

# EKREG Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2023

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

Venue: Remote working: conference via Zoom

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## 1. Apologies for Absence

- None

## 2. Minutes and actions outstanding at previous meeting (Tues 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023)

- Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

## 3. Treasurers' Report

- The only transaction to report was the payment of routine monthly bank charges. An up-to-date bank statement was reviewed and approved at the meeting.

## 4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- No updates to report

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

- Lussa Community Wind.

As agreed, the accountants fee for servicing annual accounting requirements had been prepaid, and 100% of the remaining surplus funds had been distributed equally between the three anchor charities. Acknowledgement of receipt of the latest payments had been received from all three anchor charities. A Directors Board Meeting is scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup> – the Chair will circulate an agenda for the meeting [**Action: RL**]

Reports meeting with SPR guidelines had been requested from the anchor charities in receipt of LCW-distributed funds so as to provide visibility on all expenditure by the charities.

- East Kintyre Community Fund (EKCF).

No updates to report

## 6. ESB – West Torrisdale (WT)

- No updates to report

## 7. Clachaig Glen (CG)

- Correspondence had been promptly reinstigated by RWE team managing the CG development following communication with Tom Glover CEO @RWE. In parallel, RL/JB had briefed the company's legal team replacing Alex Shiel (following his retirement) and the RWE legal team requested to make contact with the company's lawyers with a view to progressing the long-outstanding NDA to sign-off by all parties.

## 8. High Constellation

- A positive meeting with BayWa r.e. enabled clarification on their positioning with regard the development and CSO opportunities. CBF arrangements and expectations were discussed (on behalf of EKCC). It was left with the BayWa team to clarify the Community Councils who will be invited to discuss CBFs and the distribution thereof, and to arrange a meeting with those CCs, or their representatives, to progress discussions and agreements. BayWa confirmed that no application will be made to increase the height of the turbines proposed at the site, and work was already underway felling trees to create the required additional habitat to support the local population of Golden Eagles and other wildlife. The goal is for the site to be operational by 3Q26. It is likely the site will be sold-on once operational.

## 9. Cnoc Buidhe (Belltown Power)

- No updates to report

## 10. Earraghail

- The Chair had received a response from SPR with regard updates on CSO positioning, with little real advance in arrangements by SPR. As yet no correspondence had been received regarding details of the CSO offer to be made that has already been shared by SPR with FLS.

## 11. Communications & Marketing

### - Marketing

Regular website updates had been instigated

### - Engagement Strategy

The 'Share the Wind' petition (PE1885/C) promoting mandatory community shared ownership in Scottish windfarms via land tax reform was discussed by the Scottish Governments' Citizen Participation and Public Petition Committee at their latest meeting: Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>. The petition again received strong support from the former Energy Minister, Fergus Ewing MSP, amongst other members of the panel. The Chair agreed to reiterate the questions posed by the petitioner, and added to by the committee, to the appropriate Ministers since they had so far failed to address the key questions raised. The petition will be retabled once the Minister(s) approached by the Committee Chair have responded.

### - Communications

RL/JP had been invited to participate in a consultation exercise launched by LES with the aim of better understanding Scottish communities' positioning with regard CSO, the impact of NPF4, the type of support needed and the problems that must be overcome to achieve the objective – equity-based partnership in windfarm developments.

## 12. Governance

- The company's accounts made up to 15<sup>th</sup> March 23 are due for filing prior to 15<sup>th</sup> December 23, and a revised confirmation statement is due for filing before 29<sup>th</sup> Sept. 23. It was agreed that JB should service the accountant with information needed to prepare the company's annual returns mid-May.

## 13. AOB

No other items were tabled for discussion

**DONM:** Tues April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 09.00 [virtual meeting: Zoom]