tariff lifetime of that accredited RHI installation.

(8) Where a transfer of ownership of all or part of an accredited RHI installation takes place and results in that accredited RHI installation being owned by more than one person, the Authority may require that only one of those owners is the participant for the purposes of the scheme and require that owner to comply with sub-paragraphs (b) and (c) of regulation 22(3).

Producers of biomethane

25.—(1) A producer of biomethane for injection may apply to the Authority to be registered as a participant.

(2) Applications for registration must be in writing and supported by—

- (a) such of the information specified in Schedule 1 as the Authority may require;
- (b) a declaration that the information provided by the applicant is accurate to the best of the applicant's knowledge and belief;
- (c) details of the process by which the applicant proposes to produce biomethane and arrange for its injection; and
- (d) a notice given in accordance with paragraph (6).

(3) The Authority may in registering an applicant attach such conditions as it considers appropriate.

(4) Where the application for registration is properly made in accordance with paragraph (2), the Authority must (subject to paragraphs (5), (6) and (7))—

- (a) notify the applicant in writing that registration has been successfully completed and the applicant is a participant;
- (b) enter on a central register maintained by the Authority the date of registration and the applicant's name;
- (c) notify the applicant of any conditions attached to their registration as a participant; and
- (d) send the applicant a statement of eligibility including such of the information specified in regulation 22(6)(f) as the Authority considers applicable.

(5) The Authority may refuse to register an applicant if the applicant has indicated that one or more of the applicable ongoing obligations will not be complied with.

(6) The Authority must not register an applicant unless that applicant has given notice (which the Authority has no reason to believe is incorrect) that no grant from public funds has been paid or will be paid in respect of any of the equipment used to produce the biomethane for which the applicant is intending to claim periodic support payments.

(7) The Authority must not register an applicant if it would result in periodic support payments being made to more than one participant for the same biomethane.

Preliminary accreditation

26.—(1) The Authority may, upon the application by a person who proposes to construct or operate an eligible installation which has not yet been commissioned, grant preliminary accreditation in respect of that eligible installation provided—

- (a) any necessary planning permission has been granted; or
- (b) such planning permission is not required and appropriate evidence of this is provided to the Authority from the relevant planning authority.

(2) The Authority must not grant preliminary accreditation to any plant under this regulation if, in its opinion, that plant is unlikely to generate heat for which periodic support payments may be paid.

(3) An application for preliminary accreditation must be in writing and supported by such of the information specified in Schedule 1 as the Authority may require.

(4) The Authority may attach such conditions as it considers appropriate in granting preliminary accreditation under this regulation.

(5) Where a plant has been granted preliminary accreditation (and such preliminary accreditation has not been withdrawn) and an application for accreditation is made under this Part, the Authority must, subject to regulation 23, grant that application unless it is satisfied that—

- (a) there has been a material change in circumstances since the preliminary accreditation was granted such that, had the application for preliminary accreditation been made after the change, it would have been refused;
- (b) any condition attached to the preliminary accreditation has not been complied with;
- (c) the information on which the decision to grant the preliminary accreditation was based was incorrect in a material particular such that, had the Authority known the true position when the application for preliminary accreditation was made, it would have been refused; or
- (d) there has been a change in applicable legislation since the preliminary accreditation was granted such that, had the application for preliminary accreditation been made after the change, it would have been refused.

(6) Where any of the circumstances mentioned in paragraph (7) apply in relation to a preliminary accreditation which the Authority has granted and having regard to those circumstances the Authority considers it appropriate to do so, the Authority may—

- (a) withdraw the preliminary accreditation;
- (b) amend the conditions attached to the preliminary accreditation; or
- (c) attach conditions to the preliminary accreditation.

(7) The circumstances referred to in paragraph (6) are as follows—

- (a) in the Authority's view there has been a material change in circumstances since the preliminary accreditation was granted;
- (b) any condition attached to the preliminary accreditation has not been complied with;
- (c) the Authority considers that the information on which the decision to grant the preliminary accreditation was based was incorrect in a material particular;
~~and~~
- (d) there has been change in the applicable legislation since the preliminary accreditation was granted such that, had the application for preliminary accreditation been made after the change, it would have been refused.

(8) The Authority must send the applicant a notice setting out—

- (a) its decision on an application for preliminary accreditation of a plant or on the withdrawal of any preliminary accreditation; ~~and~~
- (b) any condition attached to the preliminary accreditation or any amendment to those conditions.

(9) The notice sent pursuant to paragraph (8) must specify the date on which the grant or withdrawal of preliminary accreditation is to take effect and, where applicable, the date on which any conditions (or amendments to those conditions) attached to the preliminary accreditation are to take effect.

(10) In paragraph (1), the reference to the person who proposes to construct an eligible installation includes a person who arranges for the construction of the eligible installation.

(11) This regulation does not apply to a plant which will generate heat using—

- (a) a solar collector;
- (b) a heat pump which complies with the requirements of regulation 8(a); or
- (c) solid biomass, provided that the plant will have an installation capacity [below 200kWh]³².

³² Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

PART 4

ONGOING OBLIGATIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS

Chapter 1

Ongoing obligations relating to the use of solid biomass to generate heat

Definitions are unnecessary if use the wording indicated below at regulation

28(7)(a) which follows wording used in NI 2009 Renewables Obligation Order

Interpretation

27. — In this Part—

~~“allocating authority” and “waste disposal authority” have the same meaning as in section 24 of the Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003;~~³³

“energy content” means the energy contained within a substance (whether measured by a calorimeter or determined in some other way) expressed in terms of the substance’s gross calorific value within the meaning of British Standard BS 7420:1991 (Guide for determination of calorific values of solid, liquid and gaseous fuels (including definitions) published by the British Standards Institute on 28th June 1991);³⁴ (a)

“landfill gas” means gas formed by the digestion of material in a landfill;

“standby generation” means the generation of electricity by equipment which is not used frequently or regularly to generate electricity and where all the electricity generated by that equipment is used by the accredited RHI installation;

“waste” has the same meaning as in Article 2(2) of the Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997;

(b) ~~“waste collection authority” shall mean [*],³⁵ and “waste disposal authority” has the same meaning as in Article 2(2) of the Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.~~

Participants using solid biomass contained in municipal waste

28.—(1) This regulation applies to participants generating heat in an accredited RHI installation from solid biomass contained in municipal waste.

(2) The proportion of solid biomass contained in the municipal waste must be a minimum of [50 per cent]³⁶.

33 NOTE TO DET1 – CONFIMED – applicable in NI

34 ISBN 0580194825. Copies can be obtained from the British Standards Institution: www.bsi-global.com/en/.

35 NOTE TO DET1 – the draft GB RHI Regulations refer to the meaning of “waste collection authority” under Part 2 (sic) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (the “EPA”), which deals with waste on land. This definition, like the whole of Part II of that Act, does not extend to Northern Ireland. However, Part II of the EPA is largely replicated in the Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, but this NI Order does not include a definition of “waste collection authority” – referring instead to “district council”. A definition of “waste collection authority” is needed in the EPA to cater for the many different categories of authority involved (county councils, city councils and district councils). Given this, it seems appropriate to replace references to “waste collection authority” in the NI RHI Regulations with “district council” which could then be defined by reference to the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972. This issue requires further consideration.

