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**Minutes of meeting of Northern Ireland Authority for Energy Regulation**

**26 November 2003**

The sixth meeting of the Northern Ireland Authority for Energy Regulation took place on 26 November 2003. The Agenda was wide ranging and the following items were discussed:

Generator/Moyle Availability – the interruptions in electricity supply experienced on 28 October; these had been caused by problems at Ballylumford Power Station and a temporary decrease in the Moyle Inter-connector provision.

Natural Gas Issues – agreement was given for Ofreg officials to negotiate with Phoenix Gas about changes to their Licence. Agreement was also given for negotiations to continue with BGE about their new Licence provisions.

NIE Supply Price Control – agreement was given for Ofreg officials to negotiate an extension of the period of the current Supply price control.

Sustainable Management of Assets & Renewable Technology (SMART) – NIE gave a presentation in which their support for renewable energy was discussed. This included renewable energy by biomass, wastes and windpower and also their support for emerging renewable technologies such as PV, CHP, solar heating and tidal schemes.

DSD : Fuel Poverty Consultation Paper – the Authority’s proposed response to this recent consultation paper was discussed.

Emissions Trading – DETI gave a presentation on this subject and concern was expressed about the proposed allocation of carbon emissions permits to the NI electricity industry and consequently it was agreed that the Chairman would write to DEFRA about these concerns.

Forward Work Plan – the latest draft of the Forward Work Plan was tabled and a final version was agreed for issue as a consultation paper.

Other issues which were discussed included Guarantees of Origin for Renewable Energy and SNIP Mutualisation.

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