

To: Jane Pierce[Jane.Pierce@ofgem.gov.uk]; Edmund Ward[Edmund.Ward@ofgem.gov.uk]; Teri Clifton[teri.clifton@ofgem.gov.uk]
From: Gareth John
Sent: 2015-09-18T13:45:47Z
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: NI Situation [OFFICIAL][SENSITIVE] [OFFICIAL]
Received: 2015-09-18T13:45:48Z
[image001.gif](#)

For info

Gareth John
Gareth.John@ofgem.gov.uk

Begin forwarded message:

From: Gareth John <Gareth.John@ofgem.gov.uk>
Date: 18 September 2015 14:44:50 BST
To: Charles Hargreaves <Charles.Hargreaves@ofgem.gov.uk>
Cc: SLT - Scheme Leadership Team <SLT-SchemeLeadershipTeam@ofgem.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: NI Situation [OFFICIAL][SENSITIVE] [OFFICIAL]

Thanks Charles

Yes we have been discussing similar risks around NI regs proposed for NDRHI in nov. The other risk as you've inferred is there being a change made, a further resignation and then no one with authority to change again.

I have also raised the question around certainty on funding given the climate at stormont.

Thanks
Gareth

Gareth John
Gareth.John@ofgem.gov.uk

On 18 Sep 2015, at 14:31, Charles Hargreaves <Charles.Hargreaves@ofgem.gov.uk> wrote:

One for Friday pm...

You will have read about the issue with the NI Assembly. The slightly unbelievable consequences for the Energy Ministry are set out below and the implications for a consultation on onshore wind. Alice seems to have **gauged** the situation.

From: Adrian Ross

Sent: 18 September 2015 14:07
To: Charles Hargreaves
Subject: FW: NI Situation [OFFICIAL][SENSITIVE] [OFFICIAL]

For info. Some risks to us because of the shenanigans in NI...

From: Alice Collier

Sent: 18 September 2015 09:02
To: Adrian Ross
Cc: Jeremy Brutus
Subject: NI Situation [OFFICIAL][SENSITIVE]

Just a quick update after my phonecall with DETI yesterday - it turns out the NI Assembly issues do cause them problems...

Basically over the course of the last week or so their minister has resigned, been reinstated for all of an hour, and then resigned again. When he was reinstated earlier this week they managed to gain authorisation to go ahead with work to consult on onshore closure. They expect him to be reinstated for a short time next week and are therefore preparing their draft consultation ready for him to sign off. Hence the request for a very quick turn around from us.

The reason for the flip-flopping of resigning/reinstating is apparently about party's keeping control of departments. If a minister is out of office for more than a set number of days their party loses control. All sounds a little chaotic...

The relationship between them and DECC is also under a lot of strain at the moment due to the pressure they are under to toe the line. All I can say is I'm glad I'm not the Michaels right now!

I'm hoping that the consultation will not be too complex/long to review, it should be mostly very similar to the DECC policy position. Expect it this afternoon or Monday.

Thanks,

Alice

Alice Collier

Policy Development Manager

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