(b) S.I. 1997/2778 (N.I. 19), Article 2(2) was amended by SR 2011 No.125

(3) For the purposes of paragraph (2)—

- (a) the proportion of solid biomass contained in the municipal waste is to be determined by the Authority for every quarterly period;
- (b) it is for the participant to provide, in such form as the Authority may require, evidence to demonstrate to the Authority's satisfaction the proportion of the energy content of the municipal waste used in any quarterly period which is composed of fossil fuel, to enable the Authority to determine the proportion of solid biomass in accordance with subparagraph (c); ~~and~~ X
- (c) the proportion of solid biomass is the energy content of the municipal waste used in any quarterly period to generate heat less the energy content of any fossil fuel of which that municipal waste is in part composed, expressed as a percentage of the energy content of that municipal waste.

(4) The participant may use fossil fuel (other than fossil fuel mentioned in paragraph (3)(c)) in an accredited RHI installation for the following permitted ancillary purposes only—

- (a) cleansing other fuels from the accredited RHI installation's combustion system prior to using fossil fuel to heat the combustion system to its normal temperature;
- (b) the heating of the accredited RHI installation's combustion system to its normal operating temperature or the maintenance of that temperature;
- (c) the ignition of fuels of low or variable calorific value;
- (d) emission control; ~~and~~ X
- (e) in relation to accredited RHI installations which are CHP systems, standby generation or the testing of standby generation capacity.

(5) The energy content of the fossil fuel used during any quarterly period for the permitted ancillary purposes specified in paragraph (4) must not [exceed 10 per cent]³⁷ of the energy content of all the fuel used by that accredited RHI installation to generate heat during that quarterly period.

(6) Without prejudice to paragraph (3)(b), when determining the proportion of solid biomass contained in municipal waste, the Authority may have regard to any information (whether or not produced to it by the participant) if, in its opinion, that information indicates what proportion of the energy content of the municipal waste is composed of fossil fuel.

(7) Subject to paragraph (8), where the participant produces to the Authority— *(The Department of Environment or a district Council*

- (a) data published by an allocating authority, a waste disposal authority or a waste collection authority, demonstrating that the proportion of municipal waste used by that participant which is composed of fossil fuel is unlikely to [exceed 50 per cent]³⁸; and ?

See how this was dealt with in the renewables obligation (NI) order 2009

36 Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI
 37 Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI
 38 Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

Does the DoE publish this data - check this out - the 2009 renewables order suggests it does but position may have changed since then

- (b) evidence that the municipal waste used has not been subject to any process before being used that is likely to have materially increased that proportion;

the Authority may accept this as sufficient evidence for the purposes of paragraph (3)(b) of the fact that the proportion of the municipal waste used which is composed of fossil fuel is [no more than 50 per cent]³⁹.

(8) Where the Authority so requests, the participant must arrange for samples of the municipal waste used (or to be used) in the accredited RHI installation, or of any gas or other substance produced as the result of the use of such municipal waste, to be taken by a person (and analysed in a manner) specified by the Authority, and for the results of that analysis to be made available to the Authority in such form as the Authority may require.

(9) The participant may not generate heat using solid biomass contained in any waste other than municipal waste.

Participants using solid biomass in accredited RHI installations with an installation capacity of [1 MWth or above]⁴⁰

29.—(1) This regulation applies to participants generating heat from solid biomass, not being solid biomass contained in municipal waste, in an accredited RHI installation with an installation capacity of [1 MWth or above]⁴¹.

(2) The participant may use solid biomass contaminated with fossil fuel only where the proportion of fossil fuel contamination does not [exceed 10 per cent]⁴².

(3) Such contaminated biomass may not be used unless the fossil fuel is present because—

- (a) the solid biomass has been subject to a process, the undertaking of which has caused the fossil fuel to be present in, on or with the biomass even though that was not the object of the process; or
- (b) the fossil fuel is waste and was not added to the solid biomass with a view to its being used as a fuel.

(4) For the purposes of paragraph (2)—

- (a) the proportion of fossil fuel contamination is to be determined by the Authority for every quarterly period;
- (b) it is for the participant to provide, in such form as the Authority may require, evidence to demonstrate to the Authority's satisfaction the proportion of fossil fuel contamination; and
- (c) the proportion of fossil fuel contamination is the energy content of the fossil fuel with which the solid biomass used in any quarterly period is contaminated expressed as a percentage of the energy content of all solid biomass (contaminated or otherwise) used in that quarterly period to generate heat other than fossil fuel used in accordance with paragraphs (5) and (6).

³⁹ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁴⁰ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁴¹ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁴² Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

(5) The participant may use fossil fuel (other than fossil fuel mentioned in paragraph (2) in an accredited RHI installation for the following permitted ancillary purposes only—

- (a) cleansing other fuels from the accredited RHI installation's combustion system prior to using fossil fuel to heat the combustion system to its normal temperature;
- (b) the heating of the accredited RHI installation's combustion system to its normal operating temperature or the maintenance of that temperature;
- (c) the ignition of fuels of low or variable calorific value;
- (d) emission control; ~~or~~
- (e) in relation to accredited RHI installations which are CHP systems, standby generation or the testing of standby generation capacity.

(6) The energy content of the fossil fuel used during a quarterly period for the permitted ancillary purposes specified in paragraph (5) must not [exceed 10 per cent]⁴³ of the energy content of all the fuel used by that accredited RHI installation to generate heat during that quarterly period.

(7) Without prejudice to paragraph (4)(b), in determining the proportion of solid biomass composed of fossil fuel the Authority may have regard to any information (whether or not produced to it by the participant) if, in its opinion, that information indicates what proportion of the contaminated solid biomass is composed of fossil fuel.

(8) Where the Authority so requests, the participant must arrange for samples of the fuel used (or to be used) in the accredited RHI installation, or of any gas or other substance produced as the result of the use of such fuel, to be taken by a person (and analysed in a manner) specified by the Authority, and for the results of that analysis to be made available to the Authority in such form as the Authority may require.

(9) The participant must provide sustainability information in accordance with Schedule 2.

Participants using solid biomass in accredited RHI installations with an installation capacity of between [45 kWth]⁴⁴ and [1 MWth]⁴⁵

30.—(1) This regulation applies to participants generating heat from solid biomass, not being solid biomass contained in municipal waste, in an accredited RHI installation with an installation capacity of between [45 kWth]⁴⁶ and [1 MWth]⁴⁷.

(2) The participant may use solid biomass contaminated with fossil fuel provided the participant complies with paragraphs (2), (3) (5) and (6) of regulation 29 as well as the requirements of this regulation.

⁴³ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁴⁴ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁴⁵ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁴⁶ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁴⁷ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

(3) Where solid biomass contaminated with fossil fuel is used in an accredited RHI installation, the participant must keep and provide upon request written evidence including invoices, receipts and such other documentation as the Authority may specify relating to fuel use and fossil fuel used for the permitted ancillary purposes specified in regulation 29(5) and provide this information upon request to the Authority, in such form as the Authority may require, to demonstrate compliance with this regulation.

(4) Without prejudice to paragraph (3), the Authority may have regard to any information (whether or not produced to it by the participant) if, in its opinion, that information indicates what proportion of the contaminated solid biomass is composed of fossil fuel.

(5) Where—

(a) the Authority is not satisfied that the proportion of fossil fuel contamination (within the meaning of regulation 29(4)(c)) does not exceed [10 per cent]⁴⁸; or

(b) the Authority is not satisfied as to the matters specified in paragraphs (5) and (6) of regulation 29, [the Authority may require the participant to arrange for samples of the fuel used (or to be used) in the accredited RHI installation, or of any gas or other substance produced as the result of the use of such fuel, to be taken by a person (and analysed in a manner) specified by the Authority, and for the results of that analysis to be made available to the Authority in such form as the Authority may require.]

