

To: 'Wightman, Stuart'[Stuart.Wightman@economy-ni.gov.uk]; Teri Clifton[teri.clifton@ofgem.gov.uk]
Cc: Marten, Lucy[Lucy.Marten@economy-ni.gov.uk]; Jane Pierce[Jane.Pierce@ofgem.gov.uk]; Gareth John[Gareth.John@ofgem.gov.uk]
From: Edmund Ward
Sent: 2016-12-09T10:41:48Z
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: Suspected Fraud Case - NIRHI [REDACTED] [OFFICIAL]
Received: 2016-12-09T10:41:49Z

Hi Stuart

As discussed this morning, in summary an update on this case for internal use:

- We previously conducted an audit on this installation [for background/internal briefing: on 30 June 2016] and following further evidence received, we can confirm that there are currently no payments on hold
- However, following allegations passed to us from a third party, we are conducting an ongoing investigation which has not yet concluded. [For background/internal briefing - we have had some engagement with PSNI with regard to this installation].
- [For background/internal briefing - as it stands, and based on the current position of the investigation, there is currently no hold on payments. However, while an investigation is ongoing it would not be appropriate for us to comment on the reasons for that or whether that position would change]

We also discussed the position with regards a situation where a building might be used for agricultural purposes, but might not be a registered farm. I confirmed that, prior to concluding our outstanding investigation on this case, we would ensure we had considered any evidence in that regard, and would discuss any possible impacts with the Department.

Happy to discuss further if that would be helpful.

Kind regards

Edmund

From: Wightman, Stuart [mailto:Stuart.Wightman@economy-ni.gov.uk]
Sent: 08 December 2016 18:03
To: Teri Clifton; Edmund Ward
Cc: Marten, Lucy
Subject: Fw: Suspected Fraud Case - NIRHI [REDACTED]
Importance: High

Edmund / Teri

Can you please provide an update on the action that has been taken in relation to the possible fraud case for [REDACTED]? My understanding was that Ofgem had reopened this case following the confirmation that there is no evidence that the participant is a farmer and therefore has an eligible non domestic usage. This particular case might come under the media spotlight so we need to clear what action has and will be taken. For example, has this case been referred to the relevant authorities as suspected fraud. Or has a hold been placed on payments whilst Ofgem investigate.

Please ring me if you need to discuss.

Thanks, Stuart

Stuart Wightman

Energy Efficiency
Department for the Economy
Netherleigh
Massey Avenue
Belfast, BT4 2JP
Tel: 028 9052 9425 (ext: 29425)
Mob: [REDACTED] Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry
TextRelay: 18001 028 9052 9425
Web: www.economy-ni.gov.uk

 Follow @Economy_NI