

moray offshore renewables ltd

Environmental Statement

Technical Appendix 1.4 E - Media Releases & Coverage

Telford, Stevenson, MacColl Wind Farms
and associated Transmission Infrastructure
Environmental Statement



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Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd Start Consultation on Development of Wind Energy In The Outer Moray Firth

UK, August 20, 2010. Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd published their Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report which provides plans for the development of between 1000 and 1140MW of wind power in the outer Moary Firth, some 22km (13.5 miles) from the Caithness Coast. This is the first phase of a development which could ultimately deliver 1 500MW of power – the equivalent capacity to a large conventional thermal powerstation.

The Scoping Report is available for public consultation until 30 November, and a series of 12 public consultation events will be held in towns and villages from Wick to Peterhead on Scotland's North East Coast.

Project Director, Dan Finch said:

“Our proposal to work in deeper waters (30m-60m) uses Scotland's deep-water engineering expertise from the North Sea to allow us to develop wind power some 22km away from the coast, taking advantage of available space on the sea-bed for construction, and an excellent wind resource.

“This technology builds on the pioneering work of the already operational Beatrice Demonstrator turbines, and will make the Highlands and the North-East a world – leader in offshore renewable technology, as well as offering the chance to significantly increase the amount of electricity produced by renewables, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Chief Business Development Officer, Luis Adão da Fonseca said:

“EDPR and SeaEnergy Renewables bring together a proven record of delivery of renewable energy at scale, with unique deep water capabilities to meet the challenge of developing renewable energy in the North Sea.

“We recognise that this project will be of interest to a huge number of organisations, individuals and communities in the North of Scotland and beyond, and I would like to invite people to be part of our consultation.”

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. About Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd

In 2009 Moray Offshore Renewables Limited (MORL) was formed as a joint venture company owned 75% by EDP Renewables (EDPR) and 25% by Sea Energy Renewables Limited.

EDPR is currently the world's third largest wind energy company, with more than 6GW of installed wind generation capacity across 10 countries:UK, Spain, Portugal, Romania, Poland, Italy, France, Canada Brazil and the USA.

Sea Energy Renewables Ltd provides unrivalled offshore development and deployment experience gained through years of successful large-scale offshore project development in the oil and gas industry; more recently its key personnel pioneered the successful Beatrice offshore wind demonstrator project in the Moray Firth.

Craig Milroy
0771 554 7002
Email:
Craig.milroy@
Edprenovaveis.com

Raquel Mendes
+34618619995
+1713.265.0310
Email:
comunicacion@
edprenovaveis.com

2. Summary Project Details

- Location – Smith Bank ,Outer Moray Firth , 22km from Caithness Coast
- Approx 200 turbines
- Water depth 30m-60m
- Capacity 1000-1140MW

Further details including the full scoping report and associated documents are available from www.morayoffshorerenewables.com

3. The Crown Estate Wind Leasing Programme

In September 2008, The Crown Estate invited tenders for the development of offshore wind as part of the Round Three Offshore Wind Farm Leasing Programme. The invitation was for the exclusive rights to work with The Crown Estate in the development of offshore wind generation in specified zones. These zones are located around the UK coastline, including the Irish Sea, and the Bristol Channel, and their development is aimed to deliver up to 25GW of generating capacity, representing as much as one quarter of the UK's electricity requirements by 2020.

On 8 January 2010, The Crown Estate announced the successful development partners for each zone, and signed an exclusive zone development agreement with Moray Offshore Renewables Limited as their partner to develop upwards of 1.3GW of wind energy in Zone 1 – which is located on the Smith Bank, in the Moray Firth, around 13 miles from the Caithness coast.

4. Public Exhibitions

Moray Offshore Renewables will hold a series of 12 public exhibitions across North East Scotland and the North East Highlands to allow the public to meet with members of the project team to find out more about the project and comment on proposals. The exhibitions will be held in:

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Wick Tues 31 August MacKays Hotel 12pm-8pm</p> | <p>Fortrose Mon 6 Sept Black Isle Leisure Centre 12pm-8pm</p> | <p>Peterhead Mon 13 Sept Palace Hotel 12pm-8pm</p> |
| <p>Helmsdale Wed 1 Sept Community Centre 12pm-8pm</p> | <p>Inverness Tues 7 Sept Eastgate Shopping Centre 9am-6pm</p> | <p>Banff Tues 14 Sept Fife Lodge Hotel 12pm-8pm</p> |
| <p>Brora Thurs 2 Sept Royal Marine Hotel 12pm-8pm</p> | <p>Invergordon Wed 8 Sept Arts Centre (old Town Hall) 12pm-8pm</p> | <p>Fraserburgh Wed 15 Sept Leisure Centre 12pm-8pm</p> |
| <p>Tain Fri 3 Sept Royal Hotel 12pm-8pm</p> | <p>Inverness Thurs 9 Sept Eastgate Shopping Centre 9am-8pm</p> | <p>Elgin Thurs 16 Sept St Giles Shopping Centre 9am-8pm</p> |

Craig Milroy
0771 554 7002
Email:
Craig.milroy@
Edprenovaveis.com

Raquel Mendes
+34618619995
+1713.265.0310
Email:
comunicacion@
edprenovaveis.com

The Press and Journal

Thursday 23 December 2010

EVENTS PLANNED TO DISCUSS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT MOR consulting over Moray Firth windfarm project

BY IAN FORSYTH

Published: 31/08/2010

Moray Offshore Renewables (MOR) said yesterday it had published its environmental impact assessment scoping report.

This provides plans for the development of between 1,000 and 1,140 megawatts of wind power in the outer Moray Firth, more than 13.5 miles from the Caithness coast.

This is the first phase of a project which could ultimately deliver 1,500MW of power. The scoping report is available for public consultation until the end of November and 12 consultation events will be held in towns and villages from Wick to Peterhead.

MOR was formed last year as a joint-venture company owned 75% by EDP Renewables (EDPR) and 25% by SeaEnergy Renewables.

Project director Dan Finch said: "Our proposal to work in deeper waters uses Scotland's deepwater engineering expertise from the North Sea to allow us to develop wind power some 22km (13.67 miles) away from the coast, taking advantage of available space on the sea-bed for construction, and an excellent wind resource. This technology builds on the pioneering work of the already operational Beatrice Demonstrator turbines, and will make the Highlands and the north-east a world-leader in offshore renewable technology, as well as offering the chance to significantly increase the amount of electricity produced by renewables, and reducing greenhouse-gas emissions."

Chief business-development officer Luis Adao da Fonseca said: "EDPR and SeaEnergy Renewables bring together a proven record of delivery of renewable energy at scale, with unique deepwater capabilities to meet the challenge of developing renewable energy in the North Sea.

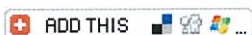
"We recognise that this project will be of interest to a huge number of organisations, individuals and communities in the north of Scotland and beyond, and I would like to invite people to be part of our consultation."



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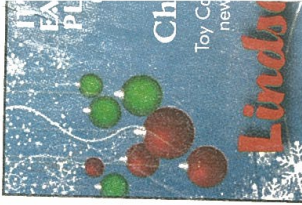
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AND WEEKLY JOURNAL FOR SUTHERLAND AND THE NORTH



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2010

www.northern-times.co.uk

Offshore wind farm plans revealed

PLANS FOR a large offshore wind farm in the Moray Firth have this week gone out to public consultation.

Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd hope to build around 200 wind turbines at the Smith Bank in the outer Moray Firth.

The location is around 13.5 miles (22km) from the Caithness coast in waters which reach a depth of 60m.

The power company held the first of a series of 12 public relations events at Mackay's Hotel, Wick, on Tuesday, 31st August.

However, the two exhibitions held in Sutherland last week - at Helmsdale on Wednesday and Brora the following day - were not advertised locally. Advertisements were placed in last Friday's *John O' Groat Journal* but not the *Northern Times*.

Similar exhibitions are scheduled to take place during the next fortnight in Tain, Fortrose, Inverness, Invergordon, Peterhead, Banff, Fraserburgh and Elgin. The 200 turbines are the first phase of a development which could ultimately deliver 1500mw of power - a capacity equivalent to a large conventional thermal power station.

Project director Dan Finch said engineering expertise gained from working in the North Sea would be used to build the offshore wind farm.

He said: "This technology builds on

the pioneering work of the already operational Beatrice demonstrator turbines, and will make the Highlands and the north-east a world leader in offshore renewable technology.

"It will also offer the chance to significantly increase the amount of electricity produced by renewables and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

by Caroline McMorrin

Chief business development officer, Luis Adao da Fonseca, commented: "We recognise that this project will be of interest to a huge number of organisations, individuals and communities in the north of Scotland and beyond, and I would like to invite people to be part of our consultation."

Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd was formed last year as a joint venture company owned by EDP Renewables and Sea Energy Renewables Ltd.

The Crown Estate, which owns the seabed out to the 12 nautical mile territorial limit, announced earlier this year the successful bidders in round three of the Offshore Wind Farm Leasing Programme. Ten sites in northern waters were leased out to seven power companies. The Crown Estate signed an exclusive zone develop-

ment agreement with Moray Offshore Renewables to develop zone one - the Smith Bank.

Further details including the full scoping report and associated documents are available from www.morayoffshorerenewables.com

• Windfarms in the area served by Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution (SSEPD) have for the first time produced surplus electricity, the power company has announced.

SSEPD delivers electricity to a large area covering the Highlands as well as Perth, Dundee and Aberdeen, through underground cables and overhead lines.

A spokesman said that for an hour between 8am and 9am last Sunday, 29th August, the output from wind farms was just over 700mw while the demand from homes and workplaces in the area was slightly under that figure.

SSEPD's head of engineering Alan Broadbent said: "Last month's annual energy statement to Parliament reiterated the important role that renewable energy will have to play in meeting demand for energy in the year's ahead," he said. "Sunday's milestone demonstrates that wind farms can produce substantial amounts of energy, as part of a diverse mix, and that electricity networks can accommodate it."

The Press and Journal

North-east

UK REGIONAL DAILY NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR 2009

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2010 48P

www.pressandjournal.co.uk

fronts, says Ron Ferguson.
Page 12

BUSINESS

BP says oil spill claims well covered

BP believes compensation claims related to the Gulf of Mexico oil spill will be less than the £13 billion it has put into a fund. **Page 16**

FARMING

Investing in future of crofting

An initiative to train a new generation of crofters and enhance the skills of those already in the sector has received a boost. **Page 18**

SPORT

Rooney ready to face Rangers

Sir Alex Ferguson has no regrets about leaving Wayne Rooney out of his Goodison Park starting line-up - and no fears about bringing him back against Rangers at Old Trafford tonight. **Page 28**

TELEVISION AND RADIO 2
WEATHER 4
SCOTTISH LIFE 12
CROSSWORDS 13
HOROSCOPES 14
BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS 19

Windfarms could lead to hundreds of jobs, say firms

BIDS FOR TWO GIANT OFFSHORE SCHEMES

BY JAMIE BUCHAN

THE world's biggest offshore windfarms could be created in the Moray Firth, it emerged last night.

Around 400 turbines are planned for a North Sea site between Caithness and Lossiemouth.

The two multimillion-pound projects, which could lead to hundreds of jobs, are expected to generate enough electricity to power almost two million homes.

The neighbouring windfarms have been proposed by green energy firms Moray Offshore Renewables and Beatrice Offshore Windfarm. Yesterday plans for the Moray Offshore venture were unveiled in Peterhead as part of a lengthy public consultation exercise, which continues along the coast this week.

Representatives of the firm, a partnership between EDP Renewables and SeaEnergy Renewables, said they hoped to begin work on the first of around 200 three-blade turbines in five years' time.

The farm could begin generating power - between 1,000 and 1,140MW - by 2016.

Stakeholder manager Craig Milroy said: "There is no existing windfarm in the world that is as big as this. This is a major venture for the North Sea."

He said feedback from the

public would be used to put together an application for consent to the Scottish Government. "So far the response from the public has been overwhelmingly positive," he said. "We have already spoken to hundreds of people and will continue to hold consultation exercises along the Moray Firth coast."

"We have been working closely with each local authority in the area and have contacted every councillor who has a coastal ward."

"It's been a massive exercise, but we take consultation very seriously."

EARLY

He said that the venture would create a significant number of jobs, although it was too early to say exactly how many.

The turbines are normally expected to last around 25 years, but it is understood it may be possible for them to run for twice as long.

The neighbouring Beatrice plan, earmarked for eight miles off the coast of Caithness, is a separate project, although both teams are working closely together.

The proposal, for around 184 turbines, would have a capacity of 920MW and create enough power for around 977,000 homes.

It is understood that both developments would not be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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NEWS NORTH-EAST

Tuesday September 14, 2010
www.pressandjournal.co.uk
 14E1

They are treating the death of Norman Choate, 62, who lived at Banff, and who was found dead on Wednesday at the River Devon, near Macduff. Distillery, as "unexplained".

A police spokeswoman said a post-mortem examination was expected to be carried out this week.

Anyone with information about Mr Choate's movements should contact the police on 0845 600700 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Woman taken to hospital after crash

A woman was taken to hospital yesterday after a crash on a north-east road.

The one-car accident happened on the B9029 Old Deer to Maud road at about 8.20am. Firefighters from Peterhead and Maud attended the scene of the crash and the woman was cut free from her vehicle.

She was taken to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary with injuries which were not thought to be serious.

Warrant issued for Boddam man's arrest

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of a man charged with carrying an offensive weapon in public after he failed to turn up for a hearing at Aberdeen Sheriff Court yesterday.

Brian Garden, 28, of Hauzaree, 6 Fairweather Place, Boddam, is accused of possessing a metal weight bar at Victoria Bridge in Victoria Road, Aberdeen on April 25.

Maggie's Hoosie season ends this week

Visitors have just a few days left this year to explore Inverallochy's historic Mag-



PROJECT PLANS: Peterhead Business Forum vice-chairman Doug Arthur, left, talks to Damien McCool, of Moray Offshore Renewables

Proposals for giant offshore windfarms revealed

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON ONE OF THE VENTURES WILL CONTINUE ALONG THE COAST THIS WEEK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
 visible from shore. Beatrice, a partnership between SSE Renewables and SeaEnergy Renewables, has already created a two-turbine demonstration project in the Moray Firth,

about 20 miles east of Helmsdale. Meanwhile, Norwegian oil giant Statoil is considering building a floating windfarm off the coast of Fraserburgh. The multimillion-pound project, which would have between three and five turbines, would be farther from land than standard offshore windfarms and could be the first of its kind in the world. Statoil is also considering a site off the coast of Lewis for the scheme.

