

Department of Energy & Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place,
London SW1A 2AW
T: +44 (0)300 060 4000
E: foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk
www.decc.gov.uk

Our ref: **12/1587**

20 December 2012

RE: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your email of 13 November, where you requested information relating to correspondence between the Minister of State for Energy, John Hayes and any external organisations regarding wind farms:

- *Please provide copies of all correspondence including e-mails and records of discussions between the Minister of State for Energy John Hayes and any external organisations regarding wind farms since 4th September 2012 to the 29th October 2012.*
- *Please send me this information by e-mail, or if only available in a hard copy format by post. If you need any further information from me in order to deal with my request, please contact me on 020 7973 6228. Please acknowledge receipt of this request. Many thanks for your assistance.*

Please find attached the information you requested.

Personal data concerning junior government officials has been redacted in accordance with Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 40(2) provides an absolute exemption for personal data which then falls to be dealt with under the Data Protection Act 1998.

Personal data of third parties can only be disclosed in accordance with the data protection principles. In particular, the first data protection principle requires that disclosure must be fair and lawful and must comply with one of the conditions in Schedule 2 of the Data Protection Act. We consider that to disclose the names, e-mail addresses or telephone numbers of a third party within the documents attached would contravene one or more of those data protection principles. The definition of personal information to which section 40 applies is wide and can include references to identifiable individuals. Our view is that the release of the names would not be fair and none of the conditions of Schedule 2 are met.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: **Information Rights Unit** (foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk)

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Ilana Mattana
Correspondence Manager

Minister of State for Energy
Department of Energy & Climate Change
3 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AW

NCC contact number: 0344 800 8020
Textphone: 0344 800 8011



Your Ref:
Date: 26th October 2012

My Ref:
Tel No.:
Email:

Dear Minister of State for Energy,

Norfolk and Suffolk's Energy Sector Opportunities

I thought it would be useful to follow up the discussion we had at conference recently. You will recall that I said I had written to David Cameron about the current situation with regards to energy market reform and the general lack of confidence that seems to be prevailing in the industry. I have regular and frequent contact with many key businesses that are based locally and there is certainly a lack of confidence that I believe we can respond to positively. I attach a copy of the letter that I have sent, that was signed by County Council leaders, the Chairman of New Anglia LEP and myself, as chair of the Norfolk and Suffolk Energy Alliance.

I would like to follow this up by bringing a small delegation, together with and , to meet with you at some point in the near future. I think it would be helpful for a handful of key business leaders to meet with you, so you can hear, first hand, what the issues are and what opportunities could emerge if only we could recapture the enthusiasm and confidence we had a year or so ago.

I look forward to hearing from you

Yours

County Hall
Martineau Lane
Norwich
NR1 2DH

NCC general enquiries: 0344 800 8022

Textphone: 0344 800 8011

Your Ref:

My Ref:

Date: 5 October 2012

Tel No :

Dear Prime Minister

Re: Economic Growth and The Offshore Wind Energy Sector

You will be well acquainted with the potential economic benefits that the Round 3 wind farm licenses could potentially bring to the UK's economy. We have already experienced some of these benefits from Round 2 in Norfolk, but Round 3 could bring truly transformational economic benefits. Even a modest proportion of the many billions of pounds that will be expended in the East Anglia Array alone will have a dramatic effect.

We have been working very hard in close collaboration to prioritise this sector in Norfolk and Suffolk, to ensure we maximise this opportunity. We firmly believe that Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth especially have a major role to play, as a key part of the UK's investment offer as the award of CORE status testifies. The Enterprise Zone designation will also be a significant help.

However, we feel we must alert you that the constant concern we are receiving from would-be investors. This concern is at the pace at which Government is carrying out its review of its renewables policy. The market appeared strong and certain when the Round 3 announcements were first made but we have clear indications that major investors are losing confidence. There is also confusion surrounding the delays over the Electricity Market Reform (EMR).

