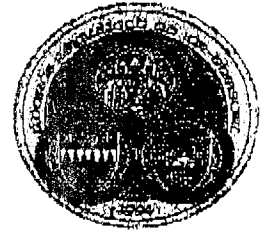


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29th November, 2006

Re: Energy Green Paper, Recognition and Support for Local Energy Agencies

A Chara,

The South West Regional Authority welcomes the Departments Energy Green Paper as an important step forward in the development of sustainable energy in Ireland. The comprehensive approach to energy is welcomed.

The Authority also wishes to support the submission on the Green Paper being made by the Association of Irish Energy Agencies (AIEA). The Regional Authority believes that for the targets set out in the paper to be reached will require significant local action. This requires the existing LEAs and their work to be recognised and supported. Sufficient supports and appropriate funding needs to be put in place to sustain the valuable work the agencies are engaged in.

The promotion of energy conservation, energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainable development within the South West Region are of the utmost importance to our members. Consequently it is essential that the energy agencies must continue in their role of providing professional energy services and new agencies established where required. Line of mission, objectives etc of the forum is attached for your information

This authority has recently established a Forum for Efficient and Sustainable Energy in the region. This Forum is principally supported by the very active participation of the Local Energy Agencies.

I enclose herewith details of the work of the Forum.

I would be grateful therefore if the aforementioned request to set aside sufficient funding could be acceded to, in order to sustain and develop Local Energy Agencies.

Mise le meas,


 John McAleer
 Director