The Moray Offshore consultation continues today at the Fife Lodge Hotel, Banff, between noon and 8pm. Tomorrow, representatives

from Beatrice will put their plans on display at Fraserburgh's Leisure Centre. Another joint consultation will be held in Elgin at St Giles Shopping Centre between 9am and 8pm on Thursday.

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The Press and Journal

Thursday 23 December 2010

SITE BETWEEN CAITHNESS AND LOSSIEMOUTH EARMARKED FOR ABOUT 400 TURBINES

Scheme for world's biggest offshore windfarm in firth

BY JAMIE BUCHAN

Published: 14/09/2010

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He said feedback from the public would be used to put together an application for consent to the Scottish Government.

"So far the response from the public has been overwhelmingly positive," he said.

"We have already spoken to hundreds of people and will continue to hold consultation exercises along the Moray Firth coast.

"We have been working closely with each local authority in the area and have contacted every councillor who has a coastal ward.

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The Press and Journal

Thursday 23 December 2010

COMPANY IN ELGIN TO INFORM PUBLIC ABOUT MORAY FIRTH PROJECT

Turbines scheme could bring long-term jobs

BY KAYE NICOLSON

Published: 18/09/2010

Moray could attract a "significant number of long-term jobs" if plans to instal 200 turbines in the Moray Firth are approved by the government.

The structures could potentially generate enough power for 750,000 homes.

If ministers approve the application from Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd (MORL), 200 deep-water turbines, positioned nearly 200ft below the surface, would be positioned 13-14 miles from the coast.

MORL stakeholder manager Craig Milroy said it was too early to say exactly how many jobs would be created but insisted long-term jobs would come out of it.

He said: "There will be a significant number of long-term jobs created, as well as fabrication jobs. Maintenance and operation staff will be needed as this project has a lifespan of 50 years."

He added: "This is a world first. It would be the biggest construction of my generation, and an opportunity to develop skills which will be valuable and exportable."

Mr Milroy added that the company was about two years away from submitting an application to the Scottish Government. If approved, construction would not begin for at least three years.

Representatives from MORL were on hand at the St Giles Centre at Elgin to answer questions about the project.

Mr Milroy said: "It was extremely successful. We received a very positive response from the people of Elgin and the surrounding area. This was the largest turnout of the tour we have undertaken."

About 100 people attended the drop-in session to hear more about the project. The group has conducted 11 other consultations at locations including Inverness, Wick, Inverness and Banff.

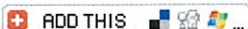
MORL will return to conduct a further consultation at Buckie Town House on October 11, from noon to 8pm.



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The Press and Journal

Thursday 23 December 2010

Wind turbines in Moray Firth can bring big benefits, say developers

BUCKIE RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS GET CHANCE TO COMMENT ON PLANS AT DROP-IN CONSULTATION

BY KAYE NICOLSON

[More Pictures](#)

Published: 12/10/2010

PHOTOGRAPHS: Eily Webster, left, and Neal MacPherson study the plans on display at Buckie Town Hall. GORDON LERINUX

A large offshore project in the Moray Firth could bring "significant opportunities" to the area, developers said last night.

Community leaders and locals gathered at Buckie Town House to speak to representatives from Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd (MORL).

The company wants to instal 200 power turbines in the Moray Firth and the structures could potentially generate enough power for 750,000 homes.

If MORL's application to the Scottish Government is approved, the deep-water turbines would be positioned nearly 200ft below the surface, about 13 to 14 miles off the Moray coast.

Yesterday's drop-in consultation gave locals an overview of the plans, and offered people the chance to give their views on the proposals.

MORL has conducted 12 other meetings at locations including Elgin, Banff and Inverness.

Members of the Buckie Regeneration Group are keen for MORL to use the town as a base during the construction phase and beyond.

Buckie councillor Gordon McDonald, who is also the chairman of the regeneration group, said that the town's harbour had the capacity for such a project.

He added: "There's scope for people to expand there, as there are not many other users. It's also owned by the council, which is convenient."

Craig Milroy of MORL said the company was "very interested" in the opportunities to develop at Buckie.

The Banffshire Advertiser

No 6674

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BIN "CRAZY" HALTING SITE PLANS COUNCIL TOLD

COUNCILLORS were urged to reject the "crazy proposition" of creating a Gypsy/travellers' site at Arradoul at a meeting of the Communities Committee last Tuesday.

As part of the ongoing public consultation on hugely controversial plans to create halting sites for up to six caravans at Stonies Bridge, Arradoul, and Kingsmeadow, Forres, representatives from the local Community Councils and Area Forums took their case to the heart of Moray Council when they addressed elected members in the Council Chamber and put forward their views. The move follows a surgery-style events and public meetings in both towns.

Buckie Area Forum (BAF) were represented by Emma Marandola, who is also a member of the Arradoul Residents' Action Group (ARAG), and joining her in opposing the plans on a wide range of safety and suitability grounds were Tricia Greenwood from Rathven and Arradoul Community Council (RACC) and Margo Howe from Lennox Community Council (LCC).

An issue that has engendered widespread concern regarding the Stonies Bridge proposals, both by the local community and those further afield "Road safety has always been the main concern," Mrs Marandola told the Committee. "Local people know the stretch of the A98 where the site would go and we know it is a crazy proposition. It is an extremely busy, strategically im-



Emma Marandola, front, and Tricia Greenwood, right, who spoke at last Tuesday's Communities Committee meeting against the halting site proposals, are joined at Stonies Bridge by other local campaigners.

portant stretch of road with a high proportion of HGVs. It is a fast stretch of road which is why it has been designated NESCAMP 'red route' status. It is a dangerous stretch of road and

it was for road safety reason that, when Councillors drafted and approved the Local Plan in 2008, the section for Arradoul states 'additional accesses to the A98 will not be permitted'.

"This is not an isolated problem area; neighbouring stretches of road have similar restrictions placed upon them. The proposed new access would be between two bends, near an existing

access and very close to a junction, each one a concern in itself. There are occupied badger setts in and around the site and there are hare in the surrounding fields.

"These road safety, Local Plan and wildlife issues, along with concerns such as flooding, loss of amenity and proximity to residential property will affect planning permission being granted. For these reasons, Arradoul does not meet the [Council] criteria 'capable of securing planning permission'."

Further safety implications of creating a

halting site at Stonies Bridge were also laid before Councillors, including: risk of animals or children running onto the road; animals being exercised or grazed along the road due to lack of alternative provision for this; no safe play area for children; potentially hazardous materials at the Stonies Bridge depot; farming chemicals; dangers from, and to, livestock; dangers at the burn, especially when in spate.

Mrs Marandola stated that these reasons meant Arradoul did not meet the local authority's criteria of a halting site

noted, had no facilities such as shops or other services, was not an area that had any history of being used by Gypsy/travellers and that the twice-daily bus service only ran between Keith and Buckie. Guidelines for site selection had decreed that possible plots had to be within "reasonable proximity" of existing sites or those historically used by travellers or as close

being "safe from any known hazards, on the site or very close by, such as electricity sub stations, unsafe ground, areas prone to flooding or hazardous to children".

The Committee were then told that the site itself was not, in the opinion of the residents, large enough to accommodate six caravans, their towing vehicles, rubbish bins, chemical toilets and a water bowser. Mrs Marandola highlighted that the space available was "impossibly tight" for long vehicles to negotiate and that there was nowhere for service vehicles to turn, as well as a lack of room for people visiting the site to park.

Arradoul, it was noted, had no facilities such as shops or other services, was not an area that had any history of being used by Gypsy/travellers and that the twice-daily bus service only ran between Keith and Buckie. Guidelines for site selection had decreed that possible plots had to be within "reasonable proximity" of existing sites or those historically used by travellers or as close

—Continued on Page 6
For more reaction to Tuesday's Council meeting, see 'Community Groups Praised Over Council Presentations' on Page 11.

BUCKIE URGED TO STAKE GREEN ENERGY CASH BONANZA CLAIM

BUCKIE and the surrounding area have been urged to claim their share of a £4 billion renewable energy cash bonanza.

The Town House played host last Monday from 12 noon to 8.00pm to a roadshow event run by Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd (MORL) concerning ambitious plans which could see a 200-turbine offshore windfarm constructed 13.5 miles off the Moray coast.

Running the roadshow was MORL's Stakeholder Manager Craig Milroy, who highlighted that the firm were currently seeking to glean views from the public about the scheme. He stressed that the project was still in its early stages.

"We were granted the right by the Crown Estate to develop Zone 1 [the area earmarked for the project] of the Round Three Offshore Windfarm Leasing Programme in January of this year and since then we have been trying to gather as much information as possible so we can put together a scoping document for an environmental impact report," Mr Milroy said. "This will tell us what the likely impact on the environment of the windfarm is likely to be and where we need to conduct further studies, and will ultimately determine the final shape of the scheme.

"This will be a two-year process and by the end of this we will be in a position to give people a clearer idea of what the windfarm will look like.

"We have held a 13-centre tour round the Moray coast, including Buckie, so that the general public can be involved in this process, and so far we have had very positive feedback.

Overall we have spoken to around 1000 people and generally they have been extremely positive and enthusiastic.

"Many people were looking for some form of understanding as to what the economic benefits of the windfarm would be.

"It is also important that people understand this is a very different type of project to an onshore windfarm and I think this is a message which has got through."

Mr Milroy noted that the potential benefits to an area such as Buckie fell into two basic categories.

He continued: "In the construction phase, which will be a capital project costing an estimated £4 billion, a lot of steel needs to be put into the sea and this presents an opportunity for lots of different types of skills to be used.

"In the longer term, we estimate that the project will have a lifetime of 50 years at least and —Continued on Page 6



MORL Stakeholder Manager Craig Milroy, centre, is joined at the roadshow by Buckie Economic Regeneration Group Chair Councillor Gordon McDonald, left, and Buckie Area Forum Chair Barry Taylor last Monday.

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Continued from Page 1

BIN "CRAZY" HALTING SITE PLANS, COUNCIL TOLD

as possible to their current routes. Questions were raised as to why of the list of 60 sites considered by the Council as potential halting sites, only 10 were those which had been identified as being used by Gypsy/travellers.

With the Council seeking to shed a further millions from its budget in the forthcoming financial year, Mrs Marandola questioned how spending £20,000 altering the Stonies Bridge site - a figure that was felt to be unrealistically low - could be justified, especially when guidelines called for areas which could be "developed economically".

Privacy for both the settled and travelling communities at Arradoul was another issue brought to the fore, with the proximity of some property, including one cited as being only 25m from the proposed site, being a concern. It was also felt that criteria for rejecting sites on proximity grounds had been unevenly and "unfairly" applied and, had it been so, Arradoul would have been removed from the frame a long time ago.

Mrs Marandola went on to challenge Councillors

as to how any such site would be managed and how instances of anti-social behaviour or other criminal activity would be dealt with effectively.

Rounding off her presentation, Mrs Marandola underlined the strength of opposition to the plans, pointing to the road-safety petition created by Arradoul Residents' Action Group which has attracted in excess of 1000 signatures.

The concerns flagged up by BAF and ARAG were strongly backed by RACC and LCC.

Mrs Greenwood invited Councillors to justify the proposed expenditure on the halting site programme - which originally included an area of the former RAF airfield at Nether Dallachy - when local community halls faced the axe under Council cost-cutting plans.

She continued: "In the present economic climate, when Moray Council are trying to save money by cutting various services, to allocate £96,000 for three halting sites, plus £6000 per annum to maintain them, seems less than sensible, especially when it is not a statutory obligation.

"Is the money to form the new entrance [at Stonies Bridge] to come from the £96,000, or will extra taxpayers' money have to be found?"

"The fact that Buckie residents are likely to lose the use of the Fishermen's Hall and the Town House makes the provision of £96,000 for travellers' halting sites doubly hard to take. There is unrest in Buckie at the possible closure of the Fishermen's Hall (which actually belongs to the people of Buckie) and the Town House, and residents are already asking why they should close."

With the Crown Estate's refusal to lease the necessary land to Moray Council scuppering the Dallachy halting site plans, Mrs Howe told the meeting that a variety of misgivings over the plans remained to be answered and she went on to call for the Council to take responsibility as the landowner for Stonies Bridge and bury the scheme.

"Without being site specific there are a number of concerns about the principle of halting sites which have not been addressed," she said. "Firstly, how are they going to be policed - Chanonry [a former authorised halting site, now defunct], a good site satisfying a need save over £500,000 go down the drain due to lack of control by the authorities on the doorstep; how will this work on a rural site?"

"Secondly, what happens to overspill - will this

result in parking on grass verges and empty land nearby? Thirdly, how is the length of stay to be controlled? Fourthly, will this satisfy need - according to a well-known spokesman for the Gypsy/travellers, halting sites will not solve the problem, it represents trying to 'stop the sea with a pitchfork'.

"...it is suggested that the proposal to apply for planning permission for a halting site at Arradoul be abandoned. Following a very well-supported campaign at Dallachy the owners, the Crown Estate, declined to offer the site as a halting site. One of the main reasons was that it had been made aware of the outcry within the local community and took their responsibilities to the area very seriously.

"It is suggested that Moray Council as owners of the Arradoul site take their overall responsibilities equally seriously and refuse to allow the site to be put forward as a halting site by their Communities Committee."

The public consultation on the proposals closed last Friday and the final decision on whether or not to proceed with a planning application for the sites will be made at a crunch meeting of the Communities Committee to be held on Tuesday December 7.

BUCKIE URGED TO STAKE GREEN ENERGY CASH BONANZA CLAIM

this means a significant role for an operations and maintenance staff based onshore in Moray. Obviously, suitable harbours is another area we are looking closely at.

"There will be significant opportunities for a range of businesses in what will be one of the biggest, if not the biggest, construction projects in this part of Scotland since the hydro dams were built.

"This project is a world first as no-one else has attempted to site an offshore windfarm in depths of up to 200ft. The technology we are using is based on that used by the North Sea oil industry and is different to anything used in windfarms before; it is world-leading stuff."

Mr Milroy added that he plans to hold a public meeting in Buckie at some point next month to further discuss the windfarm scheme and its potential, the details of which will be made available nearer the time. He also encouraged anyone who has views or questions regarding the project and who could not make it to the roadshow to e-mail him on craig.milroy@edprenovaveis.com. Further information on the windfarm can be found at MORL's website at www.morayoffshorerenewables.co.uk.

The roadshow was initially brought to Moray after Buckie Councillors Gordon McDonald, who also chairs Buckie Area Forum's Buckie Economic Regeneration Steering Group, and Anne McKay, as well as Council Convener Councillor George McIntyre pointed out the benefits of holding a session in the town. Accommodation at the Town House Hall, which is currently run by the Regeneration Group, was immediately made available and the facility is likely to

host November's public meeting.

Following Monday's roadshow, representatives from the Regeneration Group met with Mr Milroy to discuss various aspects of the project.

"This windfarm represents a huge investment in the Moray Firth and an equally huge opportunity for Buckie and the surrounding area," Councillor McDonald told the 'Advertiser'. "It very quickly became clear that there are long-term, sustainable economic benefits for Buckie if we are switched on and ambitious enough to grab them with both hands.

"There is a potential here to bring jobs to the area, both for existing firms and new ones over the lifetime of the project. The harbour is something I have long pointed to as a major, albeit currently much underused, asset for Buckie and if we take advantage of these opportunities it could be the key to the long-term regeneration of the town. I would strongly urge both the public and businesses to explore the potential of the windfarm and contact Craig Milroy if they have any questions or points of view.

"I have said this before and I will say this again: Buckie missed the boat when it came to exploiting the North Sea oil industry and this is a mistake we literally cannot afford to repeat with renewables."

Councillor McDon-

ald's views were echoed by BAF Chair Barry Taylor.

He commented: "The possibilities presented by this £4 billion project are immense and we all have to be alive to them.

"Renewable energy is here to stay and will only become more important as stocks of fossil fuels begin to run out during this century. "If we do not seize the opportunities presented by projects such as this then you can be sure someone else will, an error future generations are unlikely to have much forgiveness for.

"We have a real opportunity to get a local workforce long term employment and also more importantly get apprenticeships for our young locals. We have continuously over the past 10 or 20 years lost our brightest and enthusiastic youths to work outside of Buckie but now there is the real chance to seize long term employment.

"However, to achieve this we all must come together; that includes local businesses, the elected members and the local community. There is to be a follow up meeting in Buckie Town House in November called by the Buckie Area Forum Regeneration Group and I would urge that anyone with a real interest in possibly seeing our local community prosper to come and attend. We need to show MORL that Buckie are serious about wanting



Deborah Anderson and Daniel Jennings, both of Carlisle, were married recently at Comlongon Castle. Deborah is the daughter of Peter and Angela Anderson, of Yuill Avenue, Buckie.

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The Press and Journal

Thursday 23 December 2010

Protect harbours to capitalise on renewables market, council told

By KAYE NICOLSON

Pt 10

Jc st build on commercial viability'

Published 28/10/2010.

HARBOURS in Moray need to be promoted if they are to attract more investment from the offshore renewables industry, say councillors.

The potential for jobs is "huge" if they can make the most of their commercial prospects, according to members of the local authority's audit and performance review committee.

Councillors discussed a report yesterday which warned that increasing storm damage could leave steps, pontoons and piers beyond repair.

They agreed that the structures were an asset to the area and required attention to "increase income and expand usage".

The interest of Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd (MORL) in the area was also discussed.

The company has applied to the Scottish Government to position deepwater turbines nearly 200ft under water about 13 to 14 miles off the Moray coast.

Members of the Buckie Regeneration Group are keen for MORL to use the town's harbour as a base.

Buckie councillor Joe Mackay said: "We must build on the commercial viability of the harbour."

Fellow ward councillor and committee chairman Gordon McDonald said the council needed to "market" the harbours. He said: "In the past we have waited for people to come to us. We missed out on the oil boom."

Mr McDonald added: "Renewables are not just about Buckie. The potential for jobs is huge."

VANDALISM AND THEFT

BUCKIE Community Council heard at their November meeting that cases of vandalism and theft seem to be an ongoing problem in Buckie.

Grampian Police have received an increased number of reports of cars being vandalised in the town.

Secretary Gordon Cowie said: "This type of vandalism can be carried out quickly and can prove difficult to detect."

"Grampian Police are urging people to remain vigilant and appeal for any witnesses to this type of crime."

"If anyone sees someone acting suspicious they are urged to contact Grampian Police on the 0845 600 5 700 number."

Grampian Police have also recorded an increase in thefts at building sites and empty houses in the area.

Again, anyone with any information should call Grampian Police on 0845 600 5 700.

COUNCIL'S MIXED BUDGET RESPONSE

MORAY Council expressed a mixed reaction to the Scottish Government budget for the next financial year, which was announced last week.

The Council's deputy convener, Allan Wright believes the budget announcement should be regarded as a mixture of good and bad news for the people of Moray.

Allan Wright said: "The good news is that the share of resources allocated to local authorities has been maintained. The reduction is about 2.6 per cent, but we have discovered that the £1m to continue the Council Tax freeze in Moray is not an extra but is included in the local authority allocation."

"Precise figures for Moray will emerge over the next few weeks but it looks as if we will have to save £8 million - or four per cent - in the year ahead. That is not impossible but it will be painful, not least considering a range of budget pressures including an extra £500,000 for care of the elderly."

"I am disappointed that it is a one-year deal but the really bad news is that there is no promise of capital funding for the Elgin and Forres flood alleviation schemes. There is mention of flood alleviation in one section of the budget papers but no specific mention of Moray."

"We will continue to put pressure on the finance minister and our Elgin Cabinet Secretary and MSP to make a firm commitment to our flood schemes and we will also be asking other political leaders for a similar commitment to support funding for the four-year period of the flood schemes."

FESTIVE ROTARY POST SERVICE

BUCKIE Rotary are gearing up for their second year running the local Christmas Post.

Last year saw the Rotary take over what had previously been the Scout Post, with around £3000 raised for local charities as a result.

This season's post is scheduled to get underway at the end of this month, with the final collections due on Friday December 18.

New street code sheets will be appearing in local shops participating in the scheme and people are urged to use these rather than the old ones due to changes to the codes.

A donation of 20p per card is requested in order to use the service.

Anyone who would like to help is asked to contact Ali Simpson on (01542) 832212.

The Rotary would like to thank all those who used the service last year and look forward to welcoming them, as well as new users, this time around.

BEHAVE OR BE BANNED



PC Ian Fraser and Buckie Pub Watch members issue their 'Behave Or Be Banned' warning.

BUCKIE Pub Watch is celebrating its success in driving down trouble in its members' premises and are issuing a reminder to revellers to behave over the festive period.

Constable Ian Fraser said: "Pubwatch is a scheme whereby representatives from participating licenced premises

and Grampian Police meet once a month to discuss incidents that have taken place within or around licenced premises."

"The incidents discussed could be any kind of violent, abusive or anti-social behaviour. "If anyone is identified as having behaved in this way then the

members vote on what action to take against that person. That could be a written warning or an indefinite ban from all the participating pubs."

"The scheme is intended to keep trouble makers away and to be a deterrent to those who may be inclined to behave in a violent or antisocial manner and disrupt those who wish

to have an enjoyable evening out socialising."

"We want people to have a good time but the message is really simple, behave or be banned."

Pub Watch currently has 17 individuals banned from all participating businesses.

Banned individuals have the chance to appeal at any time and this will be considered by the Pub Watch members.

FISHERS HAVE THEIR SAY ON PROPOSED OFFSHORE WINDFARM



Fishing representatives turned out to learn more about Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd's offshore windfarm proposals.

THE company behind ambitions plans for a 200-turbine offshore windfarm off the Moray coast recently met with local fishing representatives to discuss the impact the proposed development would have on the fishing community.

Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd (MORL) had previously held a public roadshow in Buckie and returned last week to hold discussions with individual groups and stakeholders in the local fishing industry. A similar meeting is to be held later with representatives in Lybster.

MORL plan to produce a 200-turbine offshore windfarm, 13.5 miles off the Moray coast. The scheme as envisaged at present calls for 200 turbines to be installed, which would comprise a mix of 5MW and 8MW. It is believed this would generate in the order of 1000-1100MW, enough to

power 779,760 homes.

Turbine height to blade tip would vary according to generating capacity, stretching between 158.5m-182m for 5MW and 8MW respectively. Rotor diameter would be around 125m and 150m.

MORL's Project Director Dan Finch said: "This project to develop wind energy in the outer Moray Firth is an exciting change in the delivery of green energy in Scotland; it is in its early stages and we want to involve the people of the Moray Firth in its development."

"We are grateful to the fishing community for coming out and actively engaging with us in positive discussion and look forward to developing this relationship as the project progresses."

MORL's Stakeholder Manager Craig stressed that the project is still in its early stages.

He said: "We have been trying to gather as much information as

possible so we can put together a scoping document for an environmental impact report."

"This will tell us what the likely impact on the environment of the windfarm is likely to be and where we need to conduct further studies, and will ultimately determine the final shape of the scheme."

"This will be a two-year process and by the end of this we will be in a position to give people a clearer idea of what the windfarm will look like."

Once all the necessary reports have been completed, the construction phase is envisaged to last over a four to five year period.

Mr Milroy encouraged anyone who has views or questions regarding the project to e-mail him on craig.milroy@edprenoveaveis.com. Further information on the windfarm can be found at MORL's website at www.morayoffshore-renewables.co.uk.

GREAT OFFERS FROM BUCKIE BUSINESSES

BUCKIE Business Association have launched a series of initiatives to promote Buckie's town centre and offer savings to customers.

A Christmas Voucher Book will be introduced soon, featuring some fantastic offers from 34 local businesses in the lead up to Christmas.

Many of the offers run until December 31. The free booklet will be available from any of the participating businesses and from Buckie's new Tesco store.

Plans are afoot to launch another voucher book in January, in time for the sales, giving customers the chance to pick up some extra bargains.

Buckie Business Association plan to issue four booklets a year and any business not already involved but who would like to be featured should contact Karen Pitt by emailing mail@banffshireadvertiser.co.uk.

The Business Association have produced some colourful leaflets which will be distributed from Tesco to promote town centre businesses in the coming week.

Tesco will present a leaflet to anyone who spends over £10 in the store.

The leaflet features a map of Buckie, giving details of local businesses and any business not already featured but who would like to be is encouraged to contact

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APPENDIX 1.4 E

£4.5bn project offers hope for jobs boost

BUCKIE has the potential to be the jewel in Moray's crown as a major servicing port for offshore wind farms.

A £4.5 billion renewables project planned for the Moray Firth could bring a maintenance jobs boost to the town.

Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd (MORL) is planning to erect 200 wind turbines in the first phase in the east side of Smith Bank, with another 40 proposed in a second tranche in the west.

It is hoped all will be put in place over the next 10 years.

Dan Finch, project director with MORL, gave a presentation on the company's plans to Moray Council's economic development and infrastructure service committee on Tuesday.

Skills used in offshore industries such as the oil and gas as well as fishing would be useful in the renewables sector, he said.

Anne McKay, councillor for Buckie, raised concerns that the town had not been specifically named in any of MORL's documentation.

Mr Finch replied that Buckie was "being considered" as a potential base for the development approximately 14

■ **By HAZEL LAWSON**

miles off the Moray coast. In the next eight to nine months a decision will be made on the most viable onshore servicing location.

He added: "All the harbours will be considered. It's really important we have the right skills in the right places."

Sites at Nigg and Ardersier may also be considered.

Joe Mackay, councillor for Buckie, said he was keen to see what jobs would come for the town.

Mr Finch said infrastructure contracts for the 10 largest UK offshore wind farms had all come from abroad but MORL was looking to use local resources where possible.

Energy from the Smith Bank development will be directed to an electricity station at Peterhead before being pumped into the national grid.

MORL is made up of Sea Energy Renewables based near Aberdeen and Portugal's largest company EDP Renováveis.

Committee chairman John Russell, councillor for Elgin North, said Buckie could be "the jewel in the crown" in the offshore renewables sector, and the council would be doing all it could to promote Moray in the project.

The Banffshire Advertiser

No 6683

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SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GREETINGS EDITION

BUCKIE "OBVIOUS CHOICE" FOR GREEN ENERGY BASE



Buckie harbour and the surrounding area could become a bustling hub servicing the Moray Firth offshore renewable energy industry, it was revealed last week.

SIGNIFICANT opportunities await Buckie and the surrounding area thanks to a multi-billion renewable energy scheme planned for the waters of the Moray Firth, Councillors were told last week.

At a presentation, facilitated by Buckie SNP Councillor Gordon McDonald, Councillors on Moray Council's Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee heard last Tuesday from Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd (MORL), who are proposing to create a 200-plus-turbine windfarm around 13 miles off the Moray coast, that Buckie and its harbour could provide a good onshore base for the project over the next 50 years.

Craig Milroy, Stakeholder Manager for MORL, stressed that while the firm were in the process of looking at various possible sites for their onshore base, Buckie nevertheless possessed "significant advantages". He also stressed that the purpose of the meeting with Moray Councillors was part of MORL's strategy to keep various agencies up to speed with the project's progress to date and help them take advan-

tage of the various opportunities which will arise in the future.

"As we move forward with the project we are keen to keep different agencies and groups, such as Moray Council, very much aware of what we are doing and what the opportunities are and will be for them to take advantage of," Mr Milroy told the 'Advertiser'. "This includes our likely requirements for the windfarm, not only in terms of construction but also with regard to ongoing maintenance.

"These will be high output turbines and will require a lot of maintenance; they are not assets we would want to be out of action for any length of time and we would want a base where we can easily access these turbines by boat, as well as put in place the infrastructure needed to support this.

"This includes stores and supplies, from spare parts to oil, and all of this has to be organised and managed.

"We also have to have the right skills base to do all this for what will be a commitment stretching over the next 30-50 years.

"Buckie does have a tremendous advantage in a number of different ways, including having a sheltered harbour with a relatively deep draft and being within close proximity to the planned windfarm.

There is also a significant skills base in the area with North Sea experience in the oil industry.

"Although we will be assessing many possible sites as part of our Environmental Statement report Buckie is an obvious choice and it is fair to say that there are significant possible opportunities for Buckie for many years to come.

"It is too early to say at this stage if Buckie will be chosen or not and also what our final requirements in terms of staff and infrastructure will be until we know the final shape of the project itself but, as I said, there will be a lot of ongoing maintenance required for these turbines and there will be a lot of them.

"We are keen that everyone moves forward together, especially as the technology involved is changing so rapidly. Public consultation meetings have been held in communities around the Moray Firth, including Buckie, and we also had a consultation meeting with the Scottish Fishermen's Federation, which took place in Buckie.

"Now we have spoken to Moray Council and in the next phase we will be going out to the likes of yachting clubs and so on to get their views."

Mr Milroy added that the Environmental Statement report was not due for completion for another year to

18 months, and it was only after this had been completed that MORL would be able to look at selecting a suitable onshore base and outline the specific infrastructure and employment requirements.

Councillors at last Tuesday's meeting were told by MORL's representative, Dan Finch, that the very rough industry yardstick for service-related jobs created by an offshore windfarm was around 0.1 per megawatt. With the windfarm capacity expected to be within the 5-8MW range per turbine and numbering 264 turbines by the proposed completion date of 2019-20, this would translate into around 100 jobs on the operations and maintenance side.

