

**From:** Minister  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 14, 2011 5:16 PM  
**To:** Natasha Hurley  
**Subject:** REP06/PH/11

14 April, 2011.

Ms. Natasha Hurley.

**RE:** REP06/PH/11

Dear Ms. Hurley,

I have been asked by Mr. Phil Hogan, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to refer again to your recent email regarding the use of industrial gas offsets by EU Member States.

The position is that Ireland has agreed with the need for restrictions to be applied to credits from projects involving HFC-23 and N<sub>2</sub>O from adipic acid production for the purposes of compliance with the EU ETS and has voted in favour of the Commission Regulation banning the use of credits from these projects.

Ireland would not be opposed to similar restrictions being applied in the ESD and on that basis, Ireland would not have any issues with the stance taken by Denmark and the UK. The Effort Sharing Decision is a burden-sharing decision involving all Member States and in which the use and limitation of credits is clearly specified and outlined, and any further restrictions or limitations on credits would need to be adopted on an EU-wide basis. An amendment to the Effort Sharing Decision may be required to facilitate this. We are keeping the matter under review in the light of any proposal that may emerge in an EU wide context.

Yours sincerely,

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**Eddie Kiernan,**  
**Private Secretary**