The local supply chain is also losing heart. Round 2 work is starting to diminish and it was anticipated that local businesses would start to win Round 3 work. We also expected to be in discussion with new entrants to the locality. Contact and interest is now dormant. Our recent attendance at the Renewable UK Exhibition in London attracted a great deal of interest from businesses of all sizes, and from all over the world. All are clear that this interest cannot be progressed until Government creates greater certainty and confidence.

However, whilst we feel we are falling behind, other areas are forging ahead. Scotland in particular is attracting investment, probably at least partly due to significant subsidies pumped in by The SNP? Also, with Germany now diverting its energy policy to embrace wind power, there seems to be a major drive to attract investment there that already appears to be gaining interest. We are aware of several major businesses that view German ports as attractive locations and from where they may expect to service the UK market

Finally, we are concerned that this delay is suppressing the advantage we have within our Enterprise Zone status. Unless businesses take occupation by April 2015, the rates free period will not apply and this primary reason for being will be lost. We will be left with a very short window of opportunity for the major investors to act, and the for the supply chain to follow

We really hope you are able to intervene to restore the confidence that was so strong until recently in this part of the country and that we do not lose the most significant economic opportunity for a generation.

Yours sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. David Cameron MP
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA



Scarborough - Europe's most enterprising place: 2008 - 2009

Contact:
Tel:
Fax:
e-mail:

Scarboroughn.gov.uk
Web site: www.scarborough.gov.uk

Scarborough Borough Council

Mr John Hayes MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Your Ref:
Our Ref: I

1 October 2012

19 OCT 2012

Dear *John,*

Government support for UK offshore wind industry

It is with much disappointment and exasperation that I write to you concerning the recent announcement with regard to the Renewables Obligation Certificates, and in particular the Government's future support for the UK offshore wind industry as the complex Energy Bill makes its way slowly through Parliament.

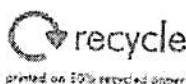
Recognising the significant economic and environmental potential offered through the renewable energy sector, we as a Local Authority have for a number of years been supporting, embracing and actively promoting the Central Government ambition for the establishment of offshore wind farms in the North Sea.

In partnership with the offshore wind industry we have held numerous region wide supply chain development events, employment, education and skills initiatives, inward investment activities and international exhibitions etc. in anticipation of the Round 3 offshore developments.

Most recently we have been instrumental in the establishment of an All Party Parliamentary Group for Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire, the forward agenda for which is largely centred around the economic opportunities arising from the offshore sector.

By the Government's own estimates the industry will have significant and major future benefits for the UK economy. Promisingly, much Central Government support has been shown for the region to date, with the establishment of coastal enterprise zones, RGF support for a number of related schemes and the designation of the Humber as a CORE port.

Cont'd/2



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2

1 October 2012
Mr John Hayes MP

Almost everything is in place therefore to lay the foundations for this new and exciting sector to flourish. What is lacking however is clear Government policy against which the offshore industry can have the confidence required to plan, secure and deliver the massive amount of investment necessary; in the knowledge that there is a viable future for their product.

The industry needs unequivocal signals from all levels of Government, that wind energy, onshore and offshore, is a priority sector which the entire Cabinet is backing wholeheartedly.

I would strongly urge you therefore, to ensure that drafting of the Energy Bill is undertaken swiftly and that Government makes its position clear once and for all with the greatest possible expediency so the development of this industry can move forward on a sound footing and at a pace beneficial to the UK economy.

Yours sincerely

Cc: Mr David Cameron, Prime Minister
Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
Robert Goodwill MP
Barry Shearman MP
Andrew Percy MP
Cllr Mehboob Khan, Chair of LGYH
Cllr Tom Fox, Leader of Scarborough Borough Council

The Rt. Hon. John Hayes
House of Commons
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

- 2 OCT 2012

23rd September 2012

Dear Minister,

Congratulations on your recent appointment as Minister of State for Energy.

