



RENEWABLE HEAT
INCENTIVE INQUIRY

RHI Inquiry

Headline Building
10-14 Victoria Street
BELFAST, BT1 3GG

T: 028 9040 8833

E: general@rhiinquiry.org

W: www.rhiinquiry.org

Jonathan Bell
C/O Mr D Moloney
Donnelly and Wall Solicitors
Cathedral Terrace
19-27 Church Street
Lower North Street
Belfast
BT1 1PG

By Post & Email: margaret@donnellyandwall.co.uk

13 November 2018

Dear Sir

Re: The Independent Public Inquiry into the Non Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) Scheme
Provision of a Section 21 Notice requiring the production of documents

I am writing to you in my capacity as Solicitor to the Independent Public Inquiry into the Non Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) Scheme (known as 'the RHI Inquiry') which has been set up under the Inquiries Act 2005 ('the Act').

I know you will by now be very familiar with the work of the Inquiry and its Terms of Reference from your previous engagement with the Inquiry; and my other correspondence to you of today's date.


The purpose of the Section 21 Notice provided to you with this correspondence, which requires the provision of further documents, should be evident from the contents of the Schedule to the Notice and the Schedule to the Notice enclosed with my other correspondence to you of today's date. It is to ensure that the Inquiry has been provided with relevant documentation from your Hotmail email account which remains available to you; and also to provide the Inquiry with a proper understanding of the extent to which you may have used that email account for the transaction of Departmental business.

Given the tight time-frame within which the RHI Inquiry must operate, the Chairman of the Inquiry would be grateful if you would comply with the requirements of the Section 21 Notice as soon as possible and, in any event, by the date set out for compliance in the Notice itself.

Finally, I would be grateful if you (or your legal representative) could acknowledge receipt of this correspondence and the enclosed notice by email to Patrick.Butler@rhiinquiry.org.

Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss any matter arising.

Yours faithfully



Patrick Butler

Solicitor to the RHI Inquiry

02890408928

SCHEDULE
[No 217 of 2018]

1. Please provide to the Inquiry:
 - a. Any and all emails contained within the email account jonathanbell620@hotmail.com which you received from, or sent to, either a departmental official or your special adviser transacting or discussing anything relating to the RHI Scheme.
 - b. Any and all emails contained within the email account jonathanbell620@hotmail.com which you received from, or sent to, either a departmental official or your special adviser transacting or discussing any form of departmental business during your time as DETI Minister.
 - c. Screen-shots or print-outs of the 'Inbox' and 'Sent' box, as they currently exist, for the period May 2015 to May 2016.

INQUIRY INTO THE RENEWABLE HEAT INCENTIVE SCHEME

RHI REF: Notice 217 of 2018

DATE:

Witness Statement of: JONATHAN BELL

I, Jonathan Bell, will say as follows: -

1.
 - a. To the best of my knowledge I have provided the Inquiry Team with all emails received or sent to either a Department Official or Special Advisor relating to the RHI Scheme from the email account jonathanbell620@hotmail.com
 - b. To the best of my knowledge I have provided the Inquiry Team with all emails that I received or sent from either a Department Official or Special Advisor discussing any form of departmental business during my time as a DETI Minister from the email account jonathanbell620@hotmail.com
 - c. I have checked my email account jonathanbell620@hotmail.com. I have tried but despite my efforts I am unable to access my "in box" and "sent" box for the period May 2015 to May 2016. As I stated in the earlier Section 21 Notice any emails coming from Departmental Officials and from SPAD's should have been through the TRIM system and that any replies to those emails should be back into the TRIM system and therefore there should be a record of them in the Civil Service information system

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed: Dated: 22/11/2018