



**SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY
ASSOCIATION**

Alex McGarel
Room 245,
Parliament Buildings,
Stormont,
Belfast,
BT4 3XX

09 February 2009

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you to request an opportunity for the Sustainable Energy Association to give evidence to the Environment Committee's Inquiry into Climate Change.

The Sustainable Energy Association (SEA) is an industry association which has been set-up by industry members to represent the small-scale, distributed renewable energy sector across the island of Ireland. Essentially the organisation has formed to give a voice to a growing and vital industry, and to provide a channel of communication between the Government and the SEA's member bodies.

Small renewable energy generators have an important role to play in providing a significant proportion of Northern Ireland's energy needs, as well as helping to reduce carbon emissions, and their role should be recognised with appropriate support. The Sustainable Energy Association believes that supporting micro-generation of heat and electricity can promote skills, job creation, energy security and environmental concerns. Northern Ireland has to use the threat of climate change as an opportunity for sustainable growth and environmental sensitivity.

We hope we will be able to present our views to the Committee and await the outcome of their decision.

Many thanks

John Hardy

Secretary