You will be aware of the many UK protest groups with regard to Wind Farms and Pylons. I would briefly like to introduce you to our local group .

is concerned with both the effects of inefficient energy on the UK and its effect, with no benefit ,upon our community in rural Wales. We are supportive of efficient green energy and this is reflected in our submission to the ROC consultation earlier this year..

We are anti wind turbines because they will have a negative effect on our economy increasing electricity bills by 25%, requiring virtually 100% backup from conventional power stations, and will incur a minimum of £46 billion costs.

Previous governments have deferred making decisive decisions on energy for the last twenty years. We need to make decisions now to avoid blackout within the next five years. The BBC said earlier this week that if all (conventional power stations - oil, gas, coal, nuclear...) were shut down this morning by the afternoon there would be no power. We have a crisis . The words "Rome" and "burn" spring to mind.

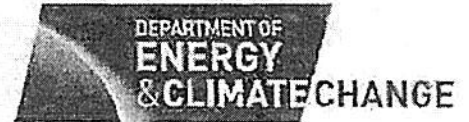
We live in a rural area which has gradually been starved of economic development and inward investment as a result of shortsighted Government policy and changes in agriculture which have all reduced employment opportunity. The region has a significant dependence on tourism which requires a quality environment. Wind farms and power transmission will undermine this industry without making a positive benefit to energy generation, or to the national or local economy.

We are hoping you will make a positive contribution to the debate and look carefully at all the facts without bias.

Further information is available on
for information on this subject.

which has become a key source

Yours sincerely A



John Hayes MP

Minister of State

Department of Energy & Climate Change

3 Whitehall Place

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PS John.Hayes@decc.qsi.gov.uk

Our ref: PO2012/15455'

17 October 2012

Dear

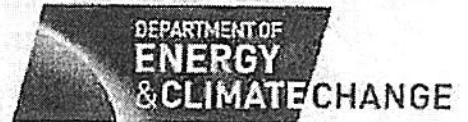
Thank you for your letter dated 23 September, introducing me to the group.
Thank you also for your kind message of congratulations following my appointment as
Minister of State for the Department of Energy and Climate Change.

I am delighted to be joining the department at such a crucial time delivering secure,
affordable energy for all. I am looking forward to working on these challenges.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hayes", written over a horizontal line.

JOHN HAYES



John Hayes MP

Minister of State

Department of Energy & Climate Change

3 Whitehall Place

London

SW1A 2AW

www.decc.gov.uk

Our Ref: PO2012/15450/

19th October 2012

Dear

Thank you for your letter dated 24 September, inviting me to a meeting with you.

I would be pleased to meet with you, subject to urgent parliamentary business. Please contact ^{to} make the necessary arrangements. Please quote the above reference number when doing so.

Yours sincerely,

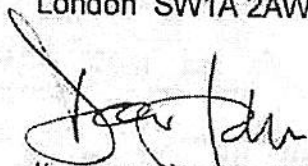
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John Hayes".

JOHN HAYES

John Hayes MP
Minister of State
Department of Energy & Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London SW1A 2AW

- 2 OCT 2012

24th September 2012



It was a pleasure to meet you at last week's Energy UK dinner at the Hilton Hotel. I hope that you found the initial baptism of fire of meeting myself and industry colleagues useful, particularly since it came just 24 hours after your own appointment as Minister of State at DECC.

By way of a brief re-introduction, my company, Good Energy, is the UK's leading renewable electricity supplier and the only one to source 100% of its electricity from renewable generators. Originally founded in 1999, we supply electricity to some 30,000 customers and provide support services to over 40,000 small-scale renewable generators. Unlike the other larger energy suppliers, Good Energy sources around 70% of its power from independently owned small and medium-sized renewable generators. At the same time, we currently plan to develop some 110MW of our new renewable capacity by 2017.

Good Energy has long stood out as an alternative voice in the UK energy market. Over the years we have not only pioneered the supply of renewable electricity, but consistently championed the potential of renewable technologies to deliver a more open, fairer and transparent energy market due to their relatively accessible nature.

