

From: [Janette O'Hagan](#)
To: [McCoy, Laura](#)
Subject: Re: Meeting with Fiona Hepper
Date: 09 June 2014 14:26:50
Attachments: [heatboss2.png](#)

Hi Laura,

I had a meeting with Fiona and her team back in October 2013 as arranged by Minister Foster. I've tried to reach her colleague Peter Hutchinson more recently, but to no avail, so I thought it best to bring my points to Fiona herself again. Could you please ensure that the following message gets to Fiona Hepper and confirm?

Many thanks,
Janette

Dear Fiona,

I hope that you'll recall that we'd met back in the Autumn of last year. I had spoken to Minister Foster about my concerns back then and she'd asked that I schedule a meeting with you and your RHI Team.

At the meeting I'd queried if there would be a time when NI's RHI payments would align with the rest of UK's (i.e. to offer a tiered approach to funding whereby the first 1314 peak load hours is funded at the higher amount (7.6p/kWh) and the remainder at a lower amount (1.9p/kWh) to encourage the buildings owners/operators to be more efficient in their usage). As you know in Northern Ireland, a building owner can get a flat rate of 6.1p/kWh no matter what their usage (if boiler is between 20 & 100 kWth).

As I'd said then, what we are seeing on the ground in Northern Ireland is that buildings are using more energy than before because it pays them to do so. The flat rate means that there is no incentive at all to be efficient so the heat in buildings in all year round with the windows open everywhere. When we had spoken, you did not believe that people would do this, but please believe me that it's happening with almost everyone that we approach. It's making it impossible for us to sell energy efficiency equipment to these buildings, even when that's exactly what should be happening as the first step and indeed what is happening in GB. The building owners there know that it's in their interests to be efficient, in Northern Ireland it is not - it's in their interests to be wasteful with what's strictly not a renewable energy source.

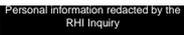
I understand that the RHI Team have a very difficult job to undertake to get the renewables adoption rates up, but the current tariffs are making things difficult for companies like ours who main aim is genuine energy efficiency. We've been told by a well established biomass company here to remove the saving detail on our product's literature because their clients were no longer interested in making any savings. I think that you'd agree that there is something inherently wrong with that approach to funding and it's going to put companies like ours out of business.

Could you please advise what the future plans are for the RHI tariffs for non-domestic within the coming years as we need an awareness of this to ensure that our company can survive in Northern Ireland. I urge you to table this issue again for discussion again and if you need proof of what's happening on the ground, I'd be happy to provide information. It's got to a stage now where it simply cannot be ignored any longer.

Please advise.

Kind regards,
Janette

heatboss

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On 7 Oct 2013, at 10:20, McCoy, Laura <Laura.McCoy@detini.gov.uk> wrote:

Hi Janette

Many thanks for this, I have passed on to Fiona and her colleagues.

Best regards,

Laura

Laura McCoy

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Belfast, BT4 2JP
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Please consider the environment - do you really need to print this e-mail?

From: Janette O'Hagan [<mailto:janette@heatboss.co.uk>]
Sent: 04 October 2013 12:01
To: McCoy, Laura
Subject: Re: Meeting with Fiona Hepper

Hi Laura,

please see below for a proposed agenda for my meeting with Fiona Hepper and her team next Tuesday at 11am. Hopefully it is acceptable, but if not please let me know and I can amend.

Proposed agenda