Move so that words from 'the Authority...' sit under sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) as they are meant to apply to both sub-paragraphs

Chapter 2

Ongoing obligations relating to the use of biogas to generate heat and the production of biomethane for injection

Biogas produced from gasification or pyrolysis

31.—(1) This regulation applies to participants producing biogas using gasification or pyrolysis and generating heat from that biogas in an accredited RHI installation.

(2) The participant may only use solid biomass or municipal waste as feedstock to produce the biogas.

(3) Where the participant uses municipal waste as feedstock—

(a) paragraphs (2), (3), (6) and (7) of regulation 28 apply to the proportion of solid biomass contained in the municipal waste used for feedstock in the same way as for the proportion of solid biomass contained in municipal waste used to generate heat; and

(b) paragraphs (4) and (5) of regulation 28 apply.

(4) Where the participant uses solid biomass (not being solid biomass contained in municipal waste) as feedstock—

⁴⁸ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

- (a) paragraphs (2), (3), (4) and (7) of regulation 29 apply to the contamination of solid biomass used for feedstock in the same way as for solid biomass contaminated with fossil fuel used to generate heat; and
- (b) paragraphs (5) and (6) of regulation 29 apply.

(5) Where the Authority so requests, the participant must arrange for samples of the municipal waste or solid biomass used (or to be used) as feedstock in the biogas production plant, or of any gas or other substance produced as a result of the use of such municipal waste or solid biomass, to be taken by a person (and analysed in a manner) specified by the Authority, and for the results of that analysis to be made available to the Authority in such form as the Authority may require.

Participants generating heat from biogas

32.—(1) This regulation applies to participants generating heat from biogas in an accredited RHI installation where regulation 31 does not apply.

(2) A participant using biogas produced by anaerobic digestion may only use biogas which—

- (a) was produced from one or more of the following feedstocks—
 - (i) solid biomass;
 - (ii) solid waste; or
 - (iii) liquid waste; and
- (b) is not landfill gas.

(3) The participant may use fossil fuel in the accredited RHI installation only in accordance with paragraphs (5) and (6) of regulation 29.

Biomethane producers

33.—(1) This regulation applies to participants producing biomethane for injection.

(2) A participant producing biomethane for injection from biogas made by gasification or pyrolysis may only use biogas made using solid biomass or municipal waste as feedstock.

(3) Where municipal waste is used as feedstock, paragraphs (2) and (3)(c) of regulation 28 apply to the proportion of solid biomass contained in municipal waste used as feedstock in the same way as for the proportion of solid biomass contained in municipal waste used to generate heat.

(4) Where solid biomass is used as feedstock, paragraphs (2), (3), and (4)(c) of regulation 29 apply to the contamination of solid biomass used for feedstock in the same way as for solid biomass contaminated with fossil fuel used by participants to generate heat.

(5) A participant producing biomethane for injection from biogas made by anaerobic digestion must comply with regulation 32(2).

(6) The participant must provide measurements in such format as the Authority may request which satisfies the Authority ~~of all~~ of the following—

- (a) the gross calorific value and volume of biomethane injected;
- (b) the gross calorific value and volume of any propane contained in the biomethane;
- (c) the kWh of biomethane injected together with supporting meter readings and calculations;
- (d) the kWh of heat supplied to the biogas production plant (other than heat contained in feedstock to produce biogas by anaerobic digestion) which made the biogas used in any quarterly period to produce biomethane for injection;
~~and~~
- (e) any heat supplied to the biomethane production process.

(7) The participant must keep and provide upon request copies or details of agreements with third parties with whom the participant contracts to carry out any of the processes undertaken to turn the biogas into biomethane and to arrange for its injection.

(8) The participant must keep and provide upon request written evidence including invoices, receipts, contracts and such other information as the Authority may specify in relation to biogas purchased and feedstock used in the production of the biogas used to produce biomethane.

(9) The participant must provide sustainability information in accordance with Schedule 2.

Chapter 3
Ongoing obligations relating to other matters

Ongoing obligations: general

34. — Participants must comply with the following ongoing obligations, as applicable—

- (a) they must keep and provide upon request by the Authority records of type of fuel used and fuel purchased for the duration of their participation in the scheme;
- (b) they must keep and provide upon request by the Authority written records of fossil fuel used for the permitted ancillary purposes specified in regulations 27 to 33;
- (c) they must submit an annual declaration as requested by the Authority confirming, as appropriate, that they are using their accredited RHI installations in accordance with the eligibility criteria and are complying with the relevant ongoing obligations;
- (d) they must notify the Authority if any of the information provided in support of their application for accreditation or registration was incorrect;
- (e) they must ensure that their accredited RHI installation continues to meet the eligibility criteria;

- (f) they must comply with any condition attached to their accreditation or registration;
- (g) they must keep their accredited RHI installation maintained to the Authority's satisfaction and keep evidence of this including service and maintenance documents;
- (h) participants combusting biogas must not deliver heat by air from their accredited RHI installation to the biogas production plant producing the biogas used for combustion;
- (i) they must allow the Authority or its authorised agent reasonable access in accordance with Part 9;
- (j) participants generating heat from solid biomass must comply with the regulation specified by the Authority in accordance with regulation 22(6)(e);
- (k) they must notify the Authority within [28 days]⁴⁹ where they have ceased to comply with an ongoing obligation or have become aware that they will not be able so to comply, or where there has been any change in circumstances which may affect their eligibility to receive periodic support payments;
- (l) they must notify the Authority within [28 days]⁵⁰ of the addition or removal of a plant supplying heat to a heating system of which their accredited RHI installation forms part;
- (m) they must notify the Authority within [28 days]⁵¹ of a change in ownership of all or part of their accredited RHI installation;
- (n) they must repay any overpayment in accordance with any notice served under regulation 48;
- (o) they must, if requested, provide evidence that the heat for which periodic support payments are made is used for an eligible purpose;
- (p) they must not generate heat for the predominant purpose of increasing their periodic support payments; ~~and~~
- (q) they must comply with such other administrative requirements that the Authority may specify in relation to the effective administration of the scheme.

Ongoing obligations in relation to metering

35.—(1) Participants must keep all meters and steam measuring equipment required to be used in accordance with these Regulations—

- (a) continuously operating;

⁴⁹ Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁵⁰ Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁵¹ Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

- (b) properly maintained and periodically checked for errors; and
- (c) re-calibrated every [10 years]⁵² or within such period of time as may be specified in accordance with manufacturers' instructions where available;

Move words underlined to here.

Move from word 'and' to sit under both sub-para's (a) and (b) as these are meant to apply to both

whichever is the sooner] and must retain evidence of this, including service and maintenance invoices, receipts or certificates for the duration of their participation in the scheme.]

(2) The Authority may, by the date (if any) specified by it, or at such regular intervals as it may require to enable it to carry out its functions under these Regulations, require participants to provide the following information—

- (a) meter readings and other data collected in accordance with these Regulations from all steam measuring equipment, class 2 heat meters and other heat meters used in accordance with these Regulations in such format as the Authority may reasonably require;
- (b) in relation to participants using steam measuring equipment, a kWhth figure of both the heat generated and the heat used for eligible purposes together with supporting data and calculations; and
- (c) the evidence and service and maintenance documentation specified in paragraph (1).

(3) Participants using heat pumps to provide both heating and cooling must ensure that their meters for those pumps enable them to—

- (a) measure heat used for eligible purposes only; and

Move from word 'and' (b) to here as these words are meant to apply to both sub-para's (a) and (b).

where appropriate, measure (in order to discount) any cooling generated by the reverse operation of the heat pump and must provide upon request an explanation of how their metering arrangements have enabled the cooling in sub-paragraph (b) to be discounted.]

