

From the Office of the Minister



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Our Ref: DETI SUB 174/2010

David Ford MLA
Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
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22nd April 2010

Dear David,

FOLLOW UP TO DETI ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS ON 23RD MARCH 2010

As a follow-on to a question posed about Rose Energy during DETI Questions on 23rd March, you had asked me to clarify what the total budget was for that particular type of renewable energy and whether other proposals are under consideration. As I did not have all of the relevant information to hand at the time I am now writing to you in response to the queries raised.

Invest NI has no specific ring-fenced budget for Renewable Energy projects and its support to this area cuts across a range of the agency's operational activities. As such, the agency's total budget for renewable energy projects during 2009/10 was £6.58 million. For 2010/11, a further £6.56 million has been allocated.

With regard to those projects specifically designed to generate energy from waste, there are currently four proposals of this type at varying stages of progress. Of these, to date three projects have been offered a total of £12.6 million of assistance against total planned investment in the Northern Ireland economy of £42.7 million. The fourth project is still subject to an ongoing due diligence process and the final levels of assistance and investment will not be determined until this has been completed.

I shall be sending copies of this response to the Speaker's Office, Willie Clarke MLA, who tabled the original question and to those MLAs who asked supplementaries to the original question.

I have also asked for a copy to be placed in the Assembly library.

Sincerely,

ARLENE FOSTER MLA
Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment