

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

From: rosemayne [mailto:rosemayne@btconnect.com]

Sent: 15 June 2005 16:54

To: perm.sec@detini.gov.uk

Cc: Kevin Shiels

Subject:

Mr Muldoon

I am a plumbing and heating contractor working mainly in the natural gas industry.

I have been in business for 15 years and in the early years employed 2-3 staff. when Phoenix gas came to Northern Ireland our whole plumbing and heating industry picked up substantially and i now employ 12 full time plumber/gas fitters.

during the past eight years i have spent in the region of £25,000 on the required training. I feel that proposed change in the agreement that you made with phoenix last year and the adverse publicity that goes with it will seriously damage our industry.

up to april most companies in this trade were extremely busy bringing the benefits of this fantastic product to the general public. the adverse publicity involving the proposed 20% price rise in gas nearly killed our trade overnight and it is only now that consumer confidence is returning.

i feel if the agreement that was reached last august is to be renegotiated it will have an extremely damaging effect on the whole gas industry. i thought the government was fully behind the natural gas industry improving our environment and cutting fuel poverty.

last august you made a press release "The Authority see the agreement with Phoenix as good for both gas customers and Phoenix. What has changed since then?

i am now in serious doubt over my companys future. please send a reply to the above adress.

regards  
david mayne