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17 January 2020

Dear Sir Patrick

**RENEWABLE HEAT INCENTIVE (RHI) INQUIRY REPORT**

I have been advised by my departmental officials that your Inquiry Report is nearing completion and that, as is normal practice, the Department will receive a copy of the Report a short time before it is published on a strictly confidential basis.

My predecessor Máirtín Ó Muilleoir wrote to you on 31 January 2017, in line with Section 25(2) of the Inquiries Act 2005, to notify you that you would have responsibility for arranging publication of your Report in order to reduce any scope for political interference in your Inquiry. I am equally committed to ensuring that your report is free from ministerial interference or any perception of it.

I am therefore writing to you to inform you that I have asked Sue Gray, Permanent Secretary, to ensure that the document is not shared with me or my Private Office when it is received, and to ask you that any copies provided to my Department are to a limited number of named officials only. Sue Gray will provide these names closer to the publication date when it is known.

I wish you well in the final stages of your work.

Yours sincerely

**Conor Murphy MLA  
Minister of Finance**