



lomondenergy
REALISING RENEWABLE ENERGY OPPORTUNITIES

To: Editors & Reporters

Our ref: MRK-006-PRESS_web2.doc

Date: 1st February 2010

Local Firm Studies Muir Windfarm Site

Gartocharn based windfarm developer Lomond Energy confirmed that it is investigating moorland above the Vale of Leven for a local wind farm project.

If successful, up to 15 wind turbines could be built at the site to produce enough green electricity to power half of all the homes in West Dunbartonshire¹ and bring significant economic benefits to local communities.

“Assessing the feasibility of windfarm sites is a complex and time consuming business, and we have been looking at a wide range of planning, technical and environmental issues at the Auchenreoch Muir site during the last year; so far, the indications are very positive” said Steve Macken, Director at Lomond Energy.

He went on to say “as a locally based independent developer we are committed to developing projects which are appropriate in scale and environmentally sensitive to the site and also acceptable to nearby communities. Having now established the feasibility of the site, we will be widening our consultation process to include local people, community groups and other stakeholders during the next few months”. A public information evening has taken place in Gartocharn already and further meetings will be arranged in Balloch, Duntocher and other nearby communities shortly.

Last year the UK Government announced that it wants nearly a third of all electricity produced in the UK to come from renewable energy by 2020², whilst the Scottish Government has set a target of half of Scotland’s electricity to come from green sources within the same timescale³. Much of this is expected to come from onshore and offshore windfarms.

The firm is expected to file plans with West Dunbartonshire Council in Autumn 2010.

ENDS

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Notes for Editors

1. Energy predicted to be generated by the proposal has been calculated using an assumed capacity factor of 30% (DTI Energy Trends UK regional capacity factors 1998-2004), and is based on an installed capacity of 37.5 MW. The energy capture predicted and hence derived homes equivalent or emissions savings figures may change as site specific information is gathered.

Equivalent homes supplied is based on an annual electricity consumption per home of 4700 kWh, which is derived from a total UK domestic electricity consumption of 117.589 terawatt-hours (TWh) (The Digest of UK Energy Statistics 2005) and 25.2 million UK households (Mid-year Household Estimates published in 2004 by the Office for National Statistics).

Number of households in West Dunbartonshire is 40,781 (West Dunbartonshire Council, August 2007).

2. The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan, DECC (July 2009)
http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/publications/lc_trans_plan/lc_trans_plan.aspx

3. Renewables Action Plan, Scottish Government (June 2009)
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/07/06095830/0>

4. Lomond Energy is an independent renewable energy development company based in Gartocharn, West Dunbartonshire. Established in 2003, originally as a consultancy to Scotland's growing renewable energy industry, it now specialises in the development of small to medium scale windfarms in Scotland, recognising that such projects play an important part not only in tackling climate change and reducing our dependence on fossil fuels, but also in bringing much needed economic development to rural communities.

All of Lomond Energy's projects are developed with a strong commitment to the communities in which they are proposed to ensure the protection of local amenities, to minimise environmental impacts and maximise local benefits through the provision of local employment opportunities and community benefit funds. For some projects this is taken a step further through providing an opportunity for local communities to take an ownership share of the windfarm.

Further company and project information can be found at www.lomondenergy.com