

ENERGY EFFICIENCY(STUART)**RHI Phase 1**

- Carbon Trust loan issue now resolved – the 3 affected applicants have received letters from Ofgem advising payback option. All have indicated they will do so.
- Through the Domestic Regulations the Non-domestic RHI Regulations were amended to allow repayment of CT loans and any other public funding.
- Data sharing Protocol agreed with Ofgem – to agree reporting requirements.
- Uptake under the scheme remains positive at 4% of total GB figures.

RHI Phase 2 (Domestic)

- Regulations were made on 8 December and Scheme went live on 9 December.
- Work ongoing with Ofgem / NI Direct to update some of the Guidance documents.
- Issue has arisen over households wanting to apply for Domestic RHI Scheme who have received NISEP grant for Solar Thermal – legal advice confirmed that NISEP grants qualify as public funding and should be deducted from RHI payments.
- Business Case for additional RHI staff has been submitted to DETI Resourcing Group – approval received for RHI SO post. BIT have approved grading. Awaiting DHR approval to fill post.
- Work ongoing to develop effective administration procedures, develop IT systems and complete risk analysis for scheme.
- Trading Standards Case against Greenhouse Renewables – MCS/DECC have confirmed that those affected households cannot be included on MCS scheme. DSO have confirmed that draft Domestic Regulations allow DETI to include those households affected on the RHI scheme provided boilers can be checked and validated to ensure they meet certain standards. Court Case (3 November) adjourned until 4 January to allow assessments of boilers to be completed. Letter received from Solicitor representing Greenhouse Renewables confirming receipt of funding for inspections. Working with Action Renewables to arrange inspections. Court Case adjourned.

RHI Phase 2 (Non-Domestic)

- Work started to prepare State Aid Notification for additional technologies and tariffs being proposed under Phase 2.
- Work ongoing to review Phase 2 policy proposals.

Energy Efficiency Directive

- Heat Project Board Meeting 29 October – agreed action for DETI/DSD/SIB to draft and agree a Strategic Outline Case (SOC). Awaiting DFP clearance of SOC. Working Group established to develop and agree Outline Business Case. Work on the OBC and options is ongoing. – DETI to provide contribution to project costs for 15/16.
- DSD Minister and NEA have written requesting NISEP extension – letter to DSD Minister with Private Office for issue, letter to NEA drafted awaiting issue of letter to UR seeking consideration of extension of NISEP (COR/574/2014).
- Work underway to identify existing and proposed schemes that could contribute energy savings for EED Article 7 purposes beyond 2016 when NISEP ends.
- Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) – Workshops held on 21 November to provide advice and training on ESOS requirements for business and industry and NIEA's enforcement role – DETI's role now limited to reporting to DECC as required.