News that Buckie appeared to be well in the frame from benefiting from a potential green energy bonanza was welcomed by Councillors Gordon McDonald and Anne McKay.

Councillor McDonald, who is also Chair of Buckie Area Forum's Buckie Economic Regeneration Steering Group, has previously warned that the local area, including businesses, would have to be alive to the possibilities likely to come their way over the next few years, and he went on to repeat these last week.

Continued on Page 6

WINTER RENEWS ICY GRIP



The Buckie Burn takes on an icy aspect last week. For full story and more pictures please see Pages 10 and 11.

The Banffshire Advertiser

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wish all readers, advertisers, customers and friends a Merry Christmas and heartfelt thanks for your loyalty during the year and look forward to your continued support in 2011

1.4 E

APPENDIX

Continued from Page 1

Portgordon Fireworks

Portgordon Fireworks Committee wish to thank the following for their assistance, donations and sponsorship for the annual fireworks event held earlier this year.

All Portgordon Residents for disruption in the town, All local Businesses, Schools and Shops for advertising posters.

- | | |
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| Adam Robertson | Alison & Garry Farquhar |
| Banffshire Advertiser Group | Buckie Co-op |
| Buckie & District Pipe Band | Buckie Police |
| British Red Cross | Brian Reid (Joiner) |
| Buckpool Ladies Golfers | Colin Halley (Burger Van) |
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| Gail Logan | John Robertson (North) |
| Keith Community Radio | Keystore Portgordon |
| Maynes Coaches | McCalls Buckpool |
| Milne Property Developments | Moray Council |
| Moray Fifth Radio | Mrs Mairi Dick |
| The Northern Scot | Oasis Church |
| Portgordon Harbour Group | P & J |
| Portgordon Village Hall | R.S. Cruickshank |
| Smiths Gore | Springfield Properties |
| Wave Radio | |

We also wish to thank Janet & Joe Geoghegan for providing last years Christmas Tree for the village and to Sandra & Robert Sheehan for donating this years Tree to celebrate their Silver Wedding Anniversary. Who will have a celebration & donate next years tree?

Wishing ALL who contributed to the event a Very Merry Christmas and Healthy New Year

BUCKIE "OBVIOUS CHOICE" FOR GREEN ENERGY BASE

He continued: "I think it will prove useful for the Council and other stakeholders to be kept abreast of not only how the windfarm project is proceeding but as to how we can benefit from it."

"It would be criminal if we missed out on this huge project, which will be one that stretches half a century into the future. The economic benefits are huge and we have the potential here in Buckie to meet the demands of keeping these turbines running."

"Buckie missed out when it came to exploiting fully the North Sea oil industry and we simply cannot afford to do so again with the renewable sector."

"Although unable to attend due to the weather, I was delighted to be invited to the Green Energy Awards Dinner in Edinburgh by MORL which to me is a clear indicator that Buckie is well in their thoughts." Councillor McKay also highlighted the potential the scheme has for providing long term employment in the Buckie area.

"Although I am not on that committee I made sure I was at this presentation," she said. "This could be one of the biggest projects to come our way if it all materialises. I wanted to ask again why Buckie was not on any of the material that had been originally published and was not on any of the publications that were handed out at the presentation, if they were genuinely thinking about Buckie. Councillor McDonald and myself were at a presentation up in Inverness many months ago and we mentioned it there. "Again they came to Buckie at our insistence to let the people of Buckie know what they were about. "We have one of the safest harbours about and we certainly would have premises for use for the type of work that would be undertaken by the vessels that would do maintenance work at the proposed wind farms. "A good many Councillors were at the presentation and they were suitably impressed as are officers. The money involved in this project is immense. It will be a long time in the pipeline so we will have to be patient and just hope that they pick Buckie for their chosen harbour."

Councillor John Russell, the Chair of the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee, praised Mr Finch's presentation as "extremely useful" and stressed that talks between the local authority and MORL would be ongoing.

He added: "The discussions with MORL were extremely useful. "It gave us a better idea of how many jobs could be associated with offshore windfarms and the land-based infrastructure that may be required. Council officers will be continuing the dialogue with MORL to keep Moray, and Buckie in particular, in the frame."

Buckie Business and Retailers' Association (BBRA) Chair David Robertson vowed that the organisation would strive to meet the opportunities likely to burgeon from the scheme. "BBRA are excited to hear about the project proposed by MORL," he commented. "This type of new energy industry will be very important not only for the direct jobs it will create but for the ripple effect of people coming to work, live and spend in the area."

"Buckie harbour has long been regarded as one of the focal points of the town and it would be superb to see it become an integral part of this new energy source and in this way be re-invigorated."

"As an Association we will do whatever is needed to help and will actively encourage our members to do likewise."

The 1000-11100MW it is hoped this project would generate is, according to MORL's figures, enough to power some 779,760 homes, roughly equivalent to the output of one large conventional power station. Height to blade tip on the turbines would vary between 158.5m and 182m for 5MW and 8MW turbines respectively, with rotor diameter coming in around the 125.150m mark. The technology which would be used owes more to the North Sea oil industry than that used by current offshore windfarms. Those envisaged by MORL would sit in 200ft of water and utilise oil-rig style jackets anchored to the seabed. Alongside these, offshore substations and subsea cabling would have to be installed in order to bring the energy ashore and connect it to the National Grid. Given the amount of steel and other materials required in the construction phase, which is anticipated to last in the region of four years, significant opportunities await for firms operating in the relevant sectors. More information on the windfarm project can be found at MORL's website at www.moray.offshorenrenewables.co.uk.

Music Graduate



Fiona (Peterkin) Young graduated with a Bachelor of Music Degree from Aberdeen University recently.

STAGECOACH BLUEBIRD FESTIVE SERVICES

STAGECOACH Bluebird are keen to remind customers that some services over the Christmas and New Year period may be subject to revisions.

During the Christmas and New Year period, no services will run on December 25 and January 1, but Stagecoach are pleased to announce an improved level of service between Christmas and New Year, which will allow customers the chance to go shopping in the sales or visit friends and family.

Andrew Jarvis, Managing Director, Stagecoach Bluebird, said: "With the additional days holiday most people will see on December 27-28 and January 3-4 we wanted to make sure there were plenty of options for our customers to get out and about, enjoy the sales or visit friends and family."

"Though we will not be operating our full services on these dates, we have improved our operations on these dates from last year to offer more travel choices."

For full details of the revised festive timetable, visit www.stagecoachbus.com, or contact the nearest local travel office.

ENTERTAINMENTS & EATING OUT

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Christmas Night with **ALFIE McQUADE**

and New Year's Eve

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5 Course Traditional Christmas menu In Dining Room with Welcome Drink £59.95

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Scottish breakfast, gift, Santa at table, 2 hrs fun on Sizzling Sam our massive snake from £6.50 Child £7.50 Adults

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WOULD MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE

WE WILL BE CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY, OPEN ALL DAY BOXING DAY AND OPEN UNTIL NEW YEAR'S EVE THEN CLOSED 1st & 2nd JANUARY REOPENING 3rd JANUARY

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Monday 27th December from 8pm

Christmas Dance

Michael Buble Tribute - from Soul to Swing

Tickets £8, Available from the Clubhouse, Tel: 832236

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a Very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to all our customers

CLOSED 26th December

OPEN from Monday, 27th December

CLOSED from 1st - 4th January

RE-OPEN Wednesday, 5th January, 2011

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Mhorag, Robbie, Family and Staff

convey heartfelt thanks to all customers for their tremendous support during their first year

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL IN 2011

Flicks Telephone: (01542) 832318

wish all customers and friends **SEASONS GREETINGS** and thank them for their support

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

CROSSROADS TEA ROOM

9 West Church Street Buckie, (01542) 833332

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our customers for their continued support during 2010 and look forward to seeing you all in 2011.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all the girls.

FOOD FOR... thought

31 West Church Street, Buckie 01542 831151

Hamish and the Girls would like to thank all customers for their support during 2010 and look forward to seeing you all in 2011

Merry CHRISTMAS and a Happy New Year

Press
Release

Media Briefing:

Moray Offshore Renewables Publish Offshore Wind Project Report

First Local Economic Impact Projections Released

Media Briefing : 11am, Eden Court Theatre, Inverness, 21 Nov 2011

Inverness , 21 November 2011 At a media briefing in Inverness today, Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd published a report detailing the work it has undertaken over the past year to develop plans for 1 500MW offshore wind generation in the Outer Moray Firth.

The power will be generated by offshore wind turbines, capable of delivering up to 7MW each, which will be supported on either concrete gravity base structures, or tubular steel jacket structures. These utilise technology developed by the North Sea oil and gas industry and will allow development to take place in deeper water (up to 60m or 200 feet), in excess of 13 miles from shore. The power will be collected by up to eight offshore electrical platforms, before being sent to shore via a grid connection point at Peterhead Power Station.

The report summarises the investigations of the physical, biological and human environment which have been undertaken, and includes details of the new market for goods and services which the project will bring to the area.

Depending on the successful development of the local supply chain, companies operating in the Moray Firth area could take advantage of this new market, which could be worth hundreds of millions of pounds to the local economy. This could support between 360 and 1400 jobs during construction, and between 130 and 280 jobs through operation and maintenance.

The report will be made available to the public at exhibitions along the Moray Firth Coastline over the next three weeks.

Craig Milroy
0771 554 7002
Email:
Craig.milroy@
edpr.com

Raquel Mendes
+34618619995
+1713.265.0310
Email:
comunicacion@
edpr.com

Press Release

Commenting, Managing Director of EDPR UK, Dan Finch said:

“Over the past year, we have worked hard to move offshore wind in deeper water from a proposal to a viable project. This report shows some of the work we have undertaken across a huge range of different environmental studies.

“In particular, the report examines some of the likely economic impacts of the project and demonstrates the size of the new market we will bring to the Moray Firth area, and to Scotland. We are keen to work with the Government and business agencies which will be able to develop the supply chain and turn this new market into jobs and economic growth.”

Notes To Editors:

1. Project Update Report

The Report: Moray Offshore Renewables, Project Update, 2011-2012 is available from craig.milroy@edpr.com

2. Public Exhibitions

A series of public exhibitions will be held to provide the public with access to the report, and the opportunity to discuss the proposals with project staff. Public exhibitions will be held:

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|-------------|
| Wick: | MacKays Hotel | 23 November |
| Helmsdale: | Community Centre | 24 November |
| Inverness: | Eastgate Centre | 25 November |
| Fraserburgh: | Leisure Centre | 30 November |
| Buckie: | Town House | 5 December |
| Inverness: | Eden Ct. | 6 December |
| Elgin: | St Giles Centre | 7 December |

Craig Milroy
0771 554 7002
Email:
Craig.milroy@edpr.com

Raquel Mendes
+34618619995
+1713.265.0310
Email:
comunicacion@edpr.com

4. Potential Economic Impacts

As part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process, a socio-economic impact assessment study for the project was undertaken by SQW. Full details of this will be published within the Environmental Statement for the project next summer. However the following summary findings have been published:

Press Release

In order to account for future development of the supply chain, two scenarios have been considered:

Low case – the total value of contracts that have been delivered, or are expected to be delivered from within each geography, assuming the current supply chain

High Case – the total value of contracts that could be secured by firms based in Scotland (and in the Moray Firth area) with a stronger and more developed supply chain. This makes assumptions about Scottish based firm which, although unable to tender for work at the moment, can reasonably be expected to develop the potential to do so in the future.

Summary of Initial Employment Estimates

| | | Construction (2015-2020) (peak employment) | Operation (post 2016) |
|---|-----------|---|------------------------------|
| Moray Firth Area (Highland, Moray, Aberdeen, Aberdeens.) | Low Case | 360 | 130 |
| | High Case | 1430 | 280 |
| Scotland (Including Moray Firth Area) | Low Case | 1260 | 170 |
| | High Case | 3230 | 450 |

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0771 554 7002
Email:
Craig.milroy@edpr.com

Raquel Mendes
+34618619995
+1713.265.0310
Email:
comunicacion@edpr.com

Job figures include generation and transmission infrastructure works, and are the combined statistics for direct and indirect/induced employment, and are based on initial analysis. Full breakdowns and details of the finalised economic impact survey will be available within the environmental statement on publication.

The potential for job creation is considerable, however there is a significant range of figures between the low and high case scenarios, and we recognise the importance of working with Government and its agencies and industry to ensure that the local economy is ready and able to get the best out of the new economic opportunities and markets which Moray Offshore Renewables will create.

Press Release

5. About Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd

Moray Offshore Renewables Limited (MORL) was formed as a joint venture company owned 67% by EDP Renewables (EDPR) and 33% by Repsol with the aim of developing offshore wind generation in the outer Moray Firth

6. About EDP Renewables

EDP Renewables (Euronext: EDPR), headquartered in Madrid, Spain, is a global leader in the renewable energy sector that designs, develops, manages and operates power plants that generate electricity using renewable energy sources. With a sound development pipeline, first class assets and market-leading operating capacity, EDPR has undergone exceptional development in recent years.

Energias de Portugal, S.A. ("EDP"), the majority shareholder of EDPR, is a vertically-integrated utility company, headquartered in Lisbon, Portugal. Through its various constituent businesses, EDP holds significant electricity and gas operations in Europe, Brazil and the United States.

7. About Repsol

Repsol is a multinational energy company operating in the hydrocarbons sector in over 30 countries. Employing 36,000 people, it is one of the world's ten largest privately-owned oil companies.

The company's *New Energy* unit channels Repsol's investment in alternative energy projects that include biofuels cultivation and research, electric vehicle recharging and onshore and offshore wind parks amongst others.

Craig Milroy
0771 554 7002
Email:
Craig.milroy@
edpr.com

Contact: Craig Milroy : 0771 554 7002

Raquel Mendes
+34618619995
+1713.265.0310
Email:
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edpr.com

renewable energy from...
 Energy companies buy the...
 power produced at above...
 A Department for Energy and...
 Climate Change spokesman...
 November 30 2011...
 action co-ordinated by the...

...of British industry...
 Friends Of The Earth, not...
 generally the most convivial of...
 tainable," she explains.

The householders of Stenion...
 are not the only ones dismayed...
 by the proposed changes. In...
 out on the December 12

Herald 22/11/11

Moray Firth windfarm may supply one million homes

Ambitious proposal would see 200-300 turbines off Caithness

DAVID ROSS
HIGHLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE world's largest offshore windfarm could power one million homes in Scotland and help meet the Holyrood Government's ambitious targets for green energy, the developers of the huge scheme have claimed.

