

EKREG Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, 23rd November, 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 9th November)

- No matters outstanding

3. Treasurers' Report

- No transactions to report. Management accounts were approved.

4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- ESB have scheduled a face-to-face public consultation event with regard their planned wind farm at West Torrisdale Dec. 10/11th at Carradale Village Hall. This development will be highly visible especially from Carradale point/golf club.
- There were no updates to report in connection with early-stage CSO correspondence allied to the ongoing dialogue with EnergieKontor, Muirden and ESB over multiple developments. EnergieKontor will not hold any face-to-face public consultations with regard their planned developments in the region.
- WKCC were preparing their objections to SPRs' opposed development at Sheirdrim Hill due to be tabled at next weeks' hearing, with support from A&B Council and Historic Environment Scotland (HES).

5. BaT3

• SPR/Iberdrola

No response had yet been received from SPR aka EKREG's concerns raised on their first draft of the legal agreement underpinning the payment of Community Benefit Funds. With assistance from LES, and a CARES grant, a lawyer had been appointed to liaise with SPRs legal team on behalf of the impacted communities.

Community Investment Vehicle: Lussa Community Wind [LCW] Ltd

- The update letter to Lussa Pioneer shareholders needed to be disseminated along with share certification [**Action: JB**].

No further updates to report

• LES/CARES Grant/Tender documentation

Independent talks were underway between LES, Abundance and QMPF with a view to making SPR understand why their proposals for Community Share Ownership in BaT3 were indigestible, with a view to developing a future SPR model that will be attractive to impacted communities aka future developments.

6. CC Charitable Bodies

For applications pertaining to the £20K endowment received from MOWI worthy beneficiaries should consult www.eastkintyre.org for further information/application guidelines

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. 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

It was agreed that AB/JB should prompt Brendan O'Hara and Donald Cameron, respectively, for their support of mandating CSO. A most supportive letter had been received from Paul Sweeney following transmission of the latest version of EKREG's CSO briefing document which provided a land tax solution to ensure the offer of CSO is mandatory for all developers across Scotland [**Action: AB/JB**]

The deadline for representations with the Energy Consents Unit had passed with regards to EnergieKontors' impactful windfarm development at Narachan, incorporating turbines of an unprecedented size (and thus developer-profitability) in the region (that will breach Argyll and Bute Councils Landscape Capacity Study maximum height of 150m and will require every mast to bare night-time aviation lighting and that will be visible from many parts of the region and affecting the Rhonadale/Deer Hill vista.

9. Governance

JB reported that he would chase the company's accountant over the filing of the annual tax return about which a reminder had been received from HMRC (and must be filed prior to Spring 2022).

10. AOB

No other matters were tabled at the meeting

DONM: Tues 7th December, 2021, 09.30 [virtual meeting: Zoom]