(4) The data referred to in paragraph (2)(a) and (b) may be estimated in exceptional circumstances if the Authority has agreed in writing to an estimate being provided and to the way in which those estimates are to be calculated.

(5) Nothing in this regulation prevents the Authority from accepting further data from a participant, if the Authority considers it appropriate to do so.

Ongoing obligations in relation to the provision of information

36.—(1) A participant must provide to the Authority on request any information which the participant holds and which the Authority requires in order to discharge its functions under these Regulations.

(2) Participants must retain the information referred to in Schedule 1, including such information as may reasonably be required by the Authority under paragraph 1(2)(e), (f), (h), (k), (n), (v) or (w) and whether or not copies of that documentation have been supplied to the Authority, for the duration of their participation in the scheme.

52 Time period taken from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

(3) Information requested under paragraph (1) must be provided within [7 days]⁵³ of the request or such later date as the Authority may specify.

(4) Information provided to the Authority under these Regulations must be accurate to the best of the participant's knowledge and belief.

(5) Sub-paragraphs (3) and (4) of paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 have effect.

Periodic support payments

Payment of periodic support payments to participants

37.—(1) Periodic support payments shall accrue from the tariff start date and shall be payable for [20 years]⁵⁴.

(2) Periodic support payments shall be calculated and paid by the Authority.

(3) Subject to regulation 43(5) and paragraphs (7) and (9) of this regulation, the tariff for an accredited RHI installation shall be fixed when that installation is accredited.

(4) Subject to paragraph (7), the tariff for a participant who is a producer of biomethane is the biomethane and biogas combustion tariff set out in Schedule 3.

(5) Subject to paragraphs (6), (7) and (9), the tariff for an accredited RHI installation is the tariff set out in Schedule 3 in relation to its source of energy or technology and installation capacity.

(6) For the purposes of paragraph (5), where the accredited RHI installation is one of a number of plants forming part of the same heating system its installation capacity is to be taken to be the sum of the installation capacities of that accredited RHI installation and all plants for which an application for accreditation has been made (whether or not they have been accredited) which—

- (a) use the same source of energy and technology as that accredited RHI installation; and
- (b) form part of the same heating system as that accredited RHI installation.

(7) The tariffs—

- (a) for the period beginning with the commencement of these Regulations and ending with [31st March 2012]⁵⁵, are the tariffs set out in Schedule 3; and
- (b) for each subsequent year commencing with [1st April and ending with 31st March]⁵⁶, are the tariffs applicable on the immediately preceding [31st March]⁵⁷ adjusted by the percentage increase or decrease in the retail prices

⁵³ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁵⁴ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁵⁵ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁵⁶ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁵⁷ Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

index for the previous calendar year (the resulting figure being rounded to the nearest tenth of a penny, with any twentieth of a penny being rounded upwards).

(8) The Authority must calculate the tariff rates each year in accordance with paragraph (7) and publish on [or before 1st April]⁵⁸ of each year a table of tariffs for the period commencing with [1st April]⁵⁹ of that year and ending with [31st March]⁶⁰ of the following year.

(9) Where an accredited RHI installation receives the small commercial biomass tariff or the medium commercial biomass tariff as set out in Schedule 3—

- (a) the tariff for the initial heat generated by the installation in any [12 month]⁶¹ period commencing with, or with the anniversary of, the date of accreditation is the relevant tier 1 tariff specified in Schedule 3; and
- (b) the tariff for all further heat generated in that same [12 month]⁶² period is the relevant tier 2 tariff.

(10) For the purposes of paragraph (9), “the initial heat” means the heat in kWh generated by an accredited RHI installation running at its installation capacity for [1,314 hours]⁶³.

Periodic support payments for accredited RHI installations in simple systems

38.—(1) This regulation applies to participants who own an accredited RHI installation (“the installation”) which—

- (a) is generating and supplying heat solely for one or more eligible purposes used in one building;
- (b) does not deliver heat by steam; and
- (c) is not a CHP system.

(2) Subject to regulations 40 and 41, participants shall be paid a periodic support payment for the installation in respect of each quarterly period calculated in accordance with one of the following formulae, as applicable—

- (a) $A \times B$; or
- (b) where the installation is generating heat from the combustion of biogas $(A \times (B - C))$ where—

*A x (B - C),
where —*

A is the tariff for the installation determined in accordance with regulation 37;

B is the heat in kWh generated by the installation during the relevant quarterly period; and

Move to separate line as set out in WS draft

58 Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

59 Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

60 Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

61 Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

62 Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

63 Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

C is the heat in kWhth directed from the installation or delivered by any other source to the biogas production plant which produced the biogas combusted in the relevant quarterly period (other than heat contained in feedstock used to produce biogas by anaerobic digestion).

Periodic support payments accredited RHI installations for complex systems

39.—(1) This regulation applies to participants who own an accredited RHI installation (“the installation”) which does not fall within regulation 38.

(2) Subject to regulations 40 and 41, participants shall be paid a periodic support payment for the installation in respect of each quarterly period calculated in accordance with one of the following formulae, as applicable—

Set out on separate lines as has been done in -B draft

(a) ~~$A \times B \times DE$~~ , or $A \times B \times \frac{D}{E}$; or

(b) where the accredited RHI installation is generating heat from the combustion of biogas, ~~$A \times (B - C) \times DE$~~ where

$A \times (B - C) \times \frac{D}{E}$,

where A is the tariff for the installation determined in accordance with regulation 37;

B is the heat in kWhth used by the heating system of which the installation forms part during the relevant quarterly period for eligible purposes;

C is the heat in kWhth directed from the installation or delivered from any other source to the biogas production plant which produced the biogas combusted in the relevant quarterly period (other than heat contained in feedstock to produce biogas by anaerobic digestion) or, where there is no such heat, zero;

D is the heat in kWhth generated by the installation during the relevant quarterly period; and

E is the heat in kWhth generated by all plants supplying heat to the same heating system of which the installation forms part in the relevant quarterly period.

Fossil fuel contamination of solid biomass and fossil fuel used for permitted ancillary purposes

40.—(1) This regulation applies to participants generating heat in an accredited RHI installation

(a) where the heat is generated from solid biomass contained in municipal waste (“Case A”); or

(b) where the heat is generated from solid biomass, not being solid biomass contained in municipal waste, and the capacity of the installation is [1 MWth or above]⁶⁴ (“Case B”).

(2) In Case A, the periodic support payment calculated in accordance with regulation 38 or 39 shall be reduced pro rata to reflect the proportion of the energy content of the municipal waste used in the relevant quarterly period which was composed of fossil fuel and, where fossil fuel

⁶⁴ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

has been used for permitted ancillary purposes in accordance with regulation 28, to reflect the proportion of fossil fuel so used which resulted in the generation of heat.

(3) In Case B, the periodic support payment calculated in accordance with regulation 38 or 39 shall be reduced pro rata to reflect the proportion of fossil fuel contamination in the relevant quarterly period determined in accordance with regulation 29 and, where fossil fuel has been used for permitted ancillary purposes during the relevant quarterly period in accordance with regulation 29, to reflect the proportion of fossil fuel so used which resulted in the generation of heat.

Fossil fuel contamination adjustment to periodic support payments for producers and combusters of biogas produced from gasification and pyrolysis

41.—(1) This regulation applies to participants producing biogas from gasification or pyrolysis and generating heat from that biogas in an accredited RHI installation.

(2) Where, in accordance with regulation 31, a participant uses feedstock contaminated with fossil fuel, the periodic support payment calculated in accordance with regulation 38 or 39 shall be reduced pro rata to reflect the proportion of fossil fuel contamination in the feedstock used by the participant in the relevant quarterly period.

