

EKREG

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 31st May, 2022

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

Venue: Remote working: conference via Zoom

1. Apologies for Absence

- None

2. Minutes and actions outstanding at previous meeting (Tues 17th May)

- No matters outstanding. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. Treasurers' Report

- No transactions other than routine bank charges to report. An up-to-date bank statement was reviewed and approved at the meeting.

4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- Intelligent Land Investments (ILI) had flatly refused to offer formalized community benefit payments/Shared ownership opportunities in connection with their sizeable planned battery-storage adjacent to SSEN's Carradale sub-station @Auchnasavil, despite the fact that SSEN indicate that energy storage facilities are classified as energy production and are not considered part of the grid network by Ofgem and the UK Government.
- Notification had been received of another scoping study on land south of Campbeltown. This time by EnergieKontor for a major development (upto 200 MW) comprising 21 turbines of an unprecedented onshore tip-height of 230m at Breakerie (8km South-West of Campbeltown). Further information (and representations) via the Scottish Energy Consents website: www.energyconsents.scot (enter Breakerie and/or ECU00004507 into the search facility on the ECU landing page).
- Responses had been received from (i) RWE with regard their revised plans for a windfarm at Clachaig Glen (on land contracted from FLS and subject to FLS contractual obligations pertaining to CSO) and a meeting scheduled to further CSO/CBF discussions; and (ii) BayWa r.e. with regard their progression of High Constellation windfarm, who indicated that they would honour a lifetime guarantee of £5K/MW CBF funding.

5. ESB – West Torrisdale (WT)

- A revised meeting date (June 29th) had been confirmed with ESB to discuss progress with the agreed 'CSO road map' allied to their development at West Torrisdale. Positive progress was reported internally at ESB in the interim.

6. Belltown Power - Cnoc Buidhe

- No updates to report – scoping studies and environmental work underway

7. Lussa Community Wind [LCW]/CC Charitable Bodies (EKCF, WKCF & CCWF)

- LCW had received year 2 CBF funds from SPR in relation to BaT3. The total received for year 2 was £229,078. Following a board meeting where the sum to be temporarily retained to pay administrative costs would be agreed, the balance will then be donated equally to the three anchor charities for their dissemination to prioritized local causes. [Action: JB - LCW board meet date]
- CCWF and WKCF are advertising for projects seeking funding from 1st year CBF funds donated from BaT3. EKCF will begin advertising application dates and procedures for those interested in accessing funding for East Kintyre-oriented projects (see local press and the Kintyre wind website: <https://www.kintyrewind.com>) following a month-end AGM.

8. Communications & Marketing

- Marketing

RE was nearing launch of the rebuilt www.eastkintyre.org website

AB was awaiting a response from the CEO@ Community Energy Scotland with regard a meet date.

- Engagement Strategy

The community petition entitled 'Share the Wind' (PE1885/C) promoting mandatory community shared ownership in Scottish windfarms via land tax reform applicable to developers will be re-tabled by the Scottish Governments' Citizen Participation and Public Petition Committee June 15th. The Minister responsible for finance, planning and community wealth is invited to provide evidence.

- Briefings/CC MoUs

There followed some discussion about SSEN's planned extension of grid capacity for Kintyre/ North Scotland to service the industrial scale of the windfarms planned for Kintyre. In 2020-21 SSEN were servicing 450 MW windfarm power generation from Kintyre and Argyll-based developments and planning to accommodate a further 1350 MW; to yield ~1800MW generated to be accommodated via the line upgrade (ongoing) from 132 Kv to 275 Kv. In 2022, the latest forecasts illustrate a significant and shocking increase in requests for windfarm connections across Kintyre far-surpassing previous expectations, such that SSEN are now planning for a further 1700 MW generation capacity from Kintyre and Argyll to deliver 3300 MW in total – if delivered, this will result in 7-fold increase (over current) in windfarm generation capacity and will mean that Kintyre and Argyll shoulder 50-80% of the increased wind power currently planned in North Scotland. It was agreed that political support needed to be canvassed to address the situation and/or yield benefits to the local communities impacted (e.g. lower energy tariffs). It was proposed that EKREG should host a cross-Kintyre Community Council meet in the Autumn and that this should be one item for the agenda.

9. Governance

- The board unanimously agreed with JB's proposal to renew the Companies' existing corporate insurance cover [Action: JB – to finalise renewal and arrange payment/receipt]

10. AOB

- A date was awaited from Tim Bailey (recently-appointed Project Manager at MACC) to establish a dialogue allied to Tangy IV, Breakerie and High Dalrioch amongst other matters
- RL to update windfarm map of Kintyre for RE to upload/refresh [Action: RL/RE]

DONM: Tues 21st June 2022, 09.00 [virtual meeting: Zoom]