Our policy concerns relate to the need to encourage greater independent involvement in the energy market through Electricity Market Reform, the need to ensure that renewables policy focusses on the deployment the widest range of renewable technologies so that we fully capitalise on the renewable resources we have here in the UK, and the need to ensure that a more flexible energy retail market plays a role in engaging with consumers to help reduce carbon emissions.

I would of course warmly welcome the opportunity to meet with you once again in the near future to discuss these issues in a more detail. If you would be happy to do so, please can I ask that your Private Office contacts on

I look forward to hearing from you soon.



-----Original Message-----

From: [mailto:
Sent: 23 September 2012 09:31
To:
Subject: Letter from your constituent

Phone:

Email:

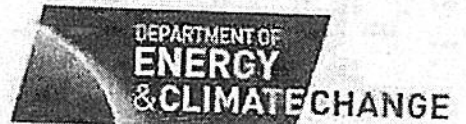
Sunday 23 September 2012

Dear John Haves.

with a turnover of 8 million pounds. We have glasshouse and field grown production of flowers, packing and supplying them to all the Major Supermarkets (M/S, Coop, Asda , Aldi etc). As our Energy costs are rising all the time and we are continually struggling to compete against Imports we have decided to look at Electric Generation on our own site. I decided not to go down the Wind Turbine route and after six months of consultation have decided to install 218 KWp Solar PV on my Coldstore roofs. These Panels are being funded by a Lloyds Bank loan for 10yrs with a Government Authorised 1% discount (A Conservative Initiative to get the country moving!). So at this point everything is moving perfectly, as most of the electric produced will be used on site to reduce the heavy Coldstore and lighting requirements.

However the company undertaking this project, 'Freewatt'(another Lincs firm) have had a letter from the District Network Operator'(DNO) saying that a Solar system of this size will not be allowable till 2015 at least, and they may allow probably a 50kw arrangement only, which does not work out financially viable for us. This is crazy considering the Countries need for Energy Saving etc and the fact we will use nearly all the electric ourselves and have a very new 800KVA Transformer on Site. I and Freewatt have all the relevant information for you to see and act on. I am afraid failure to allow this Solar project to go ahead will effect my business going forward and the people who work in it and around it. I may have to go down the 500KW Wind turbine Route which I rather not. I hope as my MP and with Your involvement at the Energy department that you can help solve this issue. It seems to me an absolute joke that what I am doing will benefit the environment, business, expansion , helps the governments self imposed Renewables target etc etc , but is being held up by the DNO when all around me Wind Turbines are being built !

Yours sincerely,



John Hayes MP

Minister of State

Department of Energy & Climate Change

3 Whitehall Place

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SW1A 2AW

www.decc.gov.uk

PS.John.Hayes@decc.gsi.gov.uk

Our ref: PO2012/15092/

1st November 2012

Dear Mr

Thank you for your e-mail dated 23 September, concerning the difficulty your contractor has had in gaining a connection for your 218 KWp solar PV panels at your business. I am replying as your constituency MP and as Minister of State and I apologise for the delay in doing so.

In the light of your e-mail advising that you intend to use most of the electricity generated on site, WPD have now asked their local electricity planner to review your request on the basis of an existing site load restricting the generation export. This means that the additional capacity is much lower than that requested by your contractor. WPD will be sending out a revised offer to you stating that you will not need to wait for upstream reinforcement and since you already have a substantial dedicated LV supply for your commercial/flower operation, there will be a minimal charge associated with fees and G59 test witnessing.

I hope this will resolve any issues with your proposed PV generation. All DNOs are experiencing a need for network reinforcement due to the increase in Distributed Generation coming onto the network. This wider issue is being addressed as part of the regulators (Ofgem) price control review.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN HAYES



John Hayes MP

Minister of State

Department of Energy & Climate Change

3 Whitehall Place

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DS.John.Hayes@decc.qsi.gov.uk

Our ref: PO2012/14947A

15 October 2012

Dear

Thank you for your letter dated 12 September, inviting me to meet with you. I apologise for the delay in replying.

