

EKREG

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, 21st December, 2021

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 7th December)

- No matters outstanding

3. Treasurers' Report

- No transactions to report. Management accounts were approved.
- It was agreed that the £68 annual fee for Kintyre wind domains should be borne by EKREG funds, in the expectation that positive CSO/CBF developments will facilitate the launch of 'Kintyre Wind' as the communities' renewables marketing umbrella during 2022

4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- ESB had hosted a well-attended face-to-face public consultation event with regard their planned wind farm at West Torrisdale Dec. 10/11th at Carradale Village Hall. Following the event an MoU had been received pledging ESB's interest in developing significant community shared ownership in this windfarm. EKREG had requested some modifications to the tabled document and a response was awaited. In addition, ESB had pledged to honour Scottish Government guidelines with regard community benefit payments (i.e. £5k/MW/p.a.) *sensu* 2019 Scottish Government Guidelines for developers.
- There were no updates to report in connection with early-stage CSO correspondence allied to the ongoing dialogue with EnergieKontor, Muirden and RWE over multiple developments. It was agreed that correspondence should be revisited in the early New Year.
- SSE had applied to A&BC for an extension to the lifetime of the existing Tangy wind-farm, to accommodate delays in the development of Tangy IV.
- Having presented strong opposition to SPRs proposed development at Sheirdrim Hill, WKCC (supported by A&B Council and Historic Environment Scotland (HES)) awaited the outcome of the convened government hearing.

5. BaT3

- **SPR/Iberdrola**
SPR had eventually refused to engage in any form of dialogue with EKREG's engaged legal team over the concerns raised by EKREG on the first draft of their tabled CBF agreement, so the Chairman had written to SPR's CEO, Lindsay McQuade, requesting her intervention to remedy the unacceptable situation with regard their Community Benefit Payment proposition aka BaT3. This had instigated a call with

SPRs community liaison officer. It was agreed that AB should follow up with said individual with regard to the clauses in the document requested to be changed by EKREG [**Action: AB**].

- **Community Investment Vehicle: Lussa Community Wind [LCW] Ltd**

A newsletter and share certificates had been disseminated to all Lussa Pioneer shareholders

- **LES/CARES Grant/Tender documentation**

The second of two meetings between LES, Abundance and QMPF had been scheduled for the early New Year with a view to making SPR understand why their proposals for Community Share Ownership in BaT3 could not work for communities, and assist with the development of a future SPR model that will be attractive to impacted communities downstream.

6. CC Charitable Bodies

- It was agreed that the online application form for the first round of EKCF-disseminated funding should be evolved and finalized in the coming weeks [**Action: RL/AB**]

7. Communications & Marketing

- **Marketing**

Routine updates had been made to the eastkintyre.org website

- **Engagement Strategy**

A community petition entitled 'Share the Wind' (PE1885/C) promoting community shared ownership in local windfarms had received significant support when tabled by the Scottish Governments' Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee on 6th October 2021. The opportunity to upload comments was now closed, and a date was awaited for the next hearing at which the petition would be retabled – where the support of our elected political representatives had been pledged – to gain a fair and just financial outcome for communities impacted by renewable energy developments. The discussion can be viewed live @ <https://www.scottishparliament.tv/>.

- **Briefings/CC MoUs**

A disappointing response had been received from Michael Matheson [Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport] but EKREG are indebted to Brendan O'Hara for actioning on behalf of the Kintyre communities. In the New Year, JB agreed to reach out to both Donald Cameron, and Calum MacDonald (following an article published in the Herald where it was clear the community he was engaged with shared many of EKREG's views on the need to make CSO mandatory for all Scottish renewable energy developments)

9. Governance

JB agreed to prompt the company's accountant about his progress to align EKREG's annual tax return to HMRC with other Companies House returns.

10. AOB

No other matters were tabled at the meeting

DONM: Tues 11th January, 2022, 09.30 [virtual meeting: Zoom]