Periodic support payments to producers of biomethane

42. Participants producing biomethane for injection shall be paid a periodic support payment in respect of each quarterly period calculated in accordance with the following formula—

$A \times (B - (C + D + E)) \times F$, where—

where —

A is the biomethane and biogas combustion tariff determined in accordance with regulation 37;

B is the kWh of biomethane injected in any quarterly period;

C is the kWh of propane contained in B;

D is the kWh of heat supplied to the biogas production plant (other than heat contained in feedstock to produce biogas by anaerobic digestion) which produced the biogas from which the biomethane was made, from any heat source other than heat generated from the combustion of that biogas;

E is the kWh of heat supplied to the biomethane production process; and

F applies only in relation to biomethane made using biogas produced from gasification or pyrolysis, and is the proportion of biomass contained in the feedstock used in the relevant quarterly period to produce the biogas.

PART 6

ADDITIONAL RHI CAPACITY

Treatment of additional RHI capacity

43.—(1) This regulation applies where a participant installs additional RHI capacity.

(2) In this regulation “additional RHI capacity” means a plant which is—

- (a) first commissioned after the date on which an accredited RHI installation (“the original installation”) was first commissioned;
- (b) uses the same source of energy and technology as the original installation; and
- (c) supplies heat to the same heating system as that of which the original installation forms part.

(3) A participant must inform the Authority within [28 days]⁶⁵ of the additional RHI capacity being first commissioned.

(4) Paragraph (5) applies where the additional RHI capacity is first commissioned within [12 months]⁶⁶ of the date on which the original installation was first commissioned.

(5) Where this paragraph applies—

- (a) the Authority may review the accreditation of any accredited RHI installation using the same source of energy and technology and supplying heat to the same heating system as the additional RHI capacity;
- (b) upon an application for accreditation of the additional RHI capacity, the Authority must—
 - (i) treat the additional RHI capacity as if it were part of the original installation; and
 - (ii) decide whether or not to accredit the additional RHI capacity and original installation as one eligible installation in accordance with Part 3;
- (c) subject to sub-paragraph (d), a refusal of accreditation under sub-paragraph (b)(ii) does not affect the accreditation of the original installation;
- (d) if a review undertaken in accordance with sub-paragraph (a) results in a finding that a relevant ongoing obligation is no longer being complied with, the Authority may take appropriate action under Part 7; and
- (e) where the Authority grants accreditation in accordance with sub-paragraph (b), from the date of that accreditation a participant’s periodic support payments in respect of the original installation will be replaced by periodic

⁶⁵ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁶⁶ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

support payments calculated using the applicable tariff determined in accordance with paragraphs (7) and (9) of regulation 37 in relation to the source of energy and technology concerned based on the sum of the installation capacities of the additional RHI capacity and the original installation, and will terminate with the tariff end date of the original accredited RHI installation.

(6) Paragraph (7) applies where the additional RHI capacity is first commissioned more than [12 months]⁶⁷ after the original installation was first commissioned.

(7) Where this paragraph applies, the Authority may review the accreditation of any accredited RHI installation using the same source of energy and technology and supplying heat to the same heating system as the additional RHI capacity; and if a review results in a finding that a relevant ongoing obligation is no longer being complied with, the Authority may take appropriate action under Part 7.

(8) All additional RHI capacity must be individually metered.

PART 7

ENFORCEMENT

Power to temporarily withhold periodic support payments to investigate alleged noncompliance

44.—(1) Where the Authority has reasonable grounds to suspect that a participant has failed or is failing to comply with an ongoing obligation and the Authority requires time to investigate, it may temporarily withhold all or part of that participant's periodic support payments.

(2) Within [21 days]⁶⁸ of a decision to withhold periodic support payments, the Authority must send a notice to the participant specifying—

- (a) the respect in which the Authority suspects the participant has failed or is failing so to comply;
- (b) the reason why periodic support payments are being withheld;
- (c) the date from which periodic support payments will be withheld;
- (d) the next steps in the investigation; and
- (e) details of the participant's right of review including any relevant time-limits.

(3) The Authority's investigation must be commenced and completed as soon as is reasonably practicable.

(4) The Authority may withhold a participant's periodic support payments for a maximum

⁶⁷ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁶⁸ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

period of [6 months]⁶⁹ commencing with the date specified in accordance with the notice required by paragraph (2)(c).

(5) The Authority must review its decision to withhold a participant's periodic support payments every [30 days]⁷⁰ commencing [30 days]⁷¹ after the date of the notice required by paragraph (2).

(6) Following a review pursuant to paragraph (5), the Authority must send a notice to the participant providing an update on—

- (a) the progress of any investigation to date; and
- (b) whether the Authority intends to continue to withhold periodic support payments.

(7) For the purposes of calculating the time-limit specified in paragraph (4), no account is to be taken of any period attributable to the participant's delay in providing any information reasonably requested by the Authority.

(8) For the purposes of paragraph (7), a participant is not to be deemed to have delayed in providing information if that participant responds within [2 weeks]⁷² of a request from the Authority.

(9) On expiry of the period referred to in paragraph (4) or, if earlier, the conclusion of the investigation, the Authority must—

- (a) send the participant a notice specifying the outcome of the investigation or, where the investigation is not concluded, inform the participant accordingly; and
- (b) pay within [28 days]⁷³ of the date of that notice all periodic support payments temporarily withheld under this regulation, subject to any permanent withholding or reduction of any such payments under regulation 46.

(10) If, on conclusion of the investigation, the Authority is satisfied that a participant is failing or has failed to comply with an ongoing obligation it may impose one or more of the other sanctions set out in this Part.

Power to suspend periodic support payments where ongoing failure to comply

45.—(1) Where the Authority is satisfied that a participant is failing to comply with an ongoing obligation it may suspend that participant's periodic support payments.

(2) Within [21 days]⁷⁴ of a decision to suspend periodic support payments the Authority must send a notice to the participant specifying—

- (a) the respect in which the Authority is satisfied that the participant is failing so to comply;

⁶⁹ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁷⁰ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁷¹ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁷² Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁷³ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁷⁴ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

- (b) the reason why periodic support payments are being suspended;
- (c) the date from which the suspension is effective;
- (d) the steps that the participant must take to satisfy the Authority that it is complying with the ongoing obligation;
- (e) the consequences of the participant failing to take the steps required pursuant to ~~subparagraph~~ (d) including potential sanctions; and
- (f) ^{Sub-paragraph} details of the participant's right of review including any relevant time-limits.

(3) Within [21 days]⁷⁵ of being satisfied that the participant is complying with the ongoing obligation the Authority must remove the suspension.

(4) If, within [6 months]⁷⁶, the Authority is satisfied that the participant has taken the steps specified by notice under paragraph (2), the Authority may pay within [28 days] of being so satisfied all periodic support payments withheld under this regulation.

(5) The maximum period for which the Authority may suspend a participant's periodic support payments is [1 year]⁷⁷.

(6) Subject to paragraph (4), a participant may not recover any periodic support payments suspended in accordance with this regulation.

Power to permanently withhold or reduce a participant's periodic support payments

46.—(1) Where the Authority is satisfied that there has been a material or repeated failure by a participant to comply with an ongoing obligation during any quarterly period and the periodic support payment for that quarterly period has not been paid, the Authority may take one or more of the following actions—

- (a) permanently withhold a proportion of the participant's periodic support payment which corresponds to the proportion of that quarterly period during which the participant failed so to comply; ~~and~~
- (b) reduce a participant's periodic support payment for that quarterly period or for the quarterly period immediately following.

