

The Unite Irish Regional Retired Members Co-ordinating Committee seeks the support of the Irish Executive Committee for the following Campaign.....

FREE ELECTRICITY CAMPAIGN

The Unite Regional Co-ordinating Committee is campaigning for pensioners in Northern Ireland to be given the same allocation of free electricity units as their counterparts in the Republic of Ireland, *particularly as the same electricity company provides power in both jurisdictions.*

Currently pensioners in the Irish Republic over the age of 66 receive 300 units of electricity every TWO months irrespective of who is living within their households.

This is the equivalent at present day prices of an allowance of £51 every two months or £306 per year!

Such a concession would go a long way to alleviate the hardship experienced particularly during the winter months by many senior citizens in Ulster where pensioner poverty is the highest in the UK. (25,000 people died of cold related illnesses between December 2010 and March 2011 in the UK - the equivalent of NINE deaths per hour!)

The Regional Co-ordinating Committee plans to mount a vigorous campaign to persuade the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Northern Ireland Office which represents the U.K. Government, to remove this anomaly.

Approved by the Unite Irish Regional Retired Members Co-ordinating Committee on 12th June, 2012

Angela Ley