

From: [Hutchinson, Peter](#)
To: ["jcmfarms@aol.com"](mailto:jcmfarms@aol.com)
Cc: [Clydesdale, Alison](#)
Subject: RE: Renewable Heat - Project Steering Group - Invitations
Date: 23 December 2009 09:46:00

John,

Jenny has passed your query to me to answer.

The work on renewable heat is primarily a result of the EU Renewable Energy Directive, published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 5 June 2009, requiring that member states ensure that 15% of their energy consumption comes from renewable sources by 2020. This requirement extends beyond electricity to heating and cooling to transport. DECC took powers through the Energy Act 2008 which allows them to provide financial support for renewable heat. This will be done through a Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI); exact details of this scheme have yet to be announced. Northern Ireland is not included in this measure and therefore an assessment needs to be made on the most appropriate options of incentivising and stimulating the renewable heat market in NI.

The draft Strategic Energy Framework (responses to the consultation currently being analysed) suggested a target of 10% renewable heat in Northern Ireland by 2020. This is a provisional target and may be revised depending on responses to the SEF and/or the research currently being carried out by consultants

As explained in the invitation from Jenny, DETI Sustainable Energy Branch have recently appointed AECOM (in conjunction with Poyry) to undertake a significant piece of work which will;

- i. Assess and quantify the current scale, future sustainable growth potential and optimum size of the renewable heat sector in NI;
- ii. Make recommendations as to the options for encouraging the deployment of renewable heat technologies in NI in the short, medium and longer term; and
- iii. Make recommendations for an appropriate evidence based renewable heat target, and how this may impact on the NI existing heat markets.

AECOM Ltd have been asked to present a draft report by early March with the final report being submitted by end March. Currently they are collecting data and engaging with key stakeholders. It is hoped that this project steering group will meet on at least three occasions, firstly on Tuesday, 19th January (10.30am) to hear the background to the study and offer advice / guidance, and then again to in February and March to consider interim reports.

Andrew Crawford (Special Advisor to Arlene Foster) asked that you be included on this group.

If you require further information please let me know. The meeting on the 19th will be a good opportunity to hear in more detail about the work being carried out and to ask questions and offer comment. An agenda for this meeting will follow closer to the time.

Thanks,

Peter

Peter Hutchinson

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From: jcmfarms@aol.com <jcmfarms@aol.com>
To: Pyper, Jenny
Sent: Tue Dec 22 06:13:25 2009
Subject: Re: Renewable Heat - Project Steering Group - Invitations

Dear Ms Pyper,
Thank you for your invitation to participate in the Renewable Heat - Project Steering Group on behalf of Biomass Energy Northern Ireland.
I would ask that any background information relating to the Project could be forwarded to me in advance of this meeting. I am unclear as to the timescale of the project.
I look forward to attending the first meeting on 18th January 2010.

Yours sincerely,

John Martin
Chairman
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by the RHI Inquiry
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