(2) Within [21 days]⁷⁸ of a decision to permanently withhold or to reduce a periodic support payment, the Authority must send a notice to the participant specifying, as applicable—

- (a) the respect in which the participant has failed so to comply;
- (b) the reason why a periodic support payment is being withheld or reduced;
- (c) the period in respect of which any periodic support payment is to be withheld or reduced;

⁷⁵ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁷⁶ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁷⁷ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁷⁸ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

- (d) the level of any reduction; and
- (e) details of the participant's right of review including any relevant time-limits.

(3) Where reducing a periodic support payment in accordance with paragraph (1)(b), the Authority may determine the level of the reduction (taking into consideration all factors which it considers relevant) up to a maximum reduction of [10 per cent]⁷⁹ of the periodic support payment in question.

Revocation of accreditation or registration

47.—(1) Where the Authority is satisfied that there has been a material or repeated failure by a participant to comply with an ongoing obligation it may take one or more of the following actions—

- (a) revoke accreditation for the accredited RHI installation in respect of which there has been a material or repeated failure;
- (b) revoke accreditation for any other accredited RHI installations owned by that participant; ~~and~~ X
- (c) in relation to a participant who is a producer of biomethane for injection, revoke that participant's registration.

(2) Within [21 days]⁸⁰ of a decision to revoke accreditation or registration the Authority must send a notice to the participant specifying—

- (a) the reason for the revocation of accreditation or registration including, where applicable, details of the respect in which the participant has failed so to comply;
- (b) an explanation of the effect of the revocation; and
- (c) details of the participant's right of review including any relevant time limits.

(3) Where accreditation of an accredited RHI installation has been revoked, or a participant's registration has been revoked, the Authority may refuse to accredit any eligible installations owned by the same person or refuse to register that person as a producer of biomethane for injection at any future date.

Overpayment notices and offsetting

48.—(1) Where the Authority is satisfied that a participant has received a periodic support payment which exceeds that participant's entitlement or has received a periodic support payment whilst failing to comply with an ongoing obligation it may—

- (a) require the participant to repay the periodic support payment as a civil debt owed to the Authority; or
- (b) offset the periodic support payment against any future periodic support payments.

⁷⁹ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁸⁰ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

(2) Within [21 days]⁸¹ of a decision to offset or require the participant to repay any periodic support payment the Authority must send the participant a notice specifying—

- (a) the periodic support payment which the Authority believes has been overpaid and the sum which it is seeking to recover from the participant;
- (b) whether the sum specified in sub-paragraph (a) will be recovered in accordance with paragraph (1)(a) or (1)(b);
- (c) where applicable, a date by which the sum specified in sub-paragraph (a) must be repaid;
- (d) the consequences of failing to make any repayments requested including potential sanctions or civil action; and
- (e) details of the participant's right of review including any relevant time limits.

PART 8

REVOCATION OF SANCTIONS

Revocation of Part 7 sanctions

49.—(1) The Authority may at any time revoke a sanction imposed in accordance with Part 7 if it is satisfied that—

- (a) there was an error involved in the original imposition of the sanction; or
- (b) it is just and equitable in the particular circumstances of the case to do so.

(2) Within [21 days]⁸² of a decision to revoke a sanction, the Authority must send a notice to the participant specifying—

- (a) the sanction which has been revoked;
- (b) the reason for the revocation;
- (c) what action if any the Authority proposes to take in relation to any loss incurred by the participant as a result of the imposition of the sanction including the time within which any action will be taken; and
- (d) details of someone within the Authority whom the participant may contact if they are not satisfied with the proposals made by the Authority under sub-paragraph (c).

⁸¹ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁸² Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

PART 9**INSPECTION****Power to inspect accredited RHI installations**

50.—(1) The Authority or its authorised agent may request entry at any reasonable hour to inspect an accredited RHI installation and its associated infrastructure to undertake any one or more of the following—

- (a) verify that the participant is complying with all applicable ongoing obligations;
- (b) verify meter readings;
- (c) take samples and remove them from the premises for analysis;
- (d) take photographs, measurements or video or audio recordings; ~~and~~
- (e) ensure that there is no other contravention of these Regulations.

(2) Within [21 days]⁸³ of a request made under paragraph (1) being (in its opinion) unreasonably refused the Authority must send a notice to the participant specifying—

- (a) the reason why the Authority considers the refusal to be unreasonable;
- (b) the consequences of the refusal, including potential sanctions for failing to comply with the ongoing obligation imposed by regulation 34(i); and
- (c) details of the participant's right of review including any relevant time-limits.

PART 10**REVIEWS****Right of review**

51.—(1) Any prospective, current or former participant affected by a decision made by the Authority in exercise of its functions under these Regulations (other than a decision made in accordance with this regulation) may have that decision reviewed by the Authority.

(2) An application for review must be made by notice in such format as the Authority may require and must—

- (a) be received by the Authority within [28 days]⁸⁴ of the date of receipt of notification of the decision being reviewed;
- (b) specify the decision which that person wishes to be reviewed;

⁸³ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁸⁴ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

- (c) specify the grounds upon which the application is made; and
- (d) be signed by or on behalf of the person making the application.

(3) A person who has made an application in accordance with paragraph (2) must provide the Authority with such information and such declarations as the Authority may reasonably request in order to discharge its functions under this regulation, provided any information requested is in that person's possession.

(4) On review the Authority may—

- (a) revoke or vary its decision;
- (b) confirm its decision;
- (c) vary any sanction or condition it has imposed; or
- (d) replace any sanction or condition it has imposed with one or more alternative sanctions or conditions.

(5) Within [21 days]⁸⁵ of the Authority's decision on a review, it must send the applicant and any other person who is in the Authority's opinion affected by its decision a notice setting out its decision with reasons.

PART 11

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS OF THE AUTHORITY AND NOTICES

Publication of guidance and tariffs

52. The Authority must publish procedural guidance to participants and prospective participants in connection with the administration of the scheme.

Reporting obligations

53.—(1) The Authority must provide to the Department monthly reports in such manner and form as the Department may request containing the following information, as applicable—

- (a) in respect of each accredited RHI installation accredited during the period covered by the report—
 - (i) such of the information specified in Schedule 1 as the Authority may hold and the Department may require regarding the accredited RHI installation;
 - (ii) details of the plant it has replaced, if any;
 - (iii) the total amount of periodic support payments made in respect of the accredited RHI installation during the period covered by the report;

⁸⁵ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

- (iv) the total amount of heat in kWhth for which periodic support payments were made and the eligible purposes and the industry sector for which it was used; ~~apply~~ X
- (v) sustainability information provided in accordance with Schedule 2;
- (b) in respect of each participant registered as a producer of biomethane during the period covered by the report—
 - (i) the total amount of periodic support payments made to each participant;
 - (ii) the volume of biomethane produced for injection by each participant; and
 - (iii) sustainability information provided in accordance with Schedule 2; ~~and~~ X
- (c) such other information as the Authority may hold in relation to its functions under these Regulations as the Department may require.

(2) The first monthly report must cover the period from the commencement of these Regulations and ending with [31st October 2011]⁸⁶ and each subsequent monthly report must cover each subsequent month and must be sent to the Department within [10 working days]⁸⁷ of the end of that month.

(3) The Authority must provide to the Department quarterly and annual reports in such manner and form as the Department may request containing the information specified in paragraph (1) in aggregate form both for the period covered by the report and since the date of commencement of the scheme.

(4) The first annual report must be published by [31st July 2012]⁸⁸ and must cover the period from the commencement of these Regulations and ending with [31st March 2012]⁸⁹, and in each subsequent year the annual report must be published by [31st July]⁹⁰ in respect of the [12 month]⁹¹ period ending with [31st March]⁹² of that year.

