



## NIRHI Report – Restricted

The NIRHI scheme incentivises the use of renewable heat for (initially) non-domestic applications. Ofgem E-Serve accredits and approves payments for renewable heat installations in accordance with legislative requirements from DETI.

### Accreditations Summary:

	March	April	May	Cumulative scheme to date
<b>Applications Received</b>	63	55	54	671
<b>Applications Accredited (Inc preliminary &amp; exclusive of rejections &amp; amendments)</b>	70	47	32	482
<b>Amendments Approved</b>	3	2	0	27
<b>Preliminary Approvals</b>	0	0	0	1
<b>Rejected Applications</b>	0	0	0	1
<b>* Applications with applicant at month end</b>	48	50	69	-
<b>* Applications with Ofgem at month end</b>	118	120	124	-
<b>Capacity Installed MW</b>	7	4	3	47**
<b>Active Full Accredited Cumulative Installations</b>	-	-	-	477

\* These numbers are indicative as they are a snapshot in time and may fluctuate dependent upon the month-end reporting cycle.

\*\* Please note the cumulative total shows only active Full Accredited Installations.

**Accreditations:** We received 54 applications in May, which is 1 less than received in April. There were 32 applications accredited, a 32% decrease on approvals in April. This is a return to normal approval levels following the increase caused by the high volume of poultry shed applications received in the early part of 2015.

**Rejections:** Total rejections for the NI scheme: 1 reported in September 2013.

**State Aid:** In line with our agreement, DETI continues to conduct state aid analysis on NIRHI applications which are in receipt of public support which is not a grant (e.g. Carbon Trust loans). Their decision on whether the state aid received amounts to the provision of other public support when the EU de minimis aid regulation is applied is fed back to us to inform our accreditation decision. This month, no installations in receipt of state aid were accredited, so the total remains at 26.



**Periodic Data:** 146 live submissions were received in this month; 160 submissions had reviews completed; 31 of 160 (19.38%) were sent back to participant to correct errors.

**Enquiries:** We received 164 calls and 150 email enquiries during May compared to 202 calls and 165 emails in April.

**Grants:** NIRHI Regulation 23, which deals with grants, was amended on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014 so that any applicant in receipt of a grant from public funds or other public support can now repay to the person or authority who made it in order to access NIRHI support. (Previously there were restrictions on the circumstances in which repayment was possible which related to the installation's completion and commissioning dates.) In contrast to the GB scheme, DETI has not included the option for a reduced tariff payment which is available under the GB Regulations in limited circumstances.

**Payments:** RHI payments made in May 2015 totalled £1,081,330 for 17.6 GWh of eligible heat. Total payment to date is £6,442,477 for 113.6 GWh of eligible heat. 1,232 individual payments have been made to date since the inception of the Scheme.

**Suspected Fraud Investigations:** As at 1 June 2015 we have no cases of suspected fraud under investigation on the Northern Ireland (NI) NDRHI scheme.

**Audits:** The audit strategy for the NI audit programme for 2015/16 has not yet been finalised internally, although we expect to do about 6 audits (based on 3% of GB audits undertaken). The following figures relate to audits undertaken in the 2014/15 financial year: 11 post-accreditation audits were carried out, of which 9 were non-compliant (82%). 8 of these installations presented non-compliances with a material impact (73% material non-compliance rate). One pre-accreditation audit was completed. This was found to be non-compliant on the basis that heat losses were not being properly accounted for and no fuel records were being kept for the site; these non-compliances have been the most common YTD for NI sites.

**Compliance:** 16 open compliance cases, 10 cases not started, 3 in review, and 2 with applicant, 1 with PDS team.

**Complaints:** No NI complaints open or received this year to date.

**Disputes:** No NI disputes open or received this year to date.

#### **Communications & Stakeholder Engagement:**

##### **Website and guidance**

An overview of the guidance including upcoming changes from the various ongoing projects is being produced.

**NIRHI Development:** DETI have compiled a number of policy proposals which detail proposed amendments to the scheme, based upon the outputs of the Phase 2 consultation. We have reviewed these and provided initial feedback. DETI have requested that we complete a feasibility study for their chosen policy proposals and development of the feasibility study has started, due for delivery at the end of July.

