

From: [Johnston, Wendy](#)
To: [McCormick, Andrew \(DFE\)](#); [Cousins, Heather](#)
Cc: [McEvoy, Colette](#); [McCann, Brendan](#); [Woods, Michael \(DFE\)](#)
Subject: RE: Renewable Heat Incentive
Date: 30 September 2016 09:42:34

Andrew

The TRIM container title that holds the O'Hagan emails is "Renewable Heat Incentive - Information from OFTEC." Created in 2011 it holds around 60 documents, dated from 7 November 2011 to 11 June 2014. There are no internal emails. It includes consultation documents, reports, case studies/field studies and a range of spreadsheets which cover issues such as types of fuels, boilers and tariffs. There is also one dated 3 August 2012 which is headed "Tariff Calculations". There are also a range of emails which related to ILUC factors in Nov 2011 which are correspondence from DfT to officials in NI (DETI and DAERA), Wales and Scotland in relation of Ministerial approach to addressing an EU Directive.

I hope this is helpful.

Regards

Wendy

Wendy Johnston
Director, HR and Central Services
Department for the Economy
Netherleigh
Massey Avenue
Belfast, BT4 2JP
Tel: 028 9052 9402 (ext: 29402)
TextRelay: 18001 028 9052 9402
Web: www.economy-ni.gov.uk

All e-mails and attachments issued by this Office must be filed appropriately by the responsible business area. This Office does not keep official records of such correspondence.

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

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

From: McCormick, Andrew (DFE)
Sent: 30 September 2016 05:22
To: Johnston, Wendy; McCormick, Andrew (DFE); Cousins, Heather; McCormick, Andrew (DFE)
Cc: McEvoy, Colette; McCann, Brendan; Woods, Michael (DFE)
Subject: Re: Renewable Heat Incentive

Yes please. Important all possible leads are followed.
Many thanks.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

Original Message
From: Johnston, Wendy
Sent: Friday, 30 September 2016 00:05
To: McCormick, Andrew (DFE); Cousins, Heather; McCormick, Andrew (DFE)
Cc: McEvoy, Colette; McCann, Brendan; Woods, Michael (DFE)
Subject: Re: Renewable Heat Incentive

Andrew

I will talk to Brendan first thing about getting redacted copies of the emails to Colette. On checking if there was an active audit record for the O'Hagan email today in TRIM I found the reply that subsequently issued from Energy Division. Brendan and Michael are aware. There are other documents in the container but I did not access them. I will forward the responding email in the morning. Do you want me to access the other documents?

Wendy

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

Original Message

From: McCormick, Andrew (DFE)

Sent: Thursday, 29 September 2016 22:35

To: Cousins, Heather; McCormick, Andrew (DFE)

Cc: McEvoy, Colette; McCann, Brendan; Woods, Michael (DFE); Johnston, Wendy

Subject: Re: Renewable Heat Incentive

Many thanks no problem

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

Original Message

From: Cousins, Heather

Sent: Thursday, 29 September 2016 21:30

To: McCormick, Andrew (DFE)

Cc: McEvoy, Colette; McCann, Brendan; Woods, Michael (DFE); Johnston, Wendy

Subject: Re: Renewable Heat Incentive

Andrew,

As I read through my concern was about releasing the names below SCS through the e mail chain but you addressed this with the redaction point towards the end.

Can you hold off from sending this until after we meet with PWC in the morning as we need to confirm the contractual arrangements?

Heather

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

Original Message

From: McCormick, Andrew (DFE)

Sent: Thursday, 29 September 2016 21:19

To: Cousins, Heather

Cc: McEvoy, Colette; McCann, Brendan; Woods, Michael (DFE); Johnston, Wendy

Subject: Renewable Heat Incentive

Grateful for any points on this draft please.

Many thanks

↑

Dear Robin,

RENEWABLE HEAT INCENTIVE

Thank you for your letter of 29 September. I will be ready to continue the evidence session on 12 October. I would propose to bring Heather Cousins and Chris Stewart, who has been the Deputy Secretary responsible for (inter alia) energy issues since 1 August 2014. Please let me know if the Committee requires anyone else to attend.

As you know, I said to C&AG after the evidence session on 28 September that I had received some new important information in respect of this case on the morning of the hearing. The relevant documents are

attached. These are:

- a handover note prepared by a Deputy Principal in the RHI team to alert the person taking over the relevant responsibilities to the important issues at the time. This includes key references to the very issues which we were dealing with at the hearing on 28 September. This document was supplied to the Department by its author who now works in Department of Education; and

- an email which is referred to in the handover note, which is of the nature of a whistleblower raising concerns about the RHI scheme.

Following discussion with the TOA and the C&AG, I have commissioned an immediate preliminary formal fact-finding investigation, to see if it is possible to establish clearly who saw these documents and what, if anything, was done about the issues raised. This is being conducted by PricewaterhouseCoopers, as an addendum to their current investigation on my behalf. This will involve a small number of current and former members of the staff of Energy Division, but depending on the emerging findings, we will widen or deepen the scope of this exercise as necessary to get the clearest possible understanding of what happened. I hope this will prove helpful ahead of the evidence session on 12 October, though it is of course possible that the initial investigative process will be inconclusive and that further time may be needed to establish a clear view of the facts.

I have asked PwC to include the email from Alison Clydesdale that was highlighted at the session on 28 September in the scope of this fact-finding work. A copy of that email is also attached.

I would be grateful if the Committee could treat the attached documents as "in confidence", though we will of course stand ready to answer questions about them and the issues arising on 12 October. In line with normal conventions we have redacted the names of individual members of staff other than Senior Civil Servants, though the NIAO has of course full access to this information.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Andrew McCormick

Sent from my iPad