Joan Burton TD, Ebilou,

Tanaiste & Minister for Social Protection, Loughlinstown,

Government Buildings, Celbridge,

Upper Merrion Street, Co. Kildare

Dublin 2

3rd March 2015

**Re: ESB Retired Staff Association Protest at Government Buildings on 3rd March 2015**

Dear Minister,

ESB Retired Staff Association (ESBRSA) wish to protest at the lack of any response to our Association's numerous requests for a meeting directly with you.

Our Association is encouraged by the pension measures introduced by you at a recent press conference, in particular, the issue of collective representation for pensioner and deferred scheme members of Defined Benefit schemes.

I hope that your department officials and the Pensions Authority will ensure that these new measures, which are long overdue, are introduced without further delay. However, I would have some reservations regarding the effectiveness of measures introduced to facilitate engagement between the trustees of a pension scheme and representative groups for pensioners without the introduction of arbitration/dispute procedures to facilitate mediation in the event of disputes arising between the parties.

I would appreciate a meeting with you to discuss our concerns regarding the above.

Yours sincerely,

Michael MacNamara Hon Secretary,

National Executive,

ESB Retired Staff Association