



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY

Directorate C - Renewables, Research and Innovation, Energy Efficiency  
C.1 - Renewables and CCS policy

Brussels, **12 MARS 2012**  
RL/ss ener.c.1.(2012)315530

Pat Swords  
e-mail:  
pat.swords.chemeng@gmail.com

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your e-mail dated 29 January 2012, registered on 30 January 2012, requesting access to documents under Regulation No 1049/2001<sup>1</sup> regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents.

Your email contains two distinct requests.

As regards the requested information about the assessment of the environmental protection objectives in the Commission decision concerning the Renewable Feed In Tariff scheme (REFIT II scheme), please be advised that the Commission adopted this decision on 12 January 2012. The scheme was assessed on the basis of the State aid Guidelines for Environmental Protection (EAG) as attached. Compliance with the Aarhus Convention requirements is not part of such State aid assessment. The State aid assessment of the environmental protection objectives is limited to determining whether the measure pursues an EU objective in this respect, for instance the objectives laid down in Directive 2009/28/EC. Please find attached the information submitted by the Irish authorities in this respect. Once any confidentiality issues are cleared, the decision will be made available on the website of DG Competition which is accessible by the following link: [http://ec.europa.eu/competition/elojade/iseff/index.cfm?fuseaction=dsp\\_result](http://ec.europa.eu/competition/elojade/iseff/index.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_result)."

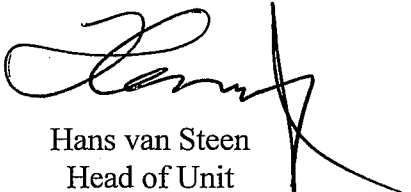
Secondly, as regards the requested information concerning methodologies used to estimate net greenhouse gas emission savings due to the use of energy from renewable sources to be included in Member States' progress reports according to Article 22 (1) k) of Directive 2009/28/EC, this information is available on the transparency platform of the European Commission's Directorate General for Energy ([http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/transparency\\_platform/template\\_progress\\_report\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/transparency_platform/template_progress_report_en.htm)). The guidance template lays down the methodologies suggested by the European Commission. In case Member States choose not to use the suggested methodology, they shall describe in their progress report what other methodology has been used to estimate

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L145, 31.05.2001, page 43.

these savings. The methodology contained in the template is not obligatory, since the different national sources of fuel and structures of national energy mixes vary considerably. The guidance template and all progress reports received by the European Commission are available to the public on the mentioned transparency platform to allow for full public scrutiny of different national practices.

Yours faithfully,



Hans van Steen  
Head of Unit