

**From:** [Hepper, Fiona](#)  
**To:** [Private Office DETI](#)  
**Cc:** [Sterling, David](#); [Thomson, David](#); [McCutcheon, Joanne](#); [Hutchinson, Peter](#); [Stewart, Susan](#); [Baxter, Clare](#); [Stevenson, Valerie](#); [Aiken, Glynis](#); [Ross, Alastair](#)  
**Subject:** INV/1490/2011 : Jeremy Hawksley (OFTEC)  
**Date:** 11 October 2011 14:01:42  
**Attachments:** [OFTEC re RHI.DOC](#)

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Private Office  
See attached  
Fiona

## **Fiona Hepper**

Senior Management  
Department of Enterprise, Trade & Investment  
Netherleigh  
Massey Avenue  
Belfast, BT4 2JP  
Tel: 028 9052 9215 (ext: 29215)  
Textphone: 028 9052 9304  
Web: [www.detini.gov.uk](http://www.detini.gov.uk)

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## DETI MINISTER INVITATION CASES - ADVICE PROFORMA

Completed by: Fiona Hepper

Ext: 29215

Date: 11 October 2011

<b>INVITATION NUMBER:</b>	INV/1490/2011
<b>INVITATION FROM:</b>	Jeremy Hawksley, Director General, OFTEC
<b>EVENT / MEETING:</b>	<p>Meeting to discuss the Introduction of the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) in Northern Ireland. OFTEC is a trade association for manufacturers of oil fired heating and cooking appliances.</p> <p>OFTEC welcomes the inclusion of bioliquids in the proposed RHI but feels the tariff level is too low to incentivise oil users.</p> <p>OFTEC also feels that the proposed RHI is designed to produce anti-competitive conditions for the heating sector i.e. it is designed to encourage a switch from oil and not from gas. OFTEC feel this is unacceptable on carbon abatement grounds and also in terms of giving unfair commercial advantage to the gas industry.</p>
<b>DATE OF EVENT / MEETING (IF KNOWN)</b>	N/A
<b>PROPOSED VENUE:</b>	N/A
<b>REASONS TO ACCEPT / DECLINE THE INVITATION</b>	<p>Decline the Invitation</p> <p>OFTEC has already responded to the RHI consultation making all the points outlined in its letter. Energy Division is in the process of considering all responses. A meeting has already been arranged between the NI OFTEC representative and DETI officials.</p>
<b>ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION</b>	None
<b>FOI STATUS OF ADVICE</b>	Fully disclosable
<b>RECOMMENDATION IF MINISTER SHOULD ATTEND / MEET (YES/NO)</b>	I recommend that you decline this meeting
<b>PRIVATE OFFICE COMMENTS</b>	

<b>SPECIAL ADVISOR'S COMMENTS</b>	
<b>MINISTER'S DECISION</b>	



Jeremy Hawksley  
Director General  
OFTEC  
Foxwood House, Dobbs Lane  
Kesgrave  
IPSWICH  
IPS 2QQ

Our Ref: INV/1490/2011

xx October 2011

Dear

Many thanks for your letter of 4 October requesting a meeting to discuss the design of a Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) for Northern Ireland.

I understand that you responded to the recent consultation on the RHI which closed on the 3 October. My department is currently considering all the responses received before reaching a final policy position; I am grateful for the feedback and evidence you have provided to assist in this process.

I feel it would be more appropriate, at this stage, for you to meet with DETI officials to discuss the issues you have raised. I understand that a meeting has already been arranged between my officials and David Blevings. If you feel further meetings are necessary, you can contact Peter Hutchinson (02890 529532).

Yours sincerely

**Arlene Foster**  
**Minister of Enterprise, Trade & Investment**