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RHI Team
Department of Energy and Climate Change
Area 4A
3 Whitehall Place
London, SW1A 2AW

Our Ref: RHI Consultation

20 April 2010

Dear Sirs,

**Consultation on the proposed RHI financial support scheme
Solar Air Heating - Transpired Solar Collectors**

BSRIA has been involved in the monitoring of UK installations of Transpired Solar Collectors (TSC's) since 2006. This technology is similar in many respects to conventional solar thermal panels but heats ventilation air for space heating rather than water. Our report "SolarWall® monitoring CA Roll Mill"¹ concluded that:

1. The Transpired Solar Collector (TSC) produced significant amounts of useful heat, increasing the temperature of incoming air by much as 28°C above ambient in certain conditions.
2. In this retrofit application, the TSC in conjunction with other improvements, reduced the demand for gas, and consequent CO₂ emissions, by 51% compared to the previous year. This equated to 58.9 tonnes less CO₂ emitted to atmosphere.
3. During the monitoring period the heat collected and delivered by the Solarwall amounted to 21% of the ongoing heating requirement of the building. This is significantly more than the 10% minimum contribution normally required as a renewable energy installation under planning and environmental assessment requirements.
4. The results from this and other TSC installations provide confidence in the benefits of the technology, the feasibility of measuring the heat contribution and the reliability of design tools.

BSRIA recognises the applicability of TSC technology to the existing building stock as a current and practical means reducing of carbon emissions from space heating. Although there are some practical issues with regard to standardisation of performance measurement and incorporation within MCS we can see no overriding reason why TSC cannot be included

in the Renewable Heat Incentive and treated in a similar way to conventional solar thermal installations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Reginald Brown", is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

Reginald Brown
Head of Energy & Environment

1. "SolarWall Monitoring CA Roll Mill", BSRIA Final Report 50052/A/1, May 2007