

## **Gregory Barker MP**

## Minister of State

www.decc.gov.uk

Department of Energy & Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

22 December 2010

Dear Sir/Madam,

## MICROGENERATION STRATEGY CONSULTATION

The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) has today published a consultation document on the promotion of microgeneration and decentralised energy. The Microgeneration Strategy is a requirement of the Green Energy Act 2009, focusing on England only. The Consultation document covers non-financial barriers to the development of the microgeneration sector – with a cross-reference to financial incentives - and follows a period of collaborative consultation with industry and other stakeholders that began in July 2010.

The Coalition has pledged to be the greenest Government ever and a greener more distributed energy economy is a vital part of our visio. To help realise that transformation we need to ensure that we are driving an ambitious take —up of small scale and local energy production. An increased deployment of renewable heat is particularly important in meeting our renewable and carbon targets; with a key role here for heat pumps and other micro-heat technologies, since domestic space heating is the single largest contributor to carbon emissions. But more broadly, the aim to promote the uptake of all micro-electricity and micro-heat technologies to meet our objective of moving to a more decentralised energy system, promoting the role of individuals and communities, and as part of the move towards dynamic localism and the Big Society.

The consultation document focuses on the following four key areas that we have identified as critical success factors, drawing on the work of the Working Groups:

- Quality To ensure consumers have the confidence that equipment and installation is reliable and adheres to the highest standards.
- **Skills** To develop the microgeneration supply chain to ensure it is properly equipped with the right people to meet the expected rise in demand, as well as creating and sustaining jobs in the UK.

- **Technology** To examine technology development including performance improvement, market intelligence and systems integration.
- **Microgeneration Information and Advice** To provide more accessible advice and information about microgeneration to consumers.

It also looks at broader issues, with a focus on community – level solutions and decentralised energy more generally.

The online consultation has been designed to make it easy to submit responses to the questions. Visit our website at:

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/consultations/microgen\_strat/microgen\_strat.aspx.

In formulating your thoughts, it would be helpful if you could address as many of the questions raised in the Microgeneration Strategy consultation as you feel appropriate. More general comments will also of course be welcome.

The deadline for responses is **Wednesday**, **16 March 2011**. You may also choose to respond by post. The address for postal responses is:

Microgeneration Strategy Consultation Distributed Energy and Heat Policy Team Department of Energy and Climate Change Area 1E, 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2HD

In anticipation of your responses, many thanks for taking the time to send us your views on this exciting new energy agenda.

Yours faithfully,

**GREGORY BARKER**