

# EKREG Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2020

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

Venue: Remote working: video conference via Zoom

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## 1. Apologies for Absence

- None applicable

## 2. Minutes and actions agreed/outstanding at previous meeting (Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> June)

- No actions remain outstanding

## 3. Treasurers' Report

- Management accounts were approved, with no interim transactions to report.

## 4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- No updates to report

## 5. CSO

### - Model Rules - FCA Update

A conference call was scheduled to discuss some minor points raised by the FCA that they seek amendment of in the final document. 'Rob's Rules' are expected to be approved by the FCA swiftly once these minor changes are incorporated.

### - Funding Streams

No updates to report

### - FLS/MCS Update

It was noted that the FLS Energy Offering applicable to Carradale Forest had not been postponed until the end of June, as had been communicated in writing to EKREG by FLS nor had EKREG or the community been informed at the point that the Energy Offering was made 'live' by FLS on June 15<sup>th</sup>, as promised by FLS.

JB/RL had made strong progress in obtaining sight of the lease between FLS and RWE (then Powergen) pertaining to the 3 plots of land spanning the Cruach nan Gabhar (CnG) ridge to Deucheran Hill (DH), that the community had previously expressed an interest in with FLS. The lease applying to the two plots accommodating the existing Deucheran Hill windfarm (ref. ARG1523) had been acquired from the Land Registry. It was noted that the lease (i) is effective for 25 years and applicable until 18.02.2026 (ii) did not apply to the plot of particular interest on the CnG ridge and (iii) that the annual rent payable by RWE for the land occupied by the windfarm on an auditable MW/p.a. basis is less than might be anticipated. The Land Registry can find no trace of a similar lease pertaining to the CnG ridge plot, so additional exploration is underway with the Sangine Registry and FLS. It was agreed that it might also be useful to draw down the lease identified by the Land Registry pertaining to the grid connection into DH windfarm (ref ARG 1524).

**Action: JB/RL**

## 6. BaT3

### - LES/CARES Grant/Tender documentation

With the agreement of LES/CARES, all recipients of the legal and financial tenders applicable to BaT3 had been contacted and informed that it had been decided to put the tender 'on hold' pending sight of the Term Sheet from SPR/Abundance that should be available 3Q20.

### - CC Charitable Bodies

- No updates to report

### - C-19 and other concerns

- No updates to report

## 7. Clachaig Glen (RWE/Abundance)

- The developer's plans for this installation had been withdrawn, and would be re-submitted to yield a higher generation output from fewer, higher turbines. This means that planning permission will need resubmission. As a consequence, time-lines for the receipt of a Term Sheet were now uncertain, and the planning reconsents etc could take up to two years.

## 8. Tangy IV

- No updates to report

## 9. NDA Update

- No updates to report. It was agreed that a news update would be timely. **Action: JB**

## 10. Communications & Marketing

### - Marketing

No updates to report

### - Engagement Strategy

No updates to report

### - Briefings/CC MoUs

AB had progressed the MoU dialogue with S. Knapdale and Gigha CCs; a meeting was to be scheduled to progress discussions with the former while the latter had indicated the MoU would be signed-off and returned. **Action: AB**

### - Website

Updates and amends had been uploaded

## 11. AOB

- It was noted, with surprise and trepidation – given the visual impacts, the community's strong objections and the speed of the decision-making – that Blue Energy's 'High Constellation' development had been consented by the Scottish Government. This development will be visible from many parts of Carradale.
- RL/JB reported that LES/CARES had sought to broker an introduction to a West Lothian Community seeking to draw down finance to fuel shared ownership in a

renewable energy project. It was agreed that a dialogue should be entered into and the opportunity progressed. **Action: RL/JB**

- It was noted that no response had yet been received from A&B council executive aka their appetite to explore the opportunity of loans via the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB). It was agreed that it was timely to reignite the dialogue.  
**Action: AB**

No other matters were tabled at this meeting

## 12. **DONM**

Wednesday July 15<sup>th</sup>, 10.00 via Zoom [JB to host]