



23rd September 2005

All-Island Energy Market Joint Steering Group

Dear Ms. Piper & Mr. Brennan,

Further to our previous submission on Geothermal Energy for the '2020 Vision' for Renewable Energy, we should like to underline how very far behind the island is in its position on the development of electricity from geothermal energy. Electricity from this source is reliable and non-fluctuating, with very few emissions.

In Germany there is an active programme in place to achieve 1 Gw_{el} installed in the foreseeable future (Sanner & Bussmann 2003). This delivery commenced in 2003/4 with an installed capacity of 0.25 Mw_{el} in northern Germany. The programme continues with the Unterhaching development in southern Germany (speech given in Belfast 26th Sept 2005 by C. Schonwisener – Bozkurt) of 3MW_{el}.

Other countries such as France, have also commenced significant programmes to develop this power source. Switzerland began their Deep Heat Mining Programme in the early nineties and are only now just coming to fruition. Our region needs to commence its programme at the earliest opportunity in order to be able access this power source.

Information on the indicated resources present on our island is based on the incomplete data currently available. It can be found in the two CSA reports:

For Republic of Ireland:

Goodman, R., Jones, G.LI., Kelly, J., Slowey, E., O'Neill, N. 2004. Geothermal Energy Exploitation in Ireland – Review of Current Status and Proposals for Optimising Future Utilisation. *CSA report 3085/02.04 for SEI, July 2004.* 93pp + XII Appendices

Available on www.sei.ie

For Northern Ireland:

Kelly, J., Goodman, R., Jones, G.LI., O'Neill, N., Pasquali, R. 2005. Geothermal Energy Review of Northern Ireland. *CSA report 3194/01.05 for INTERREG, September 2005.* 79pp + XI Appendices.

Available on www.actionrenewables.co.uk

There is a strong need for more detailed information to validate this reserve

We and the Geothermal Association of Ireland will be happy to provide any further information required.

Yours sincerely,

Gareth

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