

Sent: 21 December 2015 10:33

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Subject: Actions from last Biomass Sustainability meeting

Hi Everyone,

Please see the actions from last week's Biomass Sustainability meeting.

Have a great Christmas break.

Thanks,

Lottie

Actions:

- Rachel to email a detailed breakdown of the BSL applications and backlog.
- Everyone to review the latest issue log (please see attached document) and feedback to Rob if there are any new issues to be captured.
- Data Sharing Protocol: comments on latest draft back to Alex.
- Rachel to include her query about why Ofgem require personal data in her feedback on the Data Sharing Protocol.
- **Fraud:** Gemserv and Ofgem to consider comms messaging to suppliers and participants which highlight the consequences of supplying fraudulent/non-compliant fuel and purchasing non-compliant fuel (we did not specify the action, but could both Gemserv and Ofgem share key messaging with this group by w/c 11 Jan. Views too please on whether separate or joint comms would be most effective).
- **Fraud:** Ofgem to get advice from lawyers on whether there would be any issue with sharing fraud data with Gemserv. DECC to also get advice. [Thinking about it in slower time – if the data is about BSL suppliers (or those claiming to be BSL suppliers), it is not, strictly speaking, data on RHI participants. So it is worth understanding whether the usual gateway is of relevance. Advice should make clear that the data would be provided to Gemserv in view of the function they provide for DECC].
- **Fraud:** Subject to confirming there are no restrictions on sharing this data, Ofgem/Gemserv to agree the format and frequency of suspected fraud reports with a view to making it systematic.
- Kunal to set up meeting with DECC to discuss the possibility of increasing the frequency of the data drop with Ofgem.

Key Points from the meeting:

- Gemserv had made good progress on the backlog, had reduced the backlog by around 60 last week. They anticipate the backlog will remain at the same level over the Christmas period.
- Ofgem's approach on the non-domestic scheme will change after the 5th of January. From the 5th of January, where a participant is unable to demonstrate that they have used a complaint fuel Ofgem will withhold payments whilst they investigate.
- Most of the discussion focussed on fraud and compliance and the group considered if the right checks were in place to detect fraud.
- Everyone thought there was value in reminding both suppliers and participants the consequences of non-compliance and fraud.

The most common types of fraud identified were:

- Non-domestic invoices which provide the supplier part of the number and not the fuel part of the BSL number.
- The BSL is written incorrectly on a participant's invoice.
- A participant using a suppliers BSL number on their receipts.
- A participant using a made-up BSL number.
- In the next meeting we will continue our discussion on fraud and compliance.

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