

Blower, Michael

From: Swann, Barbara [Barbara.Swann@detini.gov.uk]
Sent: 07 August 2015 15:23
Subject: FW: SMT - NIRO and RHI issues
Attachments: FW: Urgent cost control and administrative changes to the NI Renewable H... (15.9 KB)

Trevor

To see Helen's note re SMT

Barbara

Barbara Swann

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

From: Vaughan, Helen
Sent: 07 August 2015 15:15
To: Mills, John (DETI); Hughes, Seamus; Swann, Barbara
Cc: Wightman, Stuart; Harris, Michael; Anderson, Gail
Subject: SMT - NIRO and RHI issues

Folks – couple of energy related issues that came up at different stages during SMT this morning. I have already spoken to Seamus and Barbara about them. John – happy to speak about the other agenda items if you wish but nothing really to report back.

Helen

NIRO

- David McCune noted first meeting of ETI Committee is scheduled for 15/9 (there's one on 8/9 but it's a planning meeting).
- David said Cmtee Clerk has asked whether it was expected that a meeting would be required during August re NIRO – Chris said no, but explained NIRO position very fluid at present.
- Chris confirmed that consultation will be required to issue before 15/9 and contact would be needed with Cmtee before then – Chris mentioned the possibility of a phonecall with Committee Chair, Andrew talked about possibility of a meeting with Chair and Deputy Chair.

FOI query relating to ETI Committee meeting 9 July

- David McCune noted that there's an FOI asking about papers for the ETI Committee meeting which he is dealing with (just came in yesterday).
- He planned to speak to Rozzi about it but said that Energy Division input would be required since some of the papers were marked not discloseable, but subject to a public interest test.

Chris had talked about how the NIRO issue draws in interests across the Department, mentioned Bombardier and Andrew agreed, emphasising importance of making the cross-linkages and contacts across the Department. He noted that agri-food was another area where there are these cross-linkages.

This led to a discussion on RHI

- Chris noted that there was expected to be greater emphasis on pork and mushrooms in the agri-food sector [?] and queried whether there might be a 'spike' in RHI applications in relation to these areas.
- Diarmuid McLean felt there might be potential for this and Chris asked him to make sure he kept in touch with Stuart about this. I spoke to Seamus and he has checked position with DARD and briefed Stuart (copy email attached).
- There was a discussion about the budget –Again, Chris v familiar with the issue - we were able to say there was a sub with Minister on this, that there had been a response from DECC which had been shared with Finance (Trevor said he hadn't had an opportunity to consider yet).
- Trevor said there had been recent meeting on latest business case proposals, noting the budget was a very difficult issue. He acknowledged that the DECC response was in and had been shared with Finance, but said he hadn't had an opportunity to consider yet.
- AMcC emphasised his desire as accounting officer to see this addressed urgently (I see Chris Stewart after SMT has prompted the SpAd about the submission).