(5) The first quarterly report must be published by [31st January 2012]⁹³ and must cover the period from the commencement of these Regulations and ending with [31st December 2011]⁹⁴, and each subsequent quarterly report must cover each quarterly period and must be published within one month of the end of the relevant quarterly period.

(6) The Authority must publish the following information on its website—

- (a) the quarterly and annual reports provided in accordance with this regulation;

⁸⁶ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁸⁷ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁸⁸ Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁸⁹ Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁹⁰ Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁹¹ Time period from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁹² Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁹³ Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁹⁴ Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

- (b) current information in aggregate form as to—
- (i) the number of accredited RHI installations;
 - (ii) their technology and installation capacity;
 - (iii) the amount of heat they have generated; ~~and~~
 - (iv) the total amount of periodic support payments made under each tariff; and
- (c) current information in aggregate form as to—
- (i) the number of participants who are producers of biomethane;
 - (ii) the volume of biomethane produced for injection by those participants; and
 - (iii) the total amount of periodic support payments made in respect of that biomethane.

(7) For the purposes of this regulation “quarterly period” means the first, second, third or fourth quarter of any year commencing on [1st January]⁹⁵.

(8) For the purposes of this regulation “current information” means information which is no more than five days out of date.

Additional information

54. On request from the Department, the Authority must provide to the Department in such manner and form and by such date as the Department may request such additional information as the Authority may hold in relation to the performance of its functions under these Regulations.

Notices

55. A notice under these Regulations—

- (a) must be in writing; and
- (b) may be transmitted by electronic means.

⁹⁵ Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment on

A senior officer of the
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1 Regulations 22, 24, 25, 26 and 36

Information required for accreditation and registration

1.—(1) This Schedule specifies the information that may be required of a prospective participant in the scheme.

(2) The information is, as applicable to the prospective participant—

- (a) name, home address, e-mail address and telephone number;
- (b) any company registration number and registered office;
- (c) any trading or other name by which the prospective participant is commonly known;
- (d) details of a bank account in the prospective participant's name which accepts pound sterling deposits in the United Kingdom;
- (e) information to enable the Authority to satisfy itself as to the identity of the individual completing the application;
- (f) where an individual is making an application on behalf of a company, evidence which satisfies the Authority, that the individual has authority from the company to make the application on its behalf;
- (g) details of the eligible installation owned by the prospective participant including its cost;
- (h) evidence, which satisfies the Authority, as to the ownership of the eligible installation;
- (i) evidence that the eligible installation was new at the time of installation;
- (j) where an eligible installation has replaced a plant, details of the plant replaced;
- (k) evidence which demonstrates to the Authority's satisfaction the installation capacity of the eligible installation;
- (l) details of the fuel which the prospective participant is proposing to use;
- (m) in relation to prospective participants generating heat from biomass, notification as to whether the prospective participant is proposing to use solid biomass contained in municipal waste and, if so, whether or not the prospective participant is regulated under the Pollution Prevention and Control Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003;

(a)

(a) S.R. 2003 No. 46

- (n) where the plant is a heat pump, evidence which demonstrates to the Authority's satisfaction, that the heat pump meets a coefficient of performance of at least [2.9]⁹⁶;
- (o) in respect of a producer of biogas or biomethane, details of the feedstock which the producer is proposing to use;
- (p) details of what the heat generated will be used for and an estimate of how much heat will be used;
- (q) details of the building in which the heat will be used;
- (r) the industry sector for which the heat will be used;
- (s) details of the size and annual turnover of the prospective participant's organisation;
- (t) details of other plants generating heat which form part of the same heating system as the eligible installation to which the application relates;
- (u) where regulation 13 applies, evidence from the installer that the requirements specified in that regulation are met;
- (v) such information as the Authority may specify to enable it to satisfy itself that the requirements of ~~regulation 16 to 21~~ *Chapter 3 of Part 2* have been met including—
- (i) evidence that a class 2 heat meter, other heat meter or steam measuring equipment has been installed;
- (ii) evidence that the class 2 heat meter, other heat meter or steam measuring equipment was calibrated prior to use;
- (iii) in relation to all heat meters, details of the meter's manufacturer, model, meter serial number;
- (iv) a schematic diagram showing details of the heating system of which the eligible installation forms part, including all plants generating and supplying heat to that heating system, all purposes for which heat supplied by that heating system is used, the location of meters and associated components and such other details as may be specified by the Authority; ~~and~~
- (v) where—
- (aa) an eligible installation has an installation capacity of [1 MWth or above]⁹⁷; or
- (bb) regulation 17 applies;
- if so requested by the Authority, an independent report by a competent person verifying that such of those requirements as the Authority may specify have been met; ~~and~~

⁹⁶ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

⁹⁷ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

(w) such other information as the Authority may require to enable it to consider the prospective participant's application for accreditation or registration.

(3) Information specified in this Schedule must be provided in such manner and form as the Authority may reasonably request.

(4) The costs of providing the information specified in this Schedule are to be borne by the applicant.

SCHEDULE 2

Regulations 29 and 33

Provision of information in relation to the use of biomass in certain circumstances**Information to be provided to the Authority where biomass is used for combustion or production of biomethane**

1. This Schedule specifies the information that a participant is required to provide under regulation 29(9) and 33(9).
2. The information is information identifying to the best of the participant's knowledge and belief, in such manner and form as the Authority may require—
 - (a) the material from which the solid biomass was composed;
 - (b) the form of the solid biomass;
 - (c) its mass;
 - (d) whether the solid biomass was a by-product of a process;
 - (e) whether the solid biomass was derived from waste;
 - (f) where the solid biomass was plant matter or derived from plant matter, the country where the plant matter was grown;
 - (g) where the information specified in paragraph (vi) is not known or the solid biomass was not plant matter or derived from plant matter, the country from which the operator obtained the solid biomass;
 - (h) whether any of the solid biomass used was an energy crop or derived from an energy crop and if so—
 - (i) the proportion of the consignment which was or was derived from the energy crop; and
 - (ii) the type of energy crop in question;
 - (i) whether the solid biomass or any matter from which it was derived was certified under an environmental quality assurance scheme and, if so, the name of the scheme; ~~and~~
 - (j) where the solid biomass was plant matter or derived from plant matter, the use to which the land on which the plant matter was grown has been put since [30th November 2005]⁹⁸.
3. The information specified in paragraph 2 must be collated by reference to the following places of origin—

⁹⁸ Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

- (a) United States of America or Canada;
- (b) the European Union; ~~and~~
- (c) other.

X

4. The information specified in paragraph 2 must be provided for every quarterly period.

5. For the purpose of this Schedule—

“energy crop” means a plant crop planted after [31st December 1989]⁹⁹ which is grown primarily for the purpose of being used as fuel or which is one of the following—

- (a) miscanthus giganteus (a perennial grass);
- (b) salix (also known as short rotation coppice willow); ~~and~~
- (c) populus (also known as short rotation coppice poplar); ~~and~~

X
X

“environmental quality assurance scheme” means a voluntary scheme which establishes environmental or social standards in relation to the production of biomass or matter from which a biomass is derived.

