

EKREG Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 8th October, 2024

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 17th Sept, 2024)

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

3. Treasurers' Report

- There were two transactions to report; payment of an invoice from the accountant allied to costs incurred in filing the companies' confirmation statement, plus routine monthly bank charges. An up-to-date bank statement was reviewed and approved at the meeting.

4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- Notification had been received from EnergieKontor that they intend to revisit their plans for Arnicle windfarm (scoped in 2021). Advanced notification has been received that they will submit a Section 36 planning application in early 2025 for a windfarm comprising 10 turbines situated on the spine of Kintyre between Blary Hill and Beinn an Tuirc. The windfarm is to be renamed Allt Domhain and the first public consultation events will be scheduled before Xmas.
- CCs had received a gate check from Belltown in relation to their planned Cnoc Buidhe development, that had been responded to.

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

- Lussa Community Wind.

No updates to report – all actions had been completed.

- East Kintyre Community Fund (EKCF).

At the latest meeting of the Trustees to discuss the autumn disbursement of funds, grants were awarded totalling £15,800. For further information see: [East Kintyre Community Fund](#)

- Campbeltown Community Windfarm Fund

CCWF is presently welcoming applications for capital or revenue funding from charities, community groups and halls within the Campbeltown, Laggan and Southend Community Council areas see: [Autumn Disbursement of Funds 2024 - applications open - Campbeltown Community Council](#)

- West Kintyre Community Fund

The WKCF is also currently open for applications for its autumn disbursement of funds to eligible charities and community groups. The closing date for this round of applications is November 6th. For further information see: [West Kintyre Community Fund – WEST KINTYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL](#)

6. West Torrisdale and High Constellation

No updates to report

7. Clachaig Glen

No updates to report

8. Killean and Tangy IV

- An update meeting had been held with RES aka their planned development at Killean, where they reiterated their commitment to pay £5K/MW in community benefit and/or to use a part or all of these funds establish an electricity discount scheme – as preferred by the communities impacted – in the event this development is consented. Community preferences with regard shared ownership models were discussed, which the RES team were going to follow-up and report back on.
- An introductory meeting was held with SSE representatives to discuss their plans for the extension and repowering of Tangy IV. Community Benefit Funding will be paid at the standard rate of £5K/MW and an unattractive revenue share opportunity offered.

9. Cnoc Buidhe (Belltown Power)

An MoU agreed between the parties had been received. It was agreed this should be communicated to the community councils invited to participate in the benefit offerings made by the developer should this development be consented [**Action: AB**]

10. Earraghail (SPR)

No updates to report.

11. Communications & Marketing

- **Marketing**

Regular updates to the Kintyre Wind website had been completed. Additional website updates had been communicated to ER and these would be completed within the next 7-10 days.

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 disappointing response had been received from the civil servants with whom EKREG were liaising with regard changing government policy on community ownership. It was agreed that another meeting with them would be prudent [**Action: JB**]

AB had participated in the latest ACT-led Working Group meeting. Discussions did not centre on the establishment of the working Group's remit, role and/or objectives, as anticipated – but rather the formation of two splinter-groups. EKREG had already withdrawn from one of these (MoU discussion group).

12. Governance

The company's confirmation statement had been filed in advance of the deadline. No other matters were outstanding.

13. AOB

- SSEN's presentation at the consultation events with regard their proposed route for the above-ground connection of Tangy IV and Cnoc Buidhe to Carradale sub-station was discussed. It is clear that the 132kV overhead lines proposed will intrude on the landscape, especially where it comes off the spine, through Carradale Forest and down the valley to the substation – that will also require another significant extension to accommodate the additional line transmission. SSEN/Ofgem are offering no local compensation whatsoever in lieu of the disruption caused or the environmental/landscape damage resulting.
- Highland Council's introduction of mandatory community benefit payments of £12.5K/MW for all windfarm developments was briefly discussed as was SSE's recent wave of adverse press coverage for not providing the communities in Shetland with fair and just financial compensation for the largest onshore windfarm in the UK which has just come on line and represents a landscape-destroying 103-turbine windfarm generating potentially 443MW.

DONM: Tues 22nd Oct., 2024. 09.00 [virtual meeting: Zoom]