

# East Kintyre Renewable Energy Group (EKREG) Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday September 12th, 2019

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

Venue: Rubha Darach, Torrisdale, Argyll PA28 6QT

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## 1. Apologies for Absence

- All members present

## 2. Minutes of previous meeting (29 August) and review of actions

- It was noted that no actions remain outstanding bar letter to be despatched to RES

## 3. Update from CCT Board Meeting 11 September

- EKREG had sought, and gained approval from, CCT Board to incorporate EKREG as a Ltd Co. by guarantee with membership restricted to the 4 existing members. The purpose: to autonomously explore community shared ownership opportunities with developers in a commercial manner with zero liability for CCT Board.
- EKREG Ltd activity reports would be provided verbally by AB at regular monthly CCT with potential quarterly review resummees

## 4. EKREG Ltd

- EKREG Ltd articles of association had been agreed and registration had been uploaded to Companies House on 12<sup>th</sup> September. Incorporation was expected to be completed early w/c 16<sup>th</sup> September
- NDA for use by EKREG Ltd. had been drafted, minor amends made following feedback from CCT Chair, and the document was now fit for purpose and would be employed to develop multiple confidential discussions with targeted developers
- A quote for Company/Directors & Officers liability Insurance is to be sought from MFL – a trusted insurer with whom elements of EKREG have worked on several occasions previously [JB]
- Once incorporated, a Campbeltown bank a/c to furnish the companies' business activities will be established [AB]
- EKREG Ltd will service a proposal for start up funding to EKWFT upcoming applications deadline (24<sup>th</sup> Oct) and the same proposal can be used to service other grant opportunities. AB to have no involvement in the EKWFT panel assessment of EKREG application as a result of his conflict of interest.
- The four members of EKREG met with three representatives of WKCC, including the convenor of WKCC (Margaret Pragg), in Whitehouse on 12<sup>th</sup> Sept. to discuss issues surrounding local windfarm developments. Approval was also sought, and agreed, that EKREG Ltd. should represent WKCC as well as EKCC and explore any and all developer-discussions allied to community shared ownership on behalf of both communities – reporting back to WKCC at intervals as to progress. It was agreed an MoU should be drafted to reflect this agreement (see section 11 of these minutes)

## 5. Correspondence with Windfarm Operators/Developers

- RL reviewed correspondence
- No responders: Blue Energy (HC), Octopus Investments (Cour), SPR follow up, RES update, EoN, PR Renewables (Eascairt)
- Positive responders: SPR (BaT 1 and 3), SSE (Tangy), Energie Kontor (Narachan)
- Responders not presently developing: Good Energy (Willow – on hold), ENGIE (Narachan – terminated)

follow up correspondence to be despatched before next meeting, once MoU signed enabling EKREG to represent WKCC as well as EKCC (see section 11 of these minutes)

-RL/JB

#### **6. CBS – Update**

- Nothing more to report in addition to above
- It was noted that CBS for SPR BaT3 would potentially deliver £250K (to be divided 3 ways) per annum. *in toto* to communities, but there would be need to redress/update previous practice aka Best Practice 2019.

#### **7. CSO - Update**

- Nothing more to report in addition to above
- It was noted, however, that based on some of EKREG latest understandings the annual return on 20% ownership in a 30MW reasonably-well-performing development would be expected to return in the order of £400-500K EBITDA p.a. over the lifetime of the contract

#### **8. BaT3 - Initiating consultation with SPR**

-RL/JB to draft letters

#### **9. Narachan Windfarm - Public information day 19 September, Carradale Village Hall**

- Poster flagged on IT platforms by RE and widely publicised across EK
- JB and RE unable to attend. But AB and RL will be present to question Ciorstaidh and her colleagues and advance CSO discussion opportunities

#### **10. High Constellation Windfarm - ECU Issues**

-AB to chase posting of objections on ECU and possibly arrange for IB to follow up correspondence sent to Scottish Minister

#### **11. Meetings with WKCC and SKDT**

- Meeting with WKCC was most productive (see section 4.6 of these minutes). An MoU was to be drafted and despatched to WKCC (c/o MP)
- An informal meeting to open up a similar dialogue with SKDT had been brokered with SKDT – Eric Spence

-AB to initiate a dialogue with SKDT

#### **12. EK Website entry**

- The members thanked RE for all her sterling work on the EK website, and the EKREG page was reviewed and approved at the meeting

#### **13. AOB**

- No other business was tabled

#### **14. DONM**

- Agreed: 30th Sept @10.00 Rubha Darach prior to EKREG meet with DTAS at 11.00