From: Wightman, Stuart
To: Mills, John (DETI)
Cc: Hughes, Seamus

Subject: FW: NI Renewable Heat Incentive Date: 21 October 2014 12:20:38

John, please see John Gilliland's concerns below regarding the speed at which Ofgem are processing NI RHI claims. We will raise this with Ofgem.

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From: John Gilliland [mailto:jgilliland@originalheating.com]

Sent: 21 October 2014 07:48
To: Wightman, Stuart; Eddie Meenan
Cc: Hughes, Seamus; Sinton, Dan

Subject: RE: NI Renewable Heat Incentive

Dear Stuart

Many thanks for a very speedy and concise summary and response to our conversations last Friday. This is very helpful, but I ask that you do look at the earliest possibility that listed structures are reappraised, as I believe both you and the Minister respect that when a building is listed key efficiency measures like double or triple glazing are not allowed and in our case, our Conservation Architect will not allow insulation in the roof space for fear that the reduced aeration of the roof space may spark off dry rot

One issue Eddie did raise with you and that is the speed in which OFGEM are progressing NI RHI applications and being told that they can not progress the NI RHI claims any faster as they are being distracted by the number of applications in the GB scheme being progressed before the next trunch of degression happens. Please could you keep this in mind?

Many thanks for taking the time to come and visit us and would it be possible to get a copy of the photos which were taken by Larkin on Friday?

Off to response to a request from Paddy Brow now!!

Best wishes

John

From: Wightman, Stuart [mailto:Stuart.Wightman@detini.gov.uk]

Sent: 20 October 2014 15:34

To: John Gilliland; Eddie Meenan

Cc: Hughes, Seamus; Sinton, Dan

Subject: NI Renewable Heat Incentive

John / Eddie

Thanks for hosting the Minister and DETI officials at Brooke Hall Estate on Friday.

I promised to come back to confirm the issues we discussed about both the Nondomestic and Domestic Schemes. I summarise the key points below. Please come back to me if you feel I've missed something.

Stuart

(1) Proposed Domestic RHI Scheme

 Consider if the proposed RHI cap of £2000/yr can be increased for listed buildings which are prevented from making energy efficiency savings.

Our final policy proposals (and legislation) for the proposed domestic RHI scheme include a £2000 cap on annual domestic RHI payments to avoid the scenario of excessive payments being made to large or inefficient properties. Unfortunately this will include many listed buildings. However we will keep this policy under review to see how the cap impacts on take-up of the scheme.

Clarify if farmhouses will continue to be eligible for the Non-domestic scheme when the domestic scheme is introduced. You mentioned that Ofgem currently allow farmhouses onto the Non-domestic scheme provided certain evidence is provided demonstrating business use. As we discussed, farmhouses will be eligible for the Domestic RHI Scheme. However, if the building is also being used for business purposes, I can't see why they couldn't continue to qualify for the Non-domestic scheme if this can be demonstrated to Ofgem. The introduction of the domestic scheme shouldn't change this. However, I have sought clarification from Ofgem and will come back to confirm this.

(2) Phase 2 of the Non-domestic RHI Scheme

- Consider introducing an uplifted tariff for biomass district heating to incentive the installation of a smaller number of larger boilers serving multiple buildings rather than many smaller boilers (99KW and below).
- Consider extending the current 6.6p biomass tariff (for 20-100kWth boilers) to 200 or 300 KWth boilers.

As I mentioned on Friday, we are currently focussing on trying to get the domestic RHI scheme finalised for launch later this year before turning our attention to Non-domestic Scheme. However, these two important issues will be factored into our final policy decision.

Stuart Wightman

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