Unfortunately, I am afraid that I am unable to meet with you on this occasion, as my diary is heavily committed over the coming months.

Please accept my best wishes with your work going forward.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hayes".

JOHN HAYES



Mr John Hayes MP
Minister of State
Department for Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

12 September 2012

Dear Minister,

Greenwire: Filling the UK energy gap at less cost
Conservative Conference Meeting Request
Monday 8th October – Tuesday 9th October, 2012

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your appointment to Minister of State for Energy at the Department for Energy and Climate Change.

With your recent appointment in mind I would also like to bring your attention to a critically important aspect of the UK energy debate, which you should be aware of, namely the opportunity to import substantial amounts of cost effective and deliverable onshore wind energy from Ireland to the UK grid. To this end I would like to arrange a brief meeting with you at the forthcoming Party Conference or at a convenient time in Westminster to present Greenwire – a series of onshore wind energy projects totalling 3,000MW to be situated in the east of Ireland and directly connected to the UK grid to provide 10% of the UK's 2020 renewable energy target at two-thirds of the cost of offshore wind. This project would save the UK consumer over £7 billion.

We would like to work with you and your team in securing a route to market for this affordable solution to the looming UK energy gap under the existing or future UK support arrangements for renewable energy. We have already engaged on this subject with your predecessor Charles Hendry and the team at DECC, and as the developer of the only viable project in this space prior to 2020 we would like the opportunity to apprise you of the potential.

Greenwire's developer, Element Power, has signed a contract with National Grid for a 3,000MW grid connection to receive electricity by 2017/18 without the need for new overhead lines, which would mark Greenwire as the first dedicated renewable energy link between Ireland and the UK. Greenwire would collect wind power generated by approximately 40 onshore wind farms spread over five counties in the Midlands of Ireland, and transport it to the UK via two independent HVDC sub-sea cables. Being the size of two nuclear power plants, it would also help to address the looming energy gap created by the retirement of existing generating capacity in the UK.

The UK energy debate is not complete without full consideration of the potential to directly connect "offshore" renewable electricity that is onshore and hence significantly cheaper than sea-based wind energy. Our recent submission to DECC's Call for Evidence on the subject of trading renewable energy showed the potential for Greenwire to save the UK consumer over £7bn compared to anticipated sea-based offshore wind costs. The project would also boost economic development in the UK and Ireland, and



bring jobs to the west of Wales with the potential for more manufacturing and engineering jobs throughout the UK. Government action is required now if this project to be realised, and to this end it is important to engage with policy-makers such as yourself to ensure that you are fully informed and take decisions on this important energy policy initiative.

Element Power is committed to securing a route to market to deliver Greenwire to the UK energy market by 2017 and 2018. The company is investing millions of pounds in developing Greenwire to maintain these target dates and clearly demonstrate its practical potential to policy-makers. We are keen to discuss with you how this route to market can be secured in the face of Electricity Market Reforms and DECC's review of EU renewable energy trading options. Legislation is required to enable Greenwire to access the UK's renewable energy support mechanism and transform the concept into an economically viable, green and sustainable reality and we would welcome your advice on how to address this through current Government and Departmental structures.

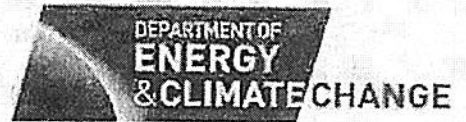
I would be grateful if we could arrange a meeting time with you at this year's Conservative Conference in Birmingham on Monday 8th October or the morning of Tuesday 9th October at a time of your convenience. Element Power will be attending the Conference this year and I would encourage you to come and join us for an informal meeting to brief you on Greenwire.

