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12th December 2008

Dear Mr Rafferty,

Statutory Consultation: Renewables Obligation (Scotland) Introduction of Banding

I am responding on behalf of the British Hydropower Association (BHA) to the Statutory Consultation: Renewables Obligation (Scotland) Introduction of Banding.

The BHA is the trade association for the UK hydropower industry. With around 100 members, the Association represents a wide range of interests: consulting engineering, design, manufacture, investment and operation, and specialist service providers. The BHA represents generators from small owner-operators to large UK companies.

The consultation covers only those areas of differences between Scotland, and England and Wales. We remain convinced that there should be as little difference as possible between the three UK Obligations. As the consultation does not propose to introduce any variations that would directly impact on hydropower so I have attached our response to the consultation on changes to the Renewables Obligation in England and Wales where the Department of Energy and Climate Change has responded to consultees. We are very concerned that the UK government has dropped the proposal it made to give double ROCS for generation on the first 50kW by micro hydropower plants and one ROC on generation thereafter. We believe that it will be an incentive to down rate the potential of micro hydro sites to ensure the double ROC benefit.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Adrian Abbott'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Adrian Abbott
Policy and Consultations Manager
British Hydropower Association