

EKREG

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 17th May, 2022

Present: Alasdair Bennett ('Chair'), Jerry Barnes

Venue: Remote working: conference via Zoom

1. Apologies for Absence

- Received in advance from Rhona Elder and Rob Lee

2. Minutes and actions outstanding at previous meeting (Tues 3rd 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

- It was agreed that the Chairman should recontact Intelligent Land Investments (ILI) over their plans for community benefit payments/Shared ownership opportunities in connection with their sizeable planned battery-storage extension at SSEN's Carradale sub-station @Auchnasavil given recent feedback received directly from SSEN that energy storage facilities are classified as energy production and are not considered part of the grid network by Ofgem and the UK Government - as such battery storage facilities are expected to follow Scottish Government 2019 guidelines with regard payment of benefit funds and the offer of shared ownership to impacted communities [**Action: AB**]
- Notification of a scoping study underway by SSE in relation to a planned 50-100MW windfarm comprising 10 x 180m tip-height turbines at High Dalrioch (2km South of Campbeltown). Further information (and representations) via the Scottish Energy Consents website: www.energyconsents.scot (enter High Dalrioch into the search facility on the ecu landing page).
- The Chairman had chased responses 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 (ii) BayWa r.e. with regard their progression of High Constellation windfarm.

5. ESB – West Torrisdale (WT)

- A meet date of June 10th awaits confirmation by ESB to discuss progress with the agreed 'road map' allied to their development at West Torrisdale.

6. Belltown Power - Cnoc Buidhe

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

7. CC Charitable Bodies

- CCWT and WKCF had begun to advertise in relation to the dissemination of 1st year CBF funds donated from BaT3. Following an AGM at the month-end, 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>)

8. Communications & Marketing

- Marketing

The Chairman had released a press statement on behalf of EKREG following a prompt from the Courier in relation to an article they were preparing for publication in relation to SSE's new windfarm proposal at High Dalrioch, and routine updates had been made to websites/Facebook pages.

- Engagement Strategy

A date was still awaited for the re-tabling of the community petition entitled 'Share the Wind' (PE1885/C) promoting mandatory community shared ownership in Scottish windfarms via tax reform applicable to developers.

- Briefings/CC MoUs

RL provided informed feedback following his participation in an SSEN on-line public engagement event regarding their planned extension of grid capacity for Kintyre/ North Scotland. Particular attention was drawn to the industrial scale of the wind-farms 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. Further discussion about the briefing attended by RL was scheduled for the next meeting.

9. Governance

- JB was tasked with advancing the annual renewal of the Companies' corporate insurance cover [**Action: JB**]

10. AOB

- The Chairman had contacted Tim Bailey (recently-appointed Project Manager at MACC) to establish a meeting date to advance discussions allied to Tangy IV and High Dalrioch amongst other matters
- The Chairman had been introduced to the CEO of Community Energy Scotland and a meeting date awaits confirmation to share information pertinent to CSO.

DONM: Tues 31st May 2022, 09.00 [virtual meeting: Zoom]