An Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications

14 April 2023



Ms Sarah Cremin Committee Secretariat Committee of Public Accounts

<u>By email</u>

Dear Ms Cremin,

I refer to your correspondence of 24 March, 2023 regarding the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) Annual Report and Financial Statements 2021.

The SEAI Annual Report and Financial Statements 2021 were laid before the Houses of the Oireachtas on 19 December 2022. As indicated in your letter and noted at the Public Accounts Committee hearing on 9 March this was not in line with the timeframe specified in Circular 24 of 2021.

The delay in laying the accounts was due to the additional work pressures across the Department last year as a consequence of the Departments lead role in the national response to the energy supply emergency caused by the invasion of Ukraine. In particular, the Division responsible for managing the submission of the SEAI Annual Report and Financial Statements 2021 was under significant work pressures managing a range of issues including security of oil supply.

Yours Sincerely,

Mark Griffin Secretary General Your Ref: S1200 PAC33