

**From:** [Woods, Michael \(DETI\)](#)  
**To:** [Wightman, Stuart](#)  
**Cc:** [Stewart, Chris \(DETI\)](#); [Mills, John \(DETI\)](#); [McCormick, Andrew \(DETI\)](#); [Anderson, Michelle](#); [Rooney, Eugene](#); [Cooper, Trevor](#); [Bagdonaite, Dovile](#); [Cardwell, Mark](#)  
**Subject:** RE: HPRM: FW: Letter to Chris Poulton - joint DETI Ofgem RHI review - 7 March 2016 [OFFICIAL ]  
**Date:** 11 March 2016 13:48:22  
**Attachments:** [image002.gif](#)  
[image003.gif](#)  
[CPlettertoJM110316.pdf](#)

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Stuart

I note that the programme of inspections is now primarily in 2016/2017. Will any visits take place before the end of March 2016? I think it would be useful if we could agree with Ofgem a timetable for the receipt of the Deloitte proposals, completion of the onsite inspections and the completion of work by Deloitte. Colleagues in NIAO are likely to want to know when the results of this work is likely to be available to them.

On a second point, i think if we have not already done so, that the departmental Economists should be tasked with looking at the current State Aid approvals in place for the RHI scheme and whether or not the scheme is operating within the limits that were agreed. I think this is another area that both needs to be understood and will be off interest to NIAO etc. In our report it is likely that i will be asking for this to be reviewed and it would be useful if work was already underway

Michael Woods  
DETI IAS  
Ext 29892

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**From:** Wightman, Stuart  
**Sent:** 11 March 2016 13:16  
**To:** Woods, Michael (DETI)  
**Cc:** Stewart, Chris (DETI); Mills, John (DETI); Hughes, Seamus; Willis, Adele; Briggs, Peter  
**Subject:** HPRM: FW: Letter to Chris Poulton - joint DETI Ofgem RHI review - 7 March 2016 [OFFICIAL ]  
**Importance:** High

Michael

Please see response from Ofgem. We hope to receive a proposal from Deloitte in the coming days.

Happy to discuss.

Thanks, Stuart

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**From:** Jane Pierce [<mailto:Jane.Pierce@ofgem.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 11 March 2016 12:48  
**To:** Mills, John (DETI); Hughes, Seamus; Willis, Adele; Briggs, Peter  
**Cc:** Hughes, Seamus; Wightman, Stuart; Willis, Adele; Chris Poulton; Gareth John; Edmund Ward; Teri Clifton  
**Subject:** FW: Letter to Chris Poulton - joint DETI Ofgem RHI review - 7 March 2016 [OFFICIAL ]  
**Importance:** High

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter, please see attached response from Chris Poulton.

Do let us know if you need anything further at this stage.

Kind regards.

Jane

**Jane Pierce**

Head of Policy and Communications  
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**From:** Hughes, Seamus [<mailto:Seamus.Hughes@detini.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 07 March 2016 16:29  
**To:** Chris Poulton  
**Cc:** Stewart, Chris (DETI); Mills, John (DETI); Woods, Michael (DETI); Wightman, Stuart; Willis, Adele; Edmund Ward; Teri Clifton; Gareth John  
**Subject:** Letter to Chris Poulton - joint DETI Ofgem RHI review - 7 March 2016  
**Importance:** High

Chris

Please see attached letter from John Mills regarding the joint DETI/Ofgem RHI review.

Regards

Seamus

**Seamus Hughes**

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Email: [chris.poulton@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:chris.poulton@ofgem.gov.uk)

Date: 11 March 2016

Dear John,

### **Review of Northern Ireland Non-Domestic RHI Scheme**

Thank you for your letter of 7<sup>th</sup> March, in which you summarised our understanding regarding a review of the Northern Ireland Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme, following our teleconference on 16<sup>th</sup> February and subsequent detailed discussions between our teams.

I confirm that we agree with the proposed approach. We have already advanced our discussions with Deloitte, who are a potential provider of the independent review in line with our current Ofgem framework. I expect our teams to engage in the coming days on reviewing an initial proposal from Deloitte. As per your letter, once a final costed proposal has been received and reviewed by our teams, we will be in a position to confirm a final decision on proceeding with this review.

I note that we are expecting a number of site checks to form part of the review, and that we would expect the sampling approach to be the subject of advice from Deloitte. We agreed that an appropriate sample will be central to the robust findings of any final report, and therefore an initial review of processes and controls is likely to be specified by Deloitte, prior to them being well-placed to advise on the most appropriate split of site audits. We recognise that this is likely to mean that site audit activity would be conducted primarily in the 16/17 year, but we are looking to progress the initial phases of the review as swiftly as possible in order to understand any options for advancing this activity.

I look forward to receiving a proposal from Deloitte, and hope we will be able to correspond again in the near future to confirm our agreement to commence with a review.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Poulton  
Managing Director, E-Serve