

East Kintyre Renewable Energy Group (EKREG) Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday January 6th, 2020

Present: Alasdair Bennett ('Chair'), Rhona Elder, Jerry Barnes and Rob Lee

Venue: Brudhearg, Waterfoot, Argyll PA28 6QX

1. Apologies for Absence

- None

2. Minutes and actions agreed at previous meeting (Monday, December 16th)

- **Actions outstanding/carried-over:**

Additional insurance quotations [JB]

Combining of Mem and Articles/sanity check by ET [JB]

Revision of map/opportunities list – removal of Stewartfield [RL]

Good Energy to be contacted aka Willow sale/hold [JB]

Killean reapplication planned by RES ? [AB]

Cour CBF – clarification on promised new tranche of cash [AB]

3. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

News incoming about decisions to consent development of Clachaig Glen (RWE) and Tangy IV (SSE) and not allow Killean (RES) was reviewed, implications assessed and relevant actions agreed

RL reported on his recent meeting with MP/WKCC aka discussions with Abundance and recently-consented developments

4. CSO - Shareholding Options

a. Model Rules, Legal Vehicles & Interactions

b. Funding Streams/HMRC issues

The group commended RL on all his hard work over Xmas/New Year in developing sets of model rules for the potential legal vehicles, now handed over to LES for their feedback/approval/support. Personal preference is for the 'hybrid' rules as drafted, rather than pure 'Somerset' rules.

There had been some relevant and significant advances in understanding past few weeks incl. (i) it is the developer who decides which Community Councils (CCs) are invited to subscribe to CSO (ii) It is preferable that all those CCs invited to participate do so on an equal basis (iii) All 3 immediate development opportunities (BaT3 [SPR], Clachaig Glen [RWE] and Tangy IV [SSE] represent Tier1 developers and when operative on FLS land are bound by FLS 'rules' on shared ownership offerings in that – because these are Tier 1 developers - invited communities must be offered up to 49.5% stakeholding in all of the ventures (iv) local authorities in Scotland are eligible to receive government loans (in the same way as south of the border) at substantially

preferential rates for projects (especially renewable developments) that are inherently low/minimal risk. Model to be progressed - they borrow at 2.5% from central government, add 1% interest rate (by way of incentivisation to grow public funds) and service a loan to the chosen CSO vehicle for 3.5% p.a.

- **Actions outcoming from these discussions:**

- Accountant to be pushed on feedback about charitable CBS opportunities [JB]

- LES to be questioned about Charitable CBS opportunities [RL]

- A&B Council to be approached and meeting established to explore loans [AB]

5. BaT3 (SPR)

Progress in furthering this opportunity was discussed. A meeting date of 18th March had been established to be hosted in Campbeltown Town Hall. This meeting convened and will be chaired by SPR and involve representation from Abundance, LES, and invited CCs plus EKREG

- **Action:** Timing for meeting and Technical due diligence requested - to chase [AB]

6. Clachaig Glen (EON (now RWE))

RL/AB reported on a very positive and informative meeting with Abundance – RWEs elected financial consultant. Feedback was awaited with regard which CC's will receive CBF offer. Abundance already had agreements in place with FLS.

Outline CSO Offer Meeting date anticipated (by Abundance) to be March/April

- **Action:** T&S CT/CC to be approached to participate in a Carradale meet [AB]

7. Tangy IV (SSE)

Issues associated were discussed.

- **Actions:** contact Morven (SSE Community Liason) [AB]
Establish a meet date with The Laggan and Southend CCs Feb ? [AB]

8. NDA Update

Minor correspondence/updates provided. Nothing other to report

9. Communications & Marketing

- Engagement Strategy

Under development

Advantages that could be gained from downstream meetings with Paul Wheelhouse and Andrea Leadsom – aka hydro opportunities and local networks in particular, were discussed

- **Actions:** Zof (WKCC) has a meeting with Mike Russell [MEP]. Bullet point list highlighting EKREG activities to be drafted for her to draw his attention [RE]

- Briefings

EKREG-led briefing scheduled for Jan 23rd 19:30 Campbeltown Town Hall
Accommodating 2 reps E/W/C CCs plus CCT and SKDT. Briefing to be delivered by
AB/RL, with JB & RE in attendance

The actual presentation slide deck was reviewed, some restructuring agreed and
amends suggested.

- **Action:** revised briefing slide deck to be circulated [AB/RL]

- www.eastkintyre.org Website

EKREG Newsline page amends were reviewed

10. AOB

No further matters were tabled for discussion

11. DONM

Agreed: Monday 20th 10.00 Rubha Darach