It is critical for us and our shareholders to receive your support for Greenwire as a solution to plug the UK's looming energy gap in an affordable way. We are not asking for any funding to develop the project from either the UK or Irish government. All we need is a route to market similar to UK based onshore and offshore wind that will enable us to deliver this landmark project, which will create massive economic benefit and hold the UK out as a leader in European energy policy.

I look forward to a reply, however, in the meantime should your office wish to contact Element Power, they could get in touch with Element Power's political assistant, [redacted], via telephone on [redacted] email on [redacted].

I look forward to meeting with you soon.

Yours sincerely,



John Hayes MP

Minister of State

Department of Energy & Climate Change

3 Whitehall Place

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SW1A 2AW

www.decc.gov.uk

ps John.Hayes@decc.gsi.gov.uk

Our ref: PO2012/14866

17 October 2012

Dear

Thank you so much for your e-mail dated 7 September and your kind message of congratulations following my appointment as Minister of State for the Department of Energy and Climate Change. I am delighted to be joining the department at such a crucial time delivering secure, affordable energy for all.

Thank you also for inviting me meet with you to discuss the creation of a renewables energy skills academy. My sincere apologies for the delay in replying.

Unfortunately, I am afraid that I am unable to meet with you, as my diary is heavily committed over the coming months. I have asked my successor at the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, Matt Hancock, if he will consider your invitation – as he is now the Minister responsible for this area of policy.

Please accept my best wishes for your work going forward.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hayes".

JOHN HAYES

From:
Sent: 07 September 2012 15:54
To: PS John Hayes
Subject: Speach at the REFF confarence

Dea

Can you please confirm if Mr Hayes will be taking over the speech at the REFF conference due to be held at 10:30 on the 12th September at the Grange St pauls Hotel, London

Many thanks

Tel:

Web

Mail:

Homepage:

Skype:

E-Mail Disclaimer:

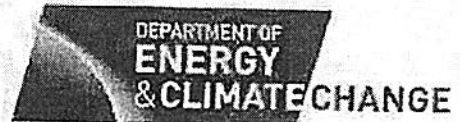
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John Hayes MP

Minister of State

Department of Energy & Climate Change

3 Whitehall Place

London

SW1A 2AW

www.decc.gov.uk

Our ref: PO2012/17574A

13 November 2012

Dear ,

Thank you for your letter dated 26 October, regarding the current situation on Electricity Market Reform (EMR) and requesting a meeting.

DECC has an absolutely critical agenda which has the right set of programmes and policies to power the country and protect the planet, and to make a reality of a low carbon economy by 2050.

Our policies are particularly important right now for getting the British economy moving through massive investments in infrastructure, for helping consumers with their energy bills, and for the fight against future global challenges. We know these are top priorities for the public and so many of our stakeholders, so we need to be more effective at making that case.

Another point to note is that EMR is the biggest change to the electricity market since privatisation and will transform the UK's electricity sector. While the current market has served us well, we face a number of unprecedented challenges:

- around a fifth of our current capacity is due to close over the next decade;
- we have ambitious climate and renewable targets to build, a cleaner energy future for Britain and the world; and
- electricity demand is likely to grow over the next 40 years as we increasingly turn to electricity for heat and transport.

EMR will attract the investment we desperately need to replace our ageing energy infrastructure with a more diverse and low-carbon energy mix, as well as meet rising future demand.

Crucially – our reforms will also attract private sector investment now and thus deliver growth and jobs for economy.

In a recent speech to the CBI, the Secretary of State reiterated the following measures to be carried forward:

- Energy consent process to be made more flexible;
- Ministers to consider introducing additional powers to the Energy Bill to help promote competition and liquidity;
- Government to provide further certainty to investors; and
- Ministers to set out options shortly on measures to encourage demand reduction.

He assured businesses that the Government will provide the certainty investors are looking for in its forthcoming Energy Bill, which will unlock billions in energy infrastructure investment vital for keeping the lights on, emissions down and bills affordable.

