



Consultation Response

Draft Strategic Energy Framework for N Ireland

Date: 30 September 2009

Background

The Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations (NIFHA) represents registered and non-registered housing associations in Northern Ireland. Collectively, our members provide 30,000 good quality, affordable homes for renting or equity sharing. All homes now being built by registered housing associations meet at least Level 3 of the Code for Sustainable Homes and the standard will be stepped up to Levels 4, 5 and 6 by 2016. Further information is available at www.nifha.org

Introduction

The Federation is pleased to contribute its views on this fundamentally important subject that affects the lives of everyone in N Ireland.

Comments

1. While acknowledging that the third main goal of the draft strategy focuses on sustainability, the Federation believes it should be given greater priority to address much more vigorously the three global factors correctly identified at the outset – climate change, security of supply and economic development.
2. NIFHA believes that long-term security of supply will not be significantly improved by switching from oil to gas. This can only be achieved by energy conservation and dramatically boosting renewable energy production from indigenous sources.
3. Northern Ireland can, and should, tackle all three global factors by adopting the “Green New Deal”, which would stimulate investment, generate jobs, improve security of energy supply and greatly reduce carbon emissions.

Further Information

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