⁹⁹ Date from draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

SCHEDULE 3

Regulation 37

Tariffs¹⁰⁰

Table 1

Tariff name	Sources of energy or Technology	Installation capacity	Tariff (Pence/kWh)
[Small commercial Biomass]	[Solid biomass including solid biomass contained in municipal solid waste and CHP]	[Less than 200kWth]	[Tier 1:7.9] [Tier 2:2.0]
[Medium commercial Biomass]	[As above]	[200k Wth and above up to but not including 1MWth]	[Tier 1:4.9] [Tier 2:2.0]
[Large commercial Biomass]	[As above]	[1 MWth and above]	[2.7]
[Small commercial heat pumps]	[Ground source heat pump, water source heat pump, deep geothermal]	[Less than 100kWth]	[4.5]
[Large commercial heat pumps]	[As above]	[100kWth]	[3.2]
[All Solar collectors]	[Solar collectors]	[Below 200 Wth]	[8.5]
[Biomethane and biogas Combustion]	[Biomethane injection and biogas combustion]	[All biomethane injection and biogas combustion below 200 Wth]	[6.8]

¹⁰⁰ All values in Schedule 3 relate to the draft GB RHI Regulations – the position for NI is to be confirmed.

[EXPLANATORY NOTE]

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations, ~~which apply to Northern Ireland~~, establish a renewable heat incentive scheme ("the scheme") under which owners of plants which generate heat from specified renewable sources and meet specified criteria may receive payments at prescribed tariffs for the heat used for eligible purposes. Payments may also be made to biomethane producers who produce biomethane for injection. The Regulations confer functions on the Northern Ireland Authority for Utility Regulation ("the Authority") in connection with the administration of the scheme.

Regulation 3 confers on the Authority the function of making payments to participants in the scheme and specifies the eligible purposes for which heat will receive payment.

Regulation 4 defines criteria ("eligibility criteria") that must be satisfied for a plant to be eligible to participate in the scheme.

Regulations 5 to 15 specify the eligibility criteria other than those in relation to metering.

Regulations 16 to 21 specify the eligibility criteria in relation to metering, setting out the types of meters which may be used, the requirements with which they must comply and what must be measured.

Part 3 (regulations 22 to 26) sets out the procedures for accreditation, registration, change of ownership and preliminary accreditation. Regulation 22 confers on the Authority the function of accrediting eligible installations (which upon accreditation are known as accredited RHI installations) and specifies the process by which applicants apply to the Authority for accreditation.

Regulation 23 specifies the circumstances in which the Authority may not accredit a plant. These include matters relating to the receipt of grants from public funds; where a plant has not been commissioned; where an applicant has indicated that applicable ongoing obligations will not be complied with and where the plant is one of a number of plants which would together form one eligible installation in accordance with Part 2.

Regulation 24 specifies the procedure for notifying the Authority where there has been a transfer in ownership of all or part of an accredited RHI installation and sets out the process by which the new owner may receive payments under the scheme.

Regulation 25 confers on the Authority the function of registering producers of biomethane who are producing biomethane for injection. It specifies the process by which applicants apply to the Authority for registration and specifies the circumstances in which an application for registration can be refused.

Regulation 26 sets out the process by which a person may apply for and the Authority may grant preliminary accreditation in respect of a plant.

Regulations 27 to 30 set out ongoing obligations with which participants generating heat from biomass must comply.

Regulation 28 applies to participants generating heat from solid biomass contained in municipal waste. It specifies the minimum proportion of solid biomass which must be

contained in the municipal waste used, sets out how the proportion of solid biomass is determined and specifies the permitted uses of fossil fuel in accredited RHI installations.

Regulations 29 and 30 apply to participants generating heat from solid biomass, not being solid biomass contained in municipal waste. They specify the permitted levels of and reasons for fossil fuel contamination, set out how the proportion of fossil fuel contamination is determined and specify the permitted uses of fossil fuel in accredited RHI installations. Regulation 29 also imposes a sustainability reporting requirements for participants generating heat using accredited RHI installations with an installation capacity of [1MWth]¹⁰¹ or above.

Regulations 31 to 33 set out ongoing obligations for participants who are generating heat from biogas and producing biomethane for injection.

Regulation 31 applies to participants producing biogas using gasification and pyrolysis and generating heat from that biogas. It stipulates composition requirements for the feedstock used by participants and specifies the permitted uses of fossil fuel in accredited RHI installations.

Regulation 32 applies to participants generating heat from biogas to whom regulation 31 does not apply. It stipulates feedstock requirements for participants using biogas produced from anaerobic digestion and specifies permitted uses of fossil fuel in accredited RHI installations.

Regulation 33 applies to biomethane producers who produce biomethane for injection. It specifies composition requirements for feedstocks used to produce the biogas from which the biomethane is made and sets out the ongoing obligations relating to administration with which participants must comply. It also imposes a sustainability reporting requirement.

Regulations 34 to 36 set out the ongoing obligations for participants which are not specific to those participants generating heat from biomass or biogas or producing biomethane for injection.

Regulation 34 specifies general ongoing obligations relating to administrative and other matters with which participants must comply.

Regulation 35 specifies the ongoing obligations in relation to metering. It imposes requirements on participants in relation to their heat meters and steam measuring equipment; requires participants to provide data when requested by the Authority; and specifies the metering arrangements for participants using heat pumps for both heating and cooling. This regulation also permits the data to be estimated in exceptional circumstances.

Regulation 36 specifies ongoing obligations in relation to the provision of information and gives effect to Schedule 1.

Part 5 (regulations 37 to 42) confers on the Authority the function of calculating and paying periodic support payments to participants. These regulations specify the method by which tariffs are assigned; confer a function on the Authority to calculate and publish a table of tariffs each year based on the tariffs set out in Schedule 3 adjusted in line with the retail price index and specifies the method by which periodic support payments are calculated.

Part 6 (regulation 43) specifies how a plant using the same source of energy and technology as an accredited RHI installations and supplying heat to the same heating system (known as additional RHI capacity) is to be treated under the scheme.

¹⁰¹ Value relates to draft GB RHI Regulations – position to be confirmed for NI

Part 7 (regulations 44 to 48) sets out the provisions in relation to enforcement.

Regulations 44 to 47 confer on the Authority a wide range of powers to temporarily or permanently withhold a participant's periodic support payments or reduce a periodic support payment.

Regulation 47 confers a power on the Authority to revoke accreditation or registration in certain circumstances.

Regulation 48 confers a power on the Authority to recover overpayments.

Part 8 (regulation 49) confers on the Authority a power to revoke any sanction imposed under Part 7 and specifies the circumstances and manner in which the Authority may exercise this power.

Part 9 (regulation 50) confers on the Authority or its authorised agent the power to inspect an accredited RHI installation and its associated infrastructure and specifies the manner and circumstances in which this power may be exercised and the consequences of refusal.

Part 10 (regulation 51) confers a right of review on any prospective, current or former participant affected by a decision made by the Authority under these Regulations, sets out the process by which a person may request a review of such decisions and specifies the Authority's powers on review.

Part 11 (regulations 52 to 55) confers additional administrative functions on the Authority. Under regulation 52 the Authority must publish procedural guidance in connection with the administration of the scheme.

Regulation 53 requires the Authority to provide information to the Department including annual, quarterly and monthly reports and to publish certain information on its website.

Regulation 54 requires the Authority to provide certain additional information as the Department may request.

Regulation 55 describes the form of notices under these Regulations.]

[A draft of these Regulations was notified to the European Commission in accordance with Directive 98/34/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down a procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical standards and regulations (OJ L 204, 21.7.1998, p. 37) as amended by Directive 98/48/EC (OJ L 217, 5.8.1998, p. 18).]¹⁰²

[A full impact assessment of the effect that this instrument will have on the costs of business and the voluntary sector is available from the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment at Netherleigh, Massey Avenue, Belfast BT4 2JP and is published with the Explanatory Memorandum alongside the instrument on www.legislation.gov.uk.]¹⁰³

102 To be confirmed

103 To be confirmed