To note that low carbon is a fast growing sector, where we know there are shovel-ready projects to create jobs and inject investment into local economies up and down the UK. This vital infrastructure will power our economy and keep energy affordable for decades to come.

The Coalition is absolutely committed to getting these reforms right, through legislation and through the signals we send. We have listened to investors and have set out further measures to provide the certainty they need to make decisions that will benefit us all.

We would like Britain to be the best place in the world to invest in new, clean energy infrastructure.

In addition, we intend to introduce a new support scheme for renewable electricity. The Contracts for Difference are planned to be available from 2014, and new generators will be able to choose between the RO and the CfD.

Full details of these transitional arrangements have been set out in the EMR White Paper in July 2011 and the Technical Update to the White Paper in December 2012.

The Renewables Obligation (RO) is currently the Government's main financial mechanism for incentivising the deployment of large-scale renewable energy, including onshore and offshore wind. The RO acts as a generation-based subsidy, meaning that support is only provided for electricity actually generated. Data on the RO is available from the Ofgem Renewables and CHP Register, which includes information on the number of Renewables Obligation Certificate (ROCs) issued by technology. This is available at:

<https://www.renewablesandchp.ofgem.gov.uk/Default.aspx>

The Government recognises that changes to the market under EMR could lead to some investment decisions being delayed. We are committed to working with relevant developers to enable investment decisions that need to be taken in the interim to progress to timetable wherever possible.



Regional Growth Fund

Dear

Further to my email of 14 August wherein I informed you that your bid to Round 3 of the RGF was shortlisted to the next stage of the appraisal process, I am writing to let you know that Ministers have now made their decision on which bids to support.

Today the Deputy Prime Minister the Rt Hon Nick Clegg will announce that 130 bidders were selected to go forward to the next phase which is due diligence and final agreement.

Unfortunately your bid did not get selected and will not be going forward to being funded.

I am sure that this will be a disappointment but as you are no doubt aware 278 bids were shortlisted with a combined value of over £2.1bn from a fund which was limited to £1bn. Ministers and the Independent Advisory Panel had extremely tough decisions to make. In many cases projects met the Fund objectives and criteria but did not succeed in competition against other bids that were considered stronger.

While there is a general public interest in the disclosure of information relating to bids to the RGF, the Department takes account of the need to ensure that the commercial interests of third parties are not prejudiced or undermined by disclosure of information which is not common knowledge and which could adversely impact on a future bid. Consequently the Department does not intend to publish any information about your bid. However, if the Department receives a Freedom of Information Act request for information covering your bid, we will check your application to see if you have agreed/objected to release of your bid details and consider accordingly. In such circumstances, the Department will seek your views on disclosure. However, under the Freedom of Information Act, the ultimate decision rests with the Department.

I am aware that you may be keen to receive feedback on your application. Details of how to request feedback will be available on our website, www.bis.gov.uk/rgf in due course.

On behalf of Ministers and the Department I would like to thank you for bidding into the Fund and wish you success with your project.

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: 25 October 2012 11:01

To:

Subject: Fwd: RGF Round 3 bid

Hello, I would very much like to forward the below message to Mr Hayes.

Whilst at the Eco-Island last week, Mr Hayes saw our wind turbine on display and commented that this was the best looking turbine he had ever seen. We have been working hard in the background to secure European manufacturing for the Turbine here in the UK, from the US technology developers. To support this we had applied for an RGF grant.

It is very disappointing, to receive news that we have not been successful. It is very likely we will now lose this manufacturing to another EU country and the opportunity to create over 100 highly skilled jobs, whilst bringing this product to our market and increasing its accessibility.

This seems very disjointed from the Government's stance on renewables and in particular Mr Hayes' support for such technology.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Growth Fund"

To: "

Sent: Friday, 19 October, 2012 8:17:10 AM

Subject: RGF Round 3 bid

Dear Bidder

Please see the attached letter from

<<1656c.doc>>

Regards