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Department of Energy & Climate Change  
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Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

22 April 2010

## **Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI):- Solar Air Heating**

Dear Hugh

The Assembly Government welcomes the UK Government proposals for a Renewable Heat Incentive and recognises the important role it can play towards meeting the UK 2020 target on energy from renewable sources. We anticipate that the RHI will be of particular interest to rural communities, especially those not connected to the gas grid and using oil for heating.

We note that the UK Government is not intending to include solar air heating systems in the RHI, but we consider that a case can be made for active transpired solar collectors, such as SolarWall. The product, now being manufactured and sold by Corus Colors and its associated UK supply chain, is available commercially and is one of the few retro-fittable technologies which can provide significant amounts of renewable heat at a reasonable installation cost.

The Welsh Assembly Government strongly supports product solutions that can help us meet our carbon reduction and renewable energy generation targets. An added benefit of transpired solar collectors is that they are already part manufactured in Wales, and the widespread adoption of this technology could have positive implications on both economic growth and job creation across Wales and the UK. The Assembly Government is helping to improve the practical application of this technology by funding, through the Low Carbon Research Institute, an applied sustainable building envelope development centre which will drive forward the next generation of solar thermal solutions for retrofitting as well as new build.

We would ask you, therefore, to consider inclusion of transpired solar collectors within the RHI.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alun".

Alun James  
Head of Low Carbon Future  
Sustainable Energy and Industry Wales

c.c. Kevin Bygate, Development Director Corus Colors

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