

EKREG

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 8th March, 2022

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

Venue: Remote working: conference via Zoom

1. Apologies for Absence

- None

2. Minutes and actions outstanding at previous meeting (Tues 22nd February)

- No matters outstanding

3. Treasurers' Report

- There were no transactions to report. An up-to-date bank statement was tabled and approved at the meeting.

4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- Notification had been received that Section 36 planning applications had been submitted by EnergieKontor (EK) and Scottish Power Renewables (SPR) allied to proposed developments at Rowan (above West Loch) and Earraghail (between Skipness and Tarbert), respectively.
- A community investment 'flyer' had been received from SPR with regard their proposal for an 89 MW renewable energy development at Earraghail comprising 14-turbines with accompanying ground-based solar arrays, backed by 25 MW battery storage – the impacted communities' to be invited to discuss CBF and CSO opportunities await identification by SPR.

5. SPR- BaT3

- **SPR/Iberdrola**
The long-negotiated community benefit agreement for BaT3 had been received and signed off by all parties. The first payment has been promised and is expected to be received before the end of the month.
- **Community Investment Vehicle: Lussa Community Wind [LCW] Ltd**
Board meeting date to be scheduled as soon as the first CBF payment credited from SPR aka BaT3.
- **LES/CARES Grant/Tender documentation**
No updates to be reported

6. ESB – West Torrisdale

- A meeting had been rescheduled to develop a 'road map' following the later-than-anticipated tabling of a co-drafted MoU at the next ESB Executive Board which emphasized the communities desire to own upto 15% of the equity in the development, should it be consented.

7. Belltown Power - Cnoc Buidhe

No updates to report

8. CC Charitable Bodies

No updates to report

9. Communications & Marketing

- Marketing

It was agreed to launch the Kintyre Wind website in parallel with a scheduled press release to report EKREG achievements to date

- Engagement Strategy

A date was still awaited for the retabling of the community petition entitled 'Share the Wind' (PE1885/C) promoting mandatory community shared ownership in Scottish windfarms via tax reform applicable to developers. The petition received significant support when tabled for a second hearing by the Scottish Governments' Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee on 2nd February 2022. Appropriate Minister(s) will be invited to be questioned at the next hearing. The aim of the petition: to gain a fair and just financial outcome for communities impacted by renewable energy developments. The positive discussion at the last hearing (@11.10) is archived @ <https://www.scottishparliament.tv/>.

- Briefings/CC MoUs

- Once drafted, it was agreed that the press release should be shared with EKCC, WKCC and CCC in advance of its release.
- Plans were discussed to host an EKREG stand at the CCT open day on April 9th which aimed to gather public opinion as to funding priorities to benefit the local community.

10. Governance

No updates to report

11. AOB

- RL agreed to update the Kintyre windfarm map so it could be refreshed on the website. No other matters were tabled at the meeting.
- The impact of the closure of the Scottish National Investment Banks' Energy Investment Fund (EIF), as of 31st March, was discussed.

DONM: Tues 22nd March, 2022, 09.30 [virtual meeting: Zoom]