

**Arlene Foster's Office**

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**From:** Arlene Fosters Office <office@arlenefoster.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 12 February 2016 12:04  
**To:** 'Arlene Foster'  
**Subject:** FW: Arlene Foster MLA Contact: RHI Closure

## -----Original Message-----

**From:** arlenefoster.org.uk@hosts.co.uk [mailto:arlenefoster.org.uk@hosts.co.uk] On Behalf Of nigel morris  
**Sent:** 12 February 2016 11:56  
**To:** office@arlenefoster.org.uk  
**Subject:** Arlene Foster MLA Contact: RHI Closure

**To:**  
Webmaster

**Name:**  
nigel morris

**Email:**  
Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**Subject:**  
RHI Closure

**Message:**

Dear First Minister,

as a Fermanagh South constituent I wish to complain very strongly about the proposed sudden closure of the RHI in Northern Ireland. We are half way through a major renovation of our house outside Enniskillen and have planned to install efficient, non-fossil fuel heating. The RHI was one of the factors that was going to make this feasible for us. It's sudden withdrawal will leave us with inadequate time to get our planned heat pump ordered and installed. Northern Ireland, as a major CO2 emitter through heating, should be facilitating the use of low energy and low CO2 heating not making it more difficult.

As my representative I wish to know whether you are supporting Fermanagh residents installing efficient heat sources, or forcing us into fossil fuel, oil fired central heating, against the interests of all future Fermanagh residents.

Nigel Morris

**Telephone Number:**  
Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**Sent from (ip address):** Irrelevant information redacted by the RHI Inquiry

**Arlene Foster's Office**

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**From:** Arlene Fosters Office <office@arlenefoster.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 15 February 2016 10:14  
**To:** 'Arlene Foster'  
**Subject:** FW: Unfair removal of RHI scheme

**Importance:** High

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**From:** Helen Palmer [mailto:info@steppingstonetimberproducts.com]  
**Sent:** 15 February 2016 10:08  
**To:** office@arlenefoster.org.uk; phil.flanagan1@gmail.com; Sean.lynch122@gmail.com; Bronwyn.mcgahan@mla.niassembly.gov.uk; maurice.morrow@mla.niassembly.gov.uk; alastair.patterson@mla.niassembly.gov.uk; bronwyn.mcgahan@MLA.niassembly.gov.uk; phil.flanagan@MLA.niassembly.gov.uk; sean.lynch@mla.niassembly.gov.uk  
**Cc:** helen@steppingstonetimberproducts.com  
**Subject:** Unfair removal of RHI scheme  
**Importance:** High

Dear MLA,

We, Steppingstone Timber Products, are a family grown and managed business based in rural Fermanagh specialising in the kiln drying of firewood for supply to mainstream retailers and distributors through England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland such as Tesco, Lidl, Aldi, Spar, Nisa, Woodies and Home Bargains.

We currently employ 30+ people directly and support many local businesses indirectly.

As part of our continued growth, we are in the process of installing 2 additional 990kw biomass boilers, these new boilers will allow us increase our drying efficiency and help maintain our competitiveness within the market place. We are currently struggling to compete with other UK based manufacturers who are receiving up to 5.6p/kwh RHI payments on similar boilers, the current Northern Ireland RHI tariffs for such boilers is 1.5p/kwh (less than 1/3 of that currently available in the UK mainland) it is our understanding that the RHI scheme shall be closed this week and the UK mainland scheme shall continue.

We are now at a stage that we have committed to the installation of 2 boilers having completed our research, focussed our business development and now placed orders for the boilers. Unfortunately, due to the size and scale of these boilers this is not something that can happen within 2-3 weeks and requires 1-2 years in preparation. We are now financially exposed, having ordered these boilers, deposits paid and committed to the associated infrastructure, we can not retain funding without the guarantee of RHI accreditation and we cannot have the boilers installed within the currently proposed RHI deadlines.

We need our MLAs to look at the changes to the RHI scheme sensibly, the current tariff for biomass boilers over 200Kw is merely an incentive, it does not insight waste and if anything it should be increased in-line with mainland UK tariffs

Yours faithfully

Richard Armstrong  
Stepping Stone Timber Products

MANUFACTURER OF FSC 100%, KILN DRIED KINDLING AND FIREWOOD

Leam House, Tempo, Co Fermanagh, BT94 3HA