

EKREG

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 7th January, 2025

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

Venue: Remote working: conference via Zoom

1. Apologies for Absence

- None

2. Minutes and actions outstanding at previous meeting (Tuesday 10th December, 2024)

- Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. There were no actions outstanding.

3. Treasurers' Report

- Only routine bank charges were incurred past month. An up-to-date bank statement was reviewed and approved at the meeting.

4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- A request had been received to feedback on the Scottish Government's consultation on community benefit funding for communities allied to local windfarm developments. Response required before 11th April 2025 [Action: AB/JB]

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

- Lussa Community Wind.

No updates to report

- Community Funds (EKCF/CCWF/WKCF).

The next funding round for the East Kintyre Community Fund will open for applications on 24th January. Applications for the 'spring' funding round must be received before 7th March. The fund is now in a position to support bursaries for East Kintyre residents' professional development, in addition to its core remit. For further information see www.eastkintyre.org

6. West Torrisdale

Correspondence with the developer of West Torrisdale windfarm indicates that they are near to submitting their Section 36 planning application. The windfarm will comprise 8 turbines upto 150m in height positioned on the East side of the Kintyre ridge (making it an unprecedented development) that will be highly visible/impactful from Carradale point/fort/Torrisdale Bay. Photomontages and impact portfolios are available for consultation in Carradale Village Hall.

7. Clachaig Glen

Following notification that this development had been consented, a meeting with the project management team at RWE took place as scheduled. EKREG were informed that, due to grid connection issues, progress with this project will be delayed by at

least 12 months, such that building work on site is now not expected to begin before 4Q26 and thus the development will not be operational until at least 2Q28.

8. Killean and Tangy IV

- Killean [RES] – an update meeting had been diaried for 28th Jan. 25. There were no other updates to report

9. Cnoc Buidhe (Belltown Power)

No updates to report.

10. Earraghail (SPR) and High Constellation

No updates to report.

11. Communications & Marketing

- **Marketing**

Routine website updates had been completed, and correspondence responded to.

Engagement Strategy

There were no updates to report on the 'Share the Wind' petition (PE1885/C) promoting mandatory community shared ownership in Scottish windfarms via land tax reform. The latest hearing of the petition by the Scottish Governments' Citizen Participation and Public Petition Committee can be viewed at: [Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee | Scottish Parliament TV](#)

- **Communications**

A response was still awaited from the civil servants with whom EKREG were liaising with regard an update meeting in connection with ongoing behind-the-scenes activity allied to changing government policy on community ownership. It was agreed that JB should chase those involved [**Action: JB**]

12. Governance

No matters outstanding

13. AOB

The advantages/disadvantages of negotiating extraordinary community benefit funding in line with that now demanded by the Highland Council (12-15K/MW/P.a.) versus minor shareholdings in windfarms was discussed.

DONM: Wed 29th Jan, 2025. 09.00 [virtual meeting: Zoom]