Almost half of Scotland's population could be supplied by the giant Moray Firth windfarm of between 200 and 300 turbines, which is proposed for a site 13 miles off the Caithness coast.

The two international energy companies behind the Moray Firth Development Zone yesterday gave more details of the multi-billion pound development, which they expect to be as powerful as all of Scotland's hydro schemes combined.

The power would be collected by up to eight offshore electrical platforms, before being sent to shore via a grid connection point at Peterhead Power Station.

Locally it could support between 360 and 1400 jobs during construction, between 130 and 280 jobs through operation, and between 450 and 3250 jobs through maintenance across Scotland.



Moray Offshore Renewables hopes to submit a planning application to the government agency Marine Scotland in June or July next year with a view to construction beginning in 2015.

If all goes to plan it would be the largest offshore windfarm on the planet. That title is currently held by Swedish energy giant Vattenfall's 300MW development of 100 turbines, seven miles off Foreness Point in Thanet, Kent.

Critics of the SNP administration, including the chancellor George Osborne, have in recent weeks argued that the prospect of a referendum was putting investors off Scotland. Analysts Citigroup also warned investors that their returns may fall short if Scotland breaks away from the UK.

But Moray Offshore Renewables said it would be investing between £40 million and £50 million by the time the planning application is lodged next summer and forecasts a total investment of up to £5 billion.

BRITISH Gas owner Centrica has signed a supply deal that will secure sufficient gas to meet around 5% of the UK's annual demand.

The 10-year, £13 billion agreement with Norway's Statoil involves the supply of 50 billion cubic metres of gas to the UK from 2015.

Centrica said the deal highlighted the importance of the UK's relationship with Norway for the country's energy security.

The move takes the value of

Centrica secures gas deal

future gas supplies secured by Centrica for the UK to more than £50bn.

Centrica is also spending £965 million on buying oil and gas assets from Statoil in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea. The deal will lift Centrica's production by around 25%.

Prime Minister David Cameron said: "Today's agreement will help to ensure the continued security and competitiveness of gas supplies to Britain, from a trusted and reliable neighbour."

Spanish oil giant Repsol in a deal worth nearly £40m.

Managing director of EDRP UK, Dan Finch, said: "We are investing significant amounts of money - £40-£50 million - to get through the planning and development process, building up to planning consent. But if it goes ahead it will be huge."

Mr Finch said they were taking on staff and had offices in Edinburgh, adding: "We are doing this because we think Scotland is the place to be.

"Our partners, Repsol, have joined us in Edinburgh because they think this is the place to be as well. We made this decision consciously. We could have gone somewhere else.

"We are now recruiting senior staff to take us through to construction and beyond. We already have around 30 people in Edinburgh and we are looking to expand that with more well-paid jobs so that is an indication of our confidence in the market.

Repsol have shown their confidence and we're looking for other projects from our Edinburgh office."

The development is located on the Smith Bank in the Moray Firth and covers an area of 320 square miles in waters up to 200ft deep. Alex Salmon has set a target of 100% of Scotland's electricity coming from renewable sources by 2020.

Treasury of 16th century reading set up

PHIL MILLER
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE books that helped shape the Renaissance can now be accessed through a new treasury of reading set up by researchers at the University of St Andrews.

The world's first bibliography of the 16th century has been established after years of "talented detective work, relentless information gathering, and meticulous field work drawing on the goodwill and co-operation of scholars and librarians around Europe".

Launched in Edinburgh today, the Universal Short Title Catalogue (USTC) is the result of more than 10 years of work.

It brings together details of approximately 350,000 rare books in 5000 archives and libraries, and for the first time, books published before 1601 can be easily studied by both specialists and general readers.

Around 30% of the books



THE SCOTSMAN

TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2011

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER

85p

WWW.SCOTSMAN.COM

Who can lay claim to Scotland's rights?

Brian Wilson and the referendum PAGE 34-35



Ex-Murrayfield chief heads for Hong Kong

Gordon McKie set for football role BACK PAGE



New Scots coast wind farm to be biggest in the world

Up to 300 turbines to be erected off Caithness in £4.5 billion development

JOHN ROSS

THE world's biggest offshore wind farm is set to be built in Scotland with a multi-billion-pound investment, securing hundreds of jobs and further cementing the country's position as a global leader in renewable energy.

The £4.5 billion project envisages up to 300 turbines in water 200ft deep more than 13 miles off Caithness, generating enough power for more than a million homes by 2020.

The wind farm would be a major boost to the Scottish Government's target of generating 100 per cent of the country's electricity demand from renewables by the end of the decade.

The international companies behind the scheme said the investment was a sign of confidence in Scotland as a place to invest in the offshore renewables market.

Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd (MORL) is a joint venture between a Spanish/Portuguese company, EDP Renewables, and Spanish oil and gas firm Repsol

Nuevas Energias UK, which was awarded a "zone development agreement" by the Crown Estate for offshore wind energy.

The wind farm would cover about 114sq miles and could produce up to 1,500MW of wind power, about the same as a conventional power station.

Each of the 200 to 300 turbines would be capable of delivering up to 7MW and would be supported on either concrete base structures or by tubular steel jackets, using technology developed by the North Sea oil and gas industry.

The power would be collected by up to eight offshore electrical platforms, before being sent ashore via a grid connection point at Peterhead power station.

MORL said companies operating in the Moray Firth area could take advantage of the new market - which could be worth hundreds of millions of pounds and support up to 1,400 jobs during construction, and 130 to 280 posts during operation and maintenance.

Launching a report on the project in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



CROSSWORDS AND GAMES 46-47, TELEVISION & RA

'If tides turn and the wind blows, firms will invest in Scotland'

FROM PAGE 1

Inverness yesterday, Dan Finch, managing director of EDPR UK, said: "Over the past year, we have worked hard to move offshore wind in deeper water from a proposal to a viable project. "We are keen to work with the government and business agencies, which will be able to develop the supply chain and turn this new market into jobs and economic growth."

Mr Finch said the joint venture, which has an office in Edinburgh, was prepared to spend £40-£50 million on planning and developing the project before an application was expected to be submitted to Marine Scotland in June or July next year.

Dan Finch

"We see Scotland as the place to develop offshore wind"

Work is then hoped to start in 2015 for completion by 2020.

Last week, Chancellor George Osborne said major firms were reluctant to invest in Scotland because of the uncertainty of an independence referendum.

However, Mr Finch said: "We are developing an opportunity and investing significant sums of money because we see Scotland as the place to develop offshore wind."

"Our partners Repsol, a multinational Spanish oil company,

have joined us in Edinburgh because they think this is the place to be as well.

"We made this decision consciously. We could have gone somewhere else."

He said the project offered prospects of major fabrication and supply work for firms such as Gamesa, Doosan Power Systems and Mitsubishi – and the Altium Securities investor report, which makes it clear that investment will continue whatever Scotland's constitutional status, including independence.

A Scottish Government spokesman said: "This is a welcome statement of the reality that company after company has announced jobs and investment in Scotland in recent months – including other major international energy firms such as Gamesa, Doosan Power Systems and Mitsubishi – and the Altium Securities investor report, which makes it clear that investment will continue whatever Scotland's constitutional status, including independence."

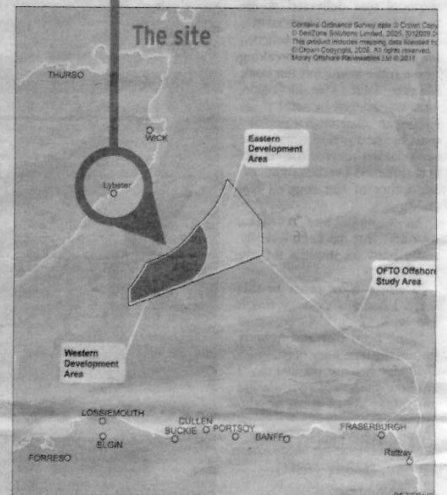
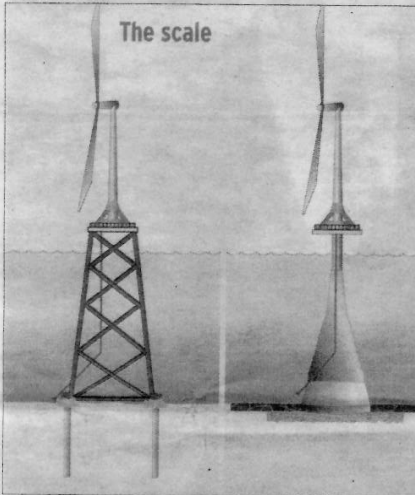
"These developments demolish nonsensical claims made recently – the fact is there will be a continuing need for Scottish renewable electricity to be exported to help keep the lights on south of the Border."

"International corporations and domestic firms are investing for the future in Scotland's world-leading renewables industry. There is a pipeline of 17 Gigawatts of renewable electricity projects – nearly three times peak Scottish demand – with estimated capital invest-

How the giant wind farm will look

The view from the coast

Computer-generated impression of the wind farm



ment of £46bn, ready to create thousands of jobs in Scotland.

"For as long as the wind blows and the tides turn, that investment will continue."

MORL also has plans to develop the Inch Cape offshore wind farm site in the outer Firth of Tay region, between nine and 14 miles to the east of Angus.

It is expected to consist of about 180 wind turbines covering an area of about 58sq miles with an estimated installed ca-

capacity of 1,000MW and a potential yield of 3,000 GWh per year.

Scotland has around a quarter of Europe's potential offshore wind resources, with ideal conditions for technology which can harness the strong winds.

The east coast seabed has been identified as a particularly suitable location for offshore wind power. The largest offshore wind farm in the world, off the Kent coast, has 100 turbines with 300MW capacity at present.

Last year, Marine Scotland published a strategic environmental assessment for offshore wind energy. A short-term plan (up until 2020) proposed the development of ten sites, for which the Crown Estate has granted exclusivity agreements to developers. A medium-term plan, for 2020 to 2030, proposes a further 25 options for development.

Johanna Yates, Scottish Renewables offshore policy manager, said: "The substantial eco-

nomical benefits anticipated by this project are a reflection of the scale of benefits this growing industry can bring.

"We anticipate as many as 28,000 new jobs created directly from offshore wind within the decade, with a further 20,000 employed in businesses supplying such projects amounting to £7 billion pounds of value added to our economy."

COMMENT, PAGE 32

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'Offshore wind power is the best chance of reaping the benefits industry has to offer'

SCOTLAND is the natural home to offshore renewable energy, with our abundant natural resources and long heritage of maritime industry – principally oil and gas and fisheries.

The offshore wind sector in Scotland has been fortunate to have strong political backing, ensuring that we have the best chance of reaping the economic and social benefits this industry has to offer.

The Moray Project is likely to offer another key step in Scotland's journey to becoming a global centre of excellence for the offshore wind sector.

Scotland's potential is well known and in recent months we have welcomed the investment from significant international players, such as

ANALYSIS

Johanna Yates

Doosan, Mitsubishi and Gamesa, all vying to establish their turbines in Scottish waters. We know future employment is promising, with up to 28,000 direct jobs being created by 2020, leading to an economic input of £7 billion.

Investors need to weigh up challenges, such as the deep water that surrounds Scotland's coast. This is an additional engineering hurdle, but has been answered by Scottish expertise using oil and gas technology, as

seen in the Beatrix demonstrator project – the world's first deep-water turbines.

Scottish Renewables and the Scottish enterprise agencies are working hard to ensure that Scotland reaps the maximum benefits from this industry by ensuring full engagement with the indigenous supply chain at every level of development.

This will be the focus of the Scottish Offshore Wind Conference in Aberdeen in January to discuss supply-chain needs and work with the Departments of Energy and Climate Change taskforce to help offshore wind become increasingly more cost competitive.

● Johanna Yates is offshore policy manager for Scottish Renewables.

Wind power always comes at a cost

SCOTLAND'S big ambitions in renewables look to have been taken a step nearer the achievable with news of plans to build the world's biggest offshore wind farm in the Moray Firth. The proposal, from Moray Offshore Renewables, a joint venture between Spanish/Portuguese company EDP and Spanish oil and gas firm Repsol Nuevas Energias, envisages between 200 and 300 turbines in 200ft of water 13 miles off the Caithness coast, potentially generating up to 1,500MW of wind power, about the same as a conventional

power station. The ultimate cost of the project could rise to £4.5 billion, with initial spending on planning and development put at £50 million. This is a colossal project by any standards and, in addition to mooted job creation, would take Scotland some way to generating the equivalent of 100 per cent of the country's electricity needs by 2020 if the field is able to come on stream on or before then.

But this breathtaking project will come at a cost. This will be by any standards an expensive form of renewable power generation and

much of it will be paid for by electricity consumers – business and domestic – out of their electricity bills.

This could cost jobs and make some businesses unviable – note the recent decision to by Rio Tinto Alcan to close the aluminium smelter in Lynemouth, Northumberland because of rising energy costs “due largely to emerging legislation”. Innovation should bring savings – but consumers should be under no illusion as to who picks up the tab for this wind power on the sea horizon.

PLAN FOR 200 TURBINES IN MORAY FIRTH ♦ DAY OF EMPLOYMENT JOY

BEG- 22/11/14

Offshore windfarm to fuel hundreds of jobs



BIG BUSINESS: A windfarm off Norfolk, which has around 30 turbines – the Moray Firth site would have 200 turbines up to 670ft tall which would be able to generate up to 1,500MW of power

BY NICHOLA RUTHERFORD

Hundreds of jobs could be created in the north and north-east if a major offshore windfarm is built in the Moray Firth.

Up to 1,400 people could be involved in the construction of more than 200 turbines – which would stand around 14 miles off the coast of Caithness.

The company behind the project, Moray Offshore Renewables (MORL), said almost 300 jobs could also be sustained in the region during the operation of the windfarm.

The announcement came on the same day business outsourcing firm Capita announced it will create 100 jobs at its call centre at Forres,

and Clydesdale Bank confirmed its backing of a £20million project to redevelop Scrabster harbour, which could create 300 jobs.

Last night the boost was welcomed by business leaders keen to see the north economy cash in on the opportunities available in the renewable energy industry.

A Highlands and Islands Enterprise spokeswoman said: "The renewables industry has the potential to support thousands of jobs in the Highlands and islands over the coming decades. Recent

announcements, such as the purchase of Nigg by Global Energy Group and the infrastructure works at Scrabster harbour, show that our region is working to stay at the forefront of the opportunities the growth of the sector will bring.

"The Moray Firth is of international interest as an offshore wind site and it is excellent news that Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd is sharing its ambitious vision with communities across our area."

The first phase of the windfarm would be developed in an area known as the Smith Bank sandbank and is expected to be able to generate up to 1,500MW of power from turbines up to 670ft tall. In a project update

report published yesterday, MORL said the power will be carried ashore by a cable buried beneath the seabed and it will reach land in Aberdeenshire – either at Fraserburgh beach or Rattray Head.

The offshore transmission will join the existing grid at Peterhead Power Station when the scheme begins operating in 2020.

And this will see potential job openings in the north-east during the construction phase, which will run from 2015, a spokesman for MORL confirmed yesterday.

Caithness Chamber of Commerce chief executive officer Trudy Morris said the far north is also particularly

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

JOHNSTONS OF
SINCE 1797

THE
SAL

FOR ONE WEEK

APPENDIX 1.4E

Tuesday November 22 2011
www.pressandjournal.co.uk

IN BRIEF

Teenager spat at police officer and threatened her

A Thurso teenager spat at and threatened to kill a woman police officer, Wick Sheriff Court heard yesterday.

Dominic Long, 16, appeared from custody and admitted charges of assault, uttering threats and threatening or abusive behaviour.

The court heard he spat at Constable Laura Murray at St Clair Avenue at Scrabster on September 19.

Long, of 38 Holborn Avenue, also threatened to shoot to death her and another officer in the car taking him to Wick police station.

He also threatened to kill their children.

Sentence was deferred until Friday when he is due to be sentenced on other matters.

Speeding driver banned and fined

A young motorist's high-speed drive on the A99 Lathron to Wick road yesterday landed him with a two-year ban and a £575 fine at Wick Sheriff Court yesterday.

The court heard police tracked plant operator Scott Wares driving his car at between 80-90mph on a 60mph section of the road on the evening of May 15.

Wares, 23, of 32 Northcote Street, Wick, admitted driving dangerously at excessive speed.

He also admitted driving with excess alcohol at Wick on July 2.

Wick man jailed for 14 days

A Wick man was yesterday jailed for 14 days after a police



CHANGES ON THE HORIZON: An artist's impression of how the 200 offshore turbines would look from the land if the windfarm is built in the outer Moray Firth, as depicted from Lybster

Offshore windfarm plan to fuel major jobs boost

REPORT REVEALS THAT TURBINES LIKELY TO BE VISIBLE ON CLEAR DAYS AROUND THE MORAY FIRTH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
well-placed to serve the offshore scheme.

She said: "A survey vessel for the project has already been operating from Wick and local company Energy Hunt has been maintaining a net mast."

She added: "We believe that the area's highly-skilled workforce and company expertise coupled with assets, such as the harbours and airport all close at hand, will prove to be of significant benefit to the developers and we look forward to continuing our discussions with MORL."

coastline around the Moray Firth on clear days.

MORL officials are now consulting with a number of groups, including environmental organisations, Historic Scotland and representatives of the fishing industry, on the project.

Sarah Doman, head of policy for Scotland for the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society, said the organisation is supportive of the renewable energy industry and it appears to be carrying out a thorough consultation.

However, she expressed concern about pile-driving, a particularly noisy technique

used to hammer the turbines into the seabed.

She said: "It's one of the noisiest activities in the marine environment."

"We believe that needs to be part of MORL's environmental assessment and we have been told it will be."

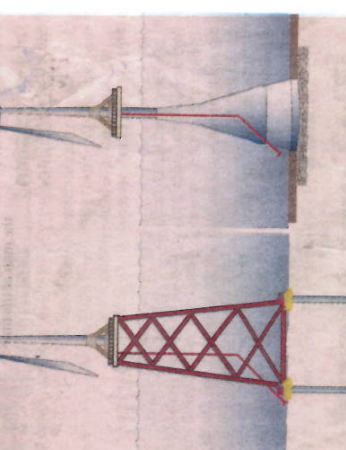
The report will now be available to view at public exhibitions around the Moray Firth coast.

Dan Finch, managing director of EDP Renewables, which is part of MORL, said: "Over the past year, we have worked hard to move offshore wind in deeper water from a proposal to a viable

project. This report shows some of the work we have undertaken across a huge range of different environmental studies.

"In particular, the report examines some of the likely economic impacts of the project and demonstrates the size of the new market we will bring to the Moray Firth area, and to Scotland.

"We are keen to work with the government and business agencies which will be able to develop the supply chain and turn this new market into jobs and economic growth."



Diagrams of structures being considered for the project

COMMENT, PAGE 13



Dan Finch: worked hard

when they visit Wick this week."

The report also revealed the scheme is likely to be visible from parts of the

ref. 22/11/11

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN FRAGILE AREAS

Welcome news on jobs front

THREE positive developments on the jobs front have been revealed. Moray is to benefit from 100 new jobs as Capita is investing in its call centre at Forres, while, in Caithness, between 300 and 400 posts could stem from a £20million redevelopment of Scrabster harbour.

All areas around the coast of the Moray Firth are also likely to benefit if an ambitious plan to develop offshore wind generation is realised.

The investment at Scrabster to improve the harbour's infrastructure is important. Creating new quayside space, deep-water berths and heavy-lift facilities opens up the port to a wider variety of users.

The call centre posts in Moray are all likely to be in place by February. That they are in Forres is excellent news, given the economic worries that have stemmed from the recent loss of air force personnel from nearby RAF Kinloss.

Electricity generation by wind turbines is certainly a controversial issue on land, but whether or not that concern will be replicated for a project at sea remains to be tested.

At a time when the headlines are dominated by firms paying off staff because of economic woes, all new posts have to be welcomed, especially in fragile areas on the coastline of the Moray and Pentland firths.

TASTY TREAT IS ON THE UP

Developer says reaction to firth windfarm plan has been positive

BY LAURA PATERSON

AN EXHIBITION in Inverness yesterday on the proposed major offshore windfarm in the Moray Firth received a positive response, said developers.

Moray Offshore Renewables (MOR) plan to build more than 200 turbines 14 miles off the coast of Caithness.

The firm said that up to 1,400 people could be involved in the construction with almost 300 jobs sustained during the operation of the windfarm.

If it was built now, it would be the largest development of its kind in the world.

"I would have thought it would have been better to have tidal wave power offshore"



EXHIBITIONS: Communications manager Craig Milroy says people's opinions have been positive. Photographs: Sandy McCook

The wind energy firm displayed details of their proposals at the exhibition in the Eastgate Shopping Centre yesterday, including details of visibility and environmental impact surveys to be carried out.

The windfarm would be visible in many areas along the coast from Helmsdale to Wick.

Communications manager, Craig Milroy, said the general reaction from the public had been "very positive".

The exhibition started in Wick on Wednesday and travelled to Helmsdale before heading to Inver-

ness. It will go on to Fraserburgh, Buckie and Elgin, returning to Inverness on December 6.

Mr Milroy said there had been significantly more interest than during similar exhibitions the company held 18 months ago.

He said: "The two big issues that came up last time were how the project will look and economic and employment opportunities."

"We have visuals and a photomontage mock up so people can see how the turbines will appear. The view from shore is very limited." Retired

heliporter pilot, Ian Richardson, 78, of Westhill, Inverness said he was in favour of offshore wind projects.

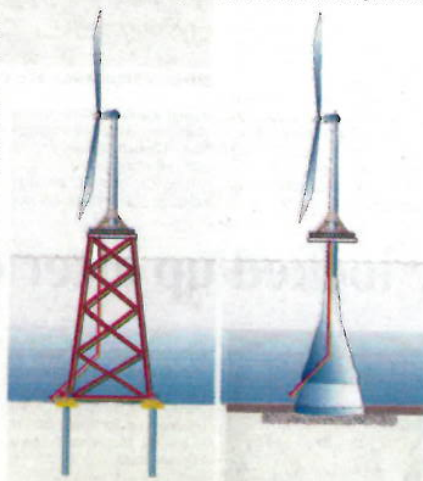
He said: "I prefer them to onshore. Offshore is different because it ties in with the oil industry and we should have the technology to build the platforms. We want to make sure that we are making some of the structures needed and they are not being constructed overseas."

Gardener Jackie Liuba, of Applecross, Wester Ross, said she was worried about renewable energy in general and did not feel it provided the electricity predicted.

She said: "I would have thought it would have been better to have tidal wave power offshore. I'm concerned we could end up with debris on the hills and in the sea that we can't do anything with when these projects wind down."



Jackie Liuba: concerned



The turbine structures being considered

Glencoe lifesavers celebrate 50 years

MOUNTAIN rescue volunteers from past and present hooked up in Glencoe last night to mark 50 years of the Glencoe Mountain Rescue Team.

The team, which has 30 members, celebrated with a dinner-dance at the Alltshalach Hotel where guest of honour and after-dinner speaker was team founder Hamish MacInnes.

Some members may have been taking it easy on the dance floor however, as six of them were called out to a rescue on Thursday night.

A female walker was reported missing during stormy conditions at around 3.30pm. A search was launched and she was located in the early evening. The walker was suffering from hypothermia and was transferred to Belford Hospital.

The team, many of whom juggle full-time jobs and families, are called out around 80 times a year.

John Grieve, who has been team leader for 13 years, paid tribute to his colleagues and told how the role of mountain rescue teams had changed since he joined in the 1960s.

He said: "To have a team of 30 dedicated volunteers is really quite something."

"You were probably doing about 15 rescues back in the 60s. The number of people on the hill has greatly increased though. It used to be nearly all winter climbing accidents, but more often than not it's hill walkers now."

"Climbing is safer now, but there are more hillwalkers than climbers."

"We also get involved with a lot of other things that we didn't before. We're called out to the odd road accident and industrial accident. Anything that's off the road that people can't get to, but if it helps then we're happy to do it."

Aberdeenshire provost ready for the challenge of his new NHS role

BY DAVID MCKAY

NHS Grampian has appointed Aberdeenshire Provost Bill Howatson as its new board chairman.

The councillor for the Mearns ward said he was delighted at the news and looked forward to the challenge ahead.

"I very much welcome this opportunity to contribute towards the development of

health and healthcare in the north-east," Mr Howatson said.

"These are exciting times for the NHS in Grampian and my focus will be on delivering the ambitious plans we have for the service."

"Traditionally in Grampian, the NHS and our partners, including the local authorities, have enjoyed very close working relationships and I intend to continue to forge links with

colleagues in all partner agencies."

Mr Howatson has been interim chairman of the board since previous head David Cameron took temporary leave from the post.

Biochemist Mr Cameron also left the board of the Food Standards Agency and his post as chairman of the Scottish Food Advisory Committee after an investigation into an allegation of gross misconduct.



Bill Howatson: Forging links

Cameras keeping eye out for danger on the roads

NESCAMP speed cameras will be on the following roads from tomorrow:

The A92 between roadside of Kinneff and Mill of Uras; the A96 Huntly between the A920 Dufftown and B9022 Portsoy; the A98 from Fochabers to Cullen; the A96 Huntly road between junction with A920 Kirkrton of Culsalmond and Skares; the A96 between north of Pitmachie and junction with A920 at Kirkrton of Culsalmond; the A95 between the 30mph at Keith and Davoch of Grange; the A941 between the

30mph at Lossiemouth and the 40mph at Elgin; the A96 between Forgie and A98 junction at Fochabers.

The A90 Peterhead to Fraserburgh; the A90 Aberdeen to Northwater Bridge; the A96 Great Northern Road to Tyrebagger; the A947 between Aberdeen and Banff; the A956 Ellon Road at the Parkway roundabout to Makro at the Cove roundabout; the A90 between Midstocket, Road and Whitestripes Avenue roundabout.

Jobs windfall hope from offshore plan

300 turbines proposed for waters off Lybster

by Gortion Calder

CAITHNESS could get a jobs boost from a £4.5 billion project to create the world's biggest offshore wind farm.

That emerged at a public exhibition in Wick which was organised by Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd - the company which plans to install up to 300 turbines in water about 13 miles off Lybster.

MORL spokesman Craig Milroy said the company is to submit a planning application to the Scottish Government in July next year.

If it gets the go-ahead construction could get under way in 2015 and last for five years.

Mr Milroy said the development would create up to 1430 jobs during the construction phase and could benefit Caithness.

Between 130 and 280 staff would be needed to operate and run the wind farm.

"If we cannot deliver some form of economic development here with this project then you would have to think very carefully about what could," he stated.

Mr Milroy explained the company is "hugely encouraged" by the response it has received from the Caithness Chamber of Commerce, Highland and Islands Enterprise and Scottish Enterprise to its plans.

He is pleased with the response to the exhibition from the public.

"We have been quite busy and have found people to be supportive," he added.

The plan was welcomed by the Caithness Chamber of Commerce. Chief executive Trudy Morris, said: "Caithness is well placed to service this develop-

ment of significant benefit to the developers," she added.

MORL intends to install the turbines in water up to 200 feet deep off the Caithness coast. The development is expected to generate 1500MW of wind power with each turbine delivering up to seven megawatts. The turbines would be supported on either concrete base structures or by tubular steel jackets, using technology developed by the North Sea oil and gas industry.

The power would be collected by up to eight offshore electrical platforms before being sent ashore via a grid connection point at Peterhead power station.

If the project gets the go-ahead it would become the world's biggest offshore wind farm. That title is currently held by Swedish energy company Vattenfall's 300 megawatt development of 100 turbines, seven miles off Foreness Point in Thanet, Kent.

Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd was formed as a joint venture company - owned 67 per cent by EDP Renewables and 33 per cent by Repsol - with the aim of developing offshore wind generation in the outer Moray Firth. The company will have spent around £50 million on development costs by the time the planning application is lodged next summer.

EDP Renewables has its headquarters in Spain and designs, develops, manages and operates plants which generate electricity using renewable energy.

Repsol is a multinational company which operates in the hydrocarbons sector in over 30 countries. It employs 36,000 people and is one of the world's 10 largest privately-owned oil companies.



Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd recently gave a presentation in Wick on its plans to install up to 300 turbines in water about 13 miles off Lybster. Our picture shows members of the MORL team beside one of the presentation boards which were on view in Mackays Hotel.

21 November 2011 Last updated at 13:52

Moray Firth offshore wind farm 'would bring jobs boost'

An offshore wind farm planned for a site next to the Beatrice oil field in the Moray Firth could support hundreds of jobs, its developer has claimed.

Moray Offshore Renewables said a new report it commissioned estimated that up to 1,400 construction workers would be needed during the farm's creation.

The report said a further 280 people would be required to operate and maintain up to 350 turbines.

Electricity would be sent to a connection point near Peterhead.

Moray Offshore Renewables consists of Madrid-headquartered EDP Renewables and Repsol, a renewable energy developer operating in 30 countries.

The report is to be made available at a series of public exhibitions being held in Wick, Helmsdale, Inverness, Fraserburgh, Buckie and Elgin over the next three weeks.

Two demonstration wind turbines have been at the Beatrice Field since 2007.

Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd

4th Floor, 40 Princes Street
Edinburgh EH2 2BY
0131 556 7602
www.morayoffshorerenewables.com

**Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd Signs
Agreements to Develop Offshore Wind Power In Moray Firth**

Sites To Be Named After Famous Scottish Engineers

Edinburgh, UK Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd. ("MORL"), the joint venture company owned by EDP Renewables and SeaEnergy Renewables, have signed three Agreements for Lease with The Crown Estate Commissioners which will lead to further development of offshore wind power generation at three sites in the outer Moray Firth.

The proposed sites are all within the Eastern Development area of Zone 1 of The Crown Estate's Third Round Offshore Wind Leasing Programme, awarded to MORL in January 2010, and will be named after Scottish Engineers: Robert Stevenson, Edward MacColl and Thomas Telford.

The three sites are expected to have a capacity of 1,000-1,140 MW (approximately equal to that of a conventional thermal powerstation) and to supply enough power for around 750,000 homes. They are the first stage of a development which could deliver approximately 1,500 MW of total generating capacity.

The Agreements for Lease with The Crown Estate Commissioners are an important step to enabling the work necessary for the development to take place.

Project Director, Dan Finch said:

"Since Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd was established almost a year ago we have made tremendous progress, including site investigations in the Outer Moray Firth, the development of engineering concepts, the publication of our Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report, and extensive public consultation.

"I am delighted that after a year of hard work, we are now in a position to sign Agreements for Lease with The Crown Estate Commissioners, which will eventually lead to long-term leases and the construction and commissioning of the offshore wind farms.

EDP Renewables' Chief Business Development Officer, Luis Adão da Fonseca, said:

"The support we have received around the Moray Firth has been extremely encouraging, and working together, EDPR and SeaEnergy Renewables have made excellent progress in achieving this important milestone.

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. About Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd

Moray Offshore Renewables Limited (MORL) was formed as a joint venture company owned 75% by EDP Renewables (EDPR) and 25% by Sea Energy Renewables Limited.

EDPR is currently the world's third largest wind energy company, with more than 6GW of installed

wind generation capacity across 11 countries including UK, Spain, Portugal, Romania, Poland, Italy, France, Canada, Brazil and the USA.

Sea Energy Renewables Limited provides unrivalled offshore development and deployment experience gained through years of successful large-scale offshore project development in the oil and gas industry. More recently, the SeaEnergy team pioneered the highly acclaimed Beatrice Offshore Demonstrator project in the Moray Firth.

2. Summary Details of First Phase of Development

- Location – Smith Bank, Outer Moray Firth , 22km (13 miles) from Caithness Coast
- Approximately 200 turbines over three sites
- Water depth: 30m-60m
- Total Capacity of first phase, 1000-1140MW,

Further details including the full scoping report and associated documents are available at www.morayoffshorerenewables.com

3. The Crown Estate Third Round Offshore Wind Leasing Programme

In 2008, The Crown Estate invited tenders for the development of offshore wind as part of the Round Three Offshore Wind Farm Leasing Programme. The invitation was for the exclusive rights to work with The Crown Estate in the development of offshore wind generation in specified zones around the UK coast

On 8 January 2010, The Crown Estate announced the successful development partners for each zone, and signed an exclusive zone development agreement with Moray Offshore Renewables Limited as their partner to develop wind energy in Zone 1, which is located in the Moray Firth, around 13 miles from the Caithness coast.

4. Windfarms & Scottish Engineers - Biographical Summaries

Each of the three windfarm sites within the first phase of the development have been named in recognition of Scottish Engineers who have made major contributions to civil, marine and electricity generating developments. Biographical summaries are provided below.

Robert Stevenson 1772-1850

Scottish civil engineer, pioneer of lighthouse construction, responsible for the Bell Rock lighthouse, which he followed, while employed by the Northern Lighthouse Board, by designing, constructing and improving numerous other lights and beacons. He began a family dynasty responsible for over 90 lighthouses.

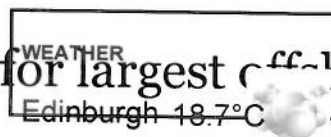
Edward MacColl 1882-1951

Pioneer of Hydro Electricity in Scotland, Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive of the North Of Scotland Hydro Electric Board; responsible for developing the first electricity transmission grid with standard voltage and frequency to allow bulk transfer of power, and for the development of many hydro electric schemes in use today, including, Glen Affric-River Beauly, Breadalbane, Glen Garry-Glen Moriston, Strath Conon and Loch Tummel.

Thomas Telford 1757-1834

Pioneering Scottish civil engineer whose accomplishments include the Caledonian Canal,

Deal could pave way for largest offshore wind site



David Ross and Chris Watt

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30 Dec 2010

A deal has been signed that could make the Moray Firth the biggest source of offshore wind energy in the world.

Aberdeen-based SeaEnergy yesterday revealed its joint venture company Moray Offshore Renewables had signed a lease with the Crown Estate to develop three offshore wind farm sites in the firth.

The project is expected to have a combined capacity of 1000-1140MW, which is expected to supply power for around 750,000 homes.

In January, the Crown Estate announced plans for two new development sites in the Moray Firth and the Firth of Forth.

At least 1200 offshore turbines are expected to be installed around Scotland over the next decade, which will mean capital expenditure of £15 billion to £18bn.

The world's current largest offshore farm is off Thanet in Kent.

News about the Moray Firth development came as Scottish ministers approved plans for a highly controversial wind farm 20 miles south of Inverness.

The Dunmaglass wind farm will have the capacity to power 46,000 homes –double the number in Inverness. It will see 33 turbines, 125 metres tall, erected in the Monadhliath mountains, between Loch Ness and the Cairngorms National Park.

Wild land charity the John Muir Trust has already described the development as an example of the "creeping industrialisation" beginning to surround the park and underlined the need for greater statutory protection for the UK's wild land.

But around 55 people will be employed during the construction phase and the developers have promised to provide lasting community benefit.

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Recomendar

Sé el primero de tus amigos en recomendar esto.

0

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Offshore wind firm signs three leases

Published Date: 31 December 2010

Moray Offshore Renewables, a joint venture between Aberdeen-based SeaEnergy and Spanish renewables giant EDP, have moved a step closer to developing three giant wind farms off the coast of Scotland.

The firm has signed leases with the Crown Estate and will name the sites after Scottish engineers Robert Stevenson, Edward MacColl and Thomas Telford. The sites will power 750,000 homes at peak capacity.

Page 1 of 1

- **Last Updated:** 30 December 2010 11:29 PM
- **Source:** The Scotsman
- **Location:** Edinburgh

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30 December 2010 Last updated at 21:55 GMT

New offshore wind farms to be named after engineers

Three wind farms to be built off the Caithness coast are to be named after Scottish engineers, following an agreement to lease the seabed needed.

The projects will commemorate Glasgow-born lighthouse builder Robert Stevenson and Thomas Telford, from Westerkirk, near Langholm.

Dumbarton-born Sir Edward MacColl, a pioneer of hydro power in Scotland, will also be honoured.

A total of 200 turbines could be constructed in three clusters.

The developers have claimed that they could generate enough electricity for 750,000 homes - more than a conventional coal-burning power station.

The Crown Estate, which control the rights to the seabed, have signed a deal with the consortium Moray Offshore Renewables.

The joint venture is 75% owned by Portugal-based EDP Renewables with the other 25% owned by SeaEnergy Renewables, a firm with expertise from the offshore oil industry that is expected to be sold in the next few weeks by its Aberdeen parent company.

Press
Release

Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd Awards Contract for “First Steel in the Sea” for Offshore Wind Project

Edinburgh, UK, July 26, 2011. Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd. (“MORL”), the joint venture company owned by EDP Renewables and Repsol, today awarded a historic contract to Gaoh Energy Ltd to install the first permanent offshore infrastructure to enable the development of offshore wind energy in the outer Moray Firth.

Gaoh Energy Ltd are to install an offshore meteorological mast in the outer Moray Firth, to allow accurate recording of environmental data such as wind-speed, barometric pressure and temperature. This will enable the design and operation of generation equipment to maximise the natural energy which can be harnessed from the wind in the outer Moray Firth and sent on to homes and businesses across Scotland and the UK.

After installation, and subject to conclusion of contracts, it is expected that the met mast will provide long-term local employment, as it will be maintained by Gaoh Energy Ltd.’s nominated sub-contractor, EnergyHunt, who are based in Wick.

Moray Offshore Renewables Project Director, Dan Finch said:

“After 18 months of hard work, we have taken this project from first concept to first contract for steel in the sea. The offshore met mast will give us vital information about the wind and weather far distant from shore. We will use this to design and operate generating equipment to harness the maximum natural energy from the wind in the Outer Moray Firth, and send this on to as many as a million households across the country”.

Gaoh Energy Chief Executive, Paul Carter said:

“We are excited to be involved in this Round 3 initiative early in its development. This met mast not only signifies a major step in this particular project’s development but also for the wider industry as we see Round 3 coming out of the boardroom and into reality. We can be confident that with the wealth of experience in the UK the challenge of mass deployment involved in Round 3 will be met and Gaoh Energy are proud to be at the forefront”.

**Moray Offshore
Renewables:**

Craig Milroy
0771 554 7002
Email:
Craig.milroy@
edpr.com

Raquel Mendes

+34618619995
+1713.265.0310
Email:
comunicacion@
edpr.com

Gaoh Energy:

David Yong
+44 (0) 1502 533 236
Email:
david.yong@gaoh-
energy.com

Press Release

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Met Mast Infrastructure

Main features of the Offshore Met Mast:

- Steel tower structure approx 100m / 330ft above mean sea level
- Sited in water 40 m/130ft deep
- Located 26km /16miles SE of Caithness Coast

2. About Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd

Moray Offshore Renewables Limited (MORL) was formed as a joint venture company owned 67% by EDP Renewables (EDPR) and 33% by Repsol with the aim of developing offshore wind generation in the outer Moray Firth

4. EDP Renewables

EDP Renewables (Euronext: EDPR), headquartered in Madrid, Spain, is a global leader in the renewable energy sector that designs, develops, manages and operates power plants that generate electricity using renewable energy sources. With a sound development pipeline, first class assets and market-leading operating capacity, EDPR has undergone exceptional development in recent years.

Energias de Portugal, S.A. ("EDP"), the majority shareholder of EDPR, is a vertically-integrated utility company, headquartered in Lisbon, Portugal. Through its various constituent businesses, EDP holds significant electricity and gas operations in Europe, Brazil and the United States.

4. About Repsol

Repsol is a multinational energy company operating in the hydrocarbons sector in over 30 countries. Employing 36,000 people, it is one of the world's ten largest privately-owned oil companies.

The company's *New Energy* unit channels Repsol's investment in alternative energy projects that include biofuels cultivation and research, electric vehicle recharging and onshore and offshore wind parks amongst others.

Moray Offshore Renewables:

Craig Milroy
0771 554 7002
Email:
Craig.milroy@
edpr.com

Raquel Mendes

+34618619995
+1713.265.0310
Email:
comunicacion@
edpr.com

Gaoh Energy:

David Yong
+44 (0) 1502 533 236
Email:
david.yong@gaoh-
energy.com

Press Release

3. About Gaoh Energy Ltd

Gaoh Energy Ltd was established in November 2010 to bring together a number of key individuals with previously proven track records in the renewables and offshore industries and some private investors from industrial and financial business sectors. Gaoh Energy Ltd is a dedicated renewables energy solutions provider, focussing on development, consultancy and project management of onshore and offshore EPIC projects. The award of this prestigious contract marks a major milestone for the young company, which has put together a supply chain of companies to execute this project which are recognised as the industry's best.

4. Summary Details of First Phase of Electricity Generation Infrastructure

- Location – Smith Bank, Outer Moray Firth , 22km (13 miles) from Caithness Coast
- Approximately 200 turbines over three sites
- Water depth: 30m-60m
- Total Capacity of first phase, 1000-1140MW

Further details including the full scoping report and associated documents are available at www.morayoffshorerenewables.com

Moray Offshore Renewables:

Craig Milroy
0771 554 7002
Email:
[Craig.milroy@
edpr.com](mailto:Craig.milroy@edpr.com)

Raquel Mendes

+34618619995
+1713.265.0310
Email:
[comunicacion@
edpr.com](mailto:comunicacion@edpr.com)

Gaoh Energy:

David Yong
+44 (0) 1502 533 236
Email:
[david.yong@gaoh-
energy.com](mailto:david.yong@gaoh-energy.com)

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Local firm involved in Moray Firth offshore windfarm

27th July 2011 from ScottishBusiness Insider
First piece of infrastructure for Moray Firth

Gaoh Energy has won the contract to install the first permanent piece of offshore wind infrastructure in the Moray Firth.

Moray Offshore Renewables, a joint venture between EDP Renewables and Repsol, selected the Suffolk based Gaoh to put a meteorological mast in the stretch of water.

The 330 feet tower will be located 16 miles to the south east of Caithness and used to record data such as wind speed, barometric pressure and temperature.

Gaoh said the mast will be maintained by its Wick subcontractor Energy Hunt.

Dan Finch, Moray Offshore Renewables project director, said: "After 18 months of hard work, we have taken this project from first concept to first contract for steel in the sea.

"The offshore mast will give us vital information about the wind and weather far distant from shore.

"We will use this to design and operate generating equipment to harness the maximum natural energy from the wind in the Outer Moray Firth, and send this on to as many as a million households across the country."

Paul Carter, Gaoh Energy chief executive, said: "This met mast not only signifies a major step in this particular project's development but also for the wider industry."

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ScottishBusiness Insider:

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NEWS

Published 23/09/2011 11:00 - Updated 22/09/2011 14:59

Caithness firms aim to cash in on marine energy boom

CAITHNESS firms have enjoyed a strong showing at Scotland's largest marine energy conference and exhibition in Inverness this week.

Scottish Renewables Forum staged the event in the capital for the third time on Monday and Tuesday at Eden Court Theatre.

It was attended by the new minister for energy, Fergus Ewing, who reflected on his plans to work with businesses to secure the future of wave and tidal power across the North.

Louise Smith, director of Caithness Renewables Ltd, who had a presence at the conference, picked up on the minister's plans for early actions aimed at stabilising the future of marine energy off the Caithness coast, reinforcing the need for the original Pentland Firth and Orkney waters seabed-leasing area to be opened back up by the Crown Estate to provide locations for pre-commercial size arrays of wave and tidal devices ahead of the commercial-scale deployments which may not appear until 2015.



Caithness businesswomen Sandra McCaughey and Louise Smith (right) at the conference in Inverness this week.

Ms Smith said: 'Mr Ewing said he would tackle this exclusion zone 'head on', reaching out to the area's businesses to engage in a dialogue with his short-life working group that would champion the cause of jobs across the region over the next year. Business aspirations for growth had been expected to be founded on supporting the deployment of early stage devices in the world's first commercial-scale leasing round but the March 2010 announcement of successful developers has been followed by a long spell of waiting.

'Much of the detail centres around the need for streamlined consenting of schemes, as has been achieved for the ScottishPower Renewables 10MW tidal array approved for the Sound of Islay - leap-frogging one of the leading developers past the blockages of the Pentland Firth in March 2011, just a year after the North thought it would see similar activity.'

Local firm EnergyHunt, founded by Richard Hunt from his base at Harrow harbour, continues to attract much interest in the sector.

Using his scientific and power skills, in combination with industry connections and local knowledge of the seas, Mr Hunt has forged a path through support work at the European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC) in Orkney, local partnerships supporting the power sector across Scotland and the recently announced meteorological mast commission for Gaoth Energy in the Moray Firth.

There, EnergyHunt uses maritime and technical skills to support the early stages of the new offshore wind sites.

These two Caithness exhibitors were joined by a strong presence from Thurso's Environmental Research Institute, part of the University of the Highlands and Islands, as well as local business representatives looking to reinforce links with marine energy clients such as MeyGen.

Dan Pearson, MeyGen's chief executive officer, was on hand to support the company's lead electrical engineer, David Taaffe, giving his first presentation at such a conference, shedding light on the complexities of inter-array cabling, one of the many technical challenges facing the industry.

MeyGen's 400MW 3.3 sq km tidal site at Stroma is in the early stages of development and will hopefully benefit from the streamlining process Mr Ewing is championing.

Caithness Renewables associate Sandra McCaughey, of Sandra McCaughey Business Solutions, Wick, was also on hand to speak to visitors who were more aware of the enormous potential of Caithness and its skilled workforce, having the opportunity to hear first hand about programmes such as the Caithness Chamber of Commerce's £2.3 million Make the Right Connections which Mrs McCaughey has been playing a lead role in since its May launch.

Speakers were focused on technical subjects but most referred to the need to keep the Caithness and north Sutherland public informed about, and involved in, developments, notably with regard to the many job prospects for young people.

Leading industry figure Robin Burnett, of SSE Renewables, which expects to develop 800MW of wave and tidal sites in the region, reflected on Dounreay's legacy, reinforcing the need for public support.

- [Cyclist in fatal collision named as Elaine Dunne](#)
- [Female cyclist dies in Auckengill road accident](#)
- [I had to laugh at 'pub talk' claim](#)
- [Crash tragedy cyclists were celebrating anniversary](#)
- [Police appeal for help in tracing missing man Gordon Harper](#)
- [Cyclists injured in serious road smash at Auckengill](#)
- [Bone found on beach is believed to be from missing Thurso man Michael Sinclair](#)
- [Occupants of Wick houses were threatened by four men](#)
- [No escape from lazy drivers](#)
- [Shock at county's roads death toll](#)

Top 10 most read stories this week

Features



Read our features from the John O'Groat Journal and Caithness Courier.

- [No escape from lazy drivers](#)
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- [Setting sail in calm waters](#)



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Press
Release

Moray Offshore Renewables Welcomes Alex Salmond On Board Offshore Wind Survey Ship At Fraserburgh Harbour

MEDIA PHOTO - OPPORTUNITY

Fraserburgh, UK, 11 August 2001. Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd. ("MORL"), the joint venture company owned by EDP Renewables and Repsol to develop offshore wind energy in the Outer Moray Firth, today welcomed Scotland's First Minister Alex Salmond MSP aboard Gardline's Survey Ship, the Ivero.

Moray Offshore Renewables have contracted Gardline to undertake geophysical and geotechnical survey works in the Moray Firth to allow the development of up to 1500 MW of offshore wind energy in the deeper waters (up to 60m/200 feet) of the outer Moray Firth. The Survey ship Ivero provides vital information about seabed conditions, which will enable the electrical infrastructure to be designed to withstand the challenging conditions of the North Sea.

The First Minister toured the Ship with representatives of Moray Offshore Renewables, and was briefed on the challenges of developing large-scale wind generation in the Outer Moray Firth.

Commenting, the First Minister said:

"I'm very pleased to see first hand how Gardline's survey work is progressing and to meet representatives of EDP Renewables to hear more about this exciting project. I've been impressed by the vision and determination of EDPR and Repsol since the announcement of their partnership for the Moray Firth offshore wind farm in June.

"This project is among eight developments in Scottish waters that, together, will deliver up to 10 Giga Watts of clean energy from offshore wind and help ensure we meet our 2020 target to generate the equivalent of 100 per cent of our electricity demand from renewables. Together, these offshore wind projects could generate investment value of as much as £30 billion, and businesses and communities across Scotland are well-placed

Craig Milroy
0771 554 7002
Email:
Craig.milroy@
edpr.com

Raquel Mendes
+34618619995
+1713.265.0310
Email:
comunicacion@
edpr.com



Press Release

to secure substantial benefits from that, as well as from exporting expertise for projects further afield.

“The Scottish Government will continue to work with public and private sector partners to support key clean energy developments such as the Moray Firth offshore wind project - to support jobs and the reindustrialisation of Scotland’s communities while lowering carbon emissions and so helping protect the planet for future generations.”

Dan Finch, UK Managing Director of EDPR UK, said:

“I am delighted to have the opportunity to provide the First Minister with first-hand experience of the work, commitment and expertise that is required to allow Scotland to lead the world in the development of commercial-scale wind generation, in deeper waters, distant from shore.

John Morse, Manager of the Renewables Group, Gardline said:

“Gardline is delighted to welcome the First Minister aboard the Ivero, particularly given the importance of the renewable energy sector in Scotland and the country’s commitment to harness and take full advantage of the green energy potential.”

OPERATIONS NOTE – PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

There will be a photo-opportunity for members of the media with Alex Salmond at Gardline’s vessel, the Ivero, at North Quay, Fraserburgh Harbour, at 11.00am on Thursday 11 August

Craig Milroy
0771 554 7002
Email:
Craig.milroy@
edpr.com

Raquel Mendes
+34618619995
+1713.265.0310
Email:
comunicacion@
edpr.com

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. About Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd

Moray Offshore Renewables Limited (MORL) was formed as a joint venture company owned 67% by EDP Renewables (EDPR) and 33% by Repsol with the aim of developing offshore wind generation in the outer Moray Firth

2. About EDP Renewables

Press Release

EDP Renewables (Euronext: EDPR), headquartered in Madrid, Spain, is a global leader in the renewable energy sector that designs, develops, manages and operates power plants that generate electricity using renewable energy sources. With a sound development pipeline, first class assets and market-leading operating capacity, EDPR has undergone exceptional development in recent years.

Energias de Portugal, S.A. ("EDP"), the majority shareholder of EDPR, is a vertically-integrated utility company, headquartered in Lisbon, Portugal. Through its various constituent businesses, EDP holds significant electricity and gas operations in Europe, Brazil and the United States.

3. About Repsol

Repsol is a multinational energy company operating in the hydrocarbons sector in over 30 countries. Employing 36,000 people, it is one of the world's ten largest privately-owned oil companies.

The company's *New Energy* unit channels Repsol's investment in alternative energy projects that include biofuels cultivation and research, electric vehicle recharging and onshore and offshore wind parks amongst others.

4. Summary Details of First Phase of the Project

- Location – Smith Bank, Outer Moray Firth , 22km (13 miles) from the Caithness Coast
- Approximately 200 turbines over three sites
- Water depth: 30m-60m
- Total Capacity of first phase, 1000-1140MW

Craig Milroy
0771 554 7002
Email:
Craig.milroy@
edpr.com

Raquel Mendes
+34618619995
+1713.265.0310
Email:
comunicacion@
edpr.com

Further details including the full scoping report and associated documents are available at www.morayoffshorerenewables.com

Mobile site

Highlands & Islands Feed

Alex Salmond backs offshore windfarm development

First Minister Alex Salmond has renewed the government's pledge to drive forward the renewables industry.

11 August 2011 16:09 GMT

Comment

265902

First Minister Alex Salmond was in Fraserburgh to discuss plans for an offshore windfarm which is helping Scotland meet its renewable energy targets.

A number of key offshore wind projects are in the early development phase and Mr Salmond was at the Offshore Windfarm Survey Ship, the Ivero, at Fraserburgh Harbour on Thursday.

He discussed its plans to develop up to 1500 MW of offshore wind energy in the deeper waters of the outer Moray Firth.



The development could have the capacity to power in excess of one million households.

Gardline has been contracted to undertake geophysical and geotechnical survey works in the Moray Firth, providing vital information about seabed conditions, which will enable the electrical infrastructure to be designed to withstand the challenging conditions of the North Sea.

Mr Salmond met with Dan Finch, the Director of Moray Offshore Renewables, the joint venture company responsible for developing the 1500 MegaWatts project.

Moray Offshore Renewables is a joint venture company owned 66% by EDPR and 33% by Repsol.

First Minister Alex Salmond said: "We have to understand the scale of what is happening. One wind farm in the Moray Firth will generate 1500 megawatts of electricity.

"That's enough for about a million homes in Scotland and it is just one of eight or so developments around the Scottish coastlines. However we are in the early stages.

"This great adventure that's happening offshore will, over the next ten years or so, perhaps generate £40bn of investment for 45,000 jobs.

"This is a great, new, emerging industry which will contribute to the reindustrialisation for Scotland."

First Minister visits Fraserburgh Harbour



First Minister visit: Alex Salmond visiting the Ivero ship at Fraserburgh Harbour to see plans for wind farm on the outer Moray Firth

Published on **Sunday 21 August 2011 16:00**

First Minister Alex Salmond visited Fraserburgh last week and renewed the Scottish Government's pledge to drive forward Scotland's renewables industry as he met representatives of Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd.

MORL, the joint venture company owned by EDP Renewables and Repsol, plans to develop offshore wind energy in the Outer Moray Firth.

Mr Salmond discussed the firm's plans to develop up to 1,500 MW of offshore wind energy in the deeper waters of the outer Moray Firth, during a meeting aboard Gardline's survey ship - the Ivero - berthed in Fraserburgh Harbour.

The development could have the capacity to power in excess of one million households, according to MORL.

Gardline has been contracted to undertake geophysical and geotechnical survey works in the Moray Firth, providing vital information about seabed conditions, which will enable the electrical infrastructure to be designed to withstand the challenging conditions of the North Sea.

The First Minister toured the ship with representatives of Moray Offshore Renewables and was briefed on the challenges of developing large-scale wind generation in the Outer Moray Firth.

Mr Salmond, MSP for the new East Aberdeenshire seat, said: "I'm very pleased to see first hand how Gardline's survey work is progressing and to meet representatives of EDP Renewables to hear more about this exciting project. I've been impressed by the vision and determination of EDPR and Repsol since the announcement of their partnership for the Moray Firth offshore windfarm in June.

"This project is among eight developments in Scottish waters that, together, will deliver up to 10 Giga Watts of clean energy from offshore wind and help ensure we meet our 2020 target to generate the equivalent of 100 per cent of our electricity demand from renewables.

"Together, these offshore wind projects could generate investment value of as much as £30 billion, and businesses and communities across Scotland are well-placed to secure substantial benefits from that, as well as from exporting expertise for projects further afield.

“The Scottish Government will continue to work with public and private sector partners to support key clean energy developments such as the Moray Firth offshore wind project - to support jobs and the reindustrialisation of Scotland’s communities while lowering carbon emissions and so helping protect the planet for future generations.”

Dan Finch, UK managing director of EDPR UK, said: “I am delighted to have the opportunity to provide the First Minister with first-hand experience of the work, commitment and expertise that is required to allow Scotland to lead the world in the development of commercial-scale wind generation, in deeper waters.”

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Public Exhibitions August/Sept 2010

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Fraserburgh Herald
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Further half-page full colour adverts were placed in the Aberdeen Press and Journal on three consecutive weeks:

P&J: Fri 27 August
Fri 3 September
Fri10 September

Fisheries Consultation Meetings – Oct/November

Fishing News

9:30am - 10:00am
10:00am - 10:30am



moray offshore renewables ltd

Public Consultation Exhibitions

To reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions and increase the amount of energy generated from renewable sources, Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd and Beatrice Offshore Windfarm Ltd (BOWL) propose to develop offshore wind energy at two different sites in the Outer Moray Firth.

If you would like to find out more about either project, please come along to one of our public exhibitions where you can discuss the proposals with our project staff and take part in our consultation. We would welcome your views.

Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd is a joint venture partnership owned 75% by EDP Renewables Ltd and 25% by SeaEnergy Renewables Ltd.

Beatrice Offshore Windfarm Ltd (BOWL) is a joint venture partnership owned 75% by SSE Renewables and 25% by SeaEnergy Renewables Ltd.

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| Tues 31 August Mackays Hotel 12pm-8pm | Wed 1 Sept Community Centre 12pm-8pm | Thurs 2 Sept Royal Marine Hotel 12pm-8pm | Fri 3 Sept Royal Hotel 12pm-8pm | Mon 6 Sept Black Isle Leisure Centre 12pm-8pm | Tues 7 Sept Eastgate Shopping Centre 9am-6pm |
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| Wed 8 Sept Aris Centre (old Town Hall) 12pm-8pm | Thurs 9 Sept Eastgate Shopping Centre 9am-8pm | Mon 13 Sept Palace Hotel 12pm-8pm | Tues 14 Sept Fife Lodge Hotel 12pm-8pm | Wed 15 Sept Leisure Centre 12pm-8pm | Thurs 16 Sept St Giles Shopping Centre 9am-5:30pm |

Your opinions are invited, and public consultation on the Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd Environmental Impact Scoping Report runs from 31 August 2010, to 30 November 2010. The report is available at www.morayoffshorerenewables.com. For further information, please contact The Stakeholder Manager, Moray Offshore Renewables, EDPR UK, 40 Princes Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2BY

Further information about the Beatrice Offshore Windfarm is available from www.sse-beatrice.com, or from The Stakeholder Manager, Beatrice Offshore Windfarm Ltd, Inveralmond House, 200 Dunkeld Rd, Perth PH1 3AQ.

*Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd only



moray offshore renewables ltd



Public Consultation Exhibitions

To reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions and increase the amount of energy generated from renewable sources, Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd and Beatrice Offshore Windfarm Ltd (BOWL) propose to develop offshore wind energy at two different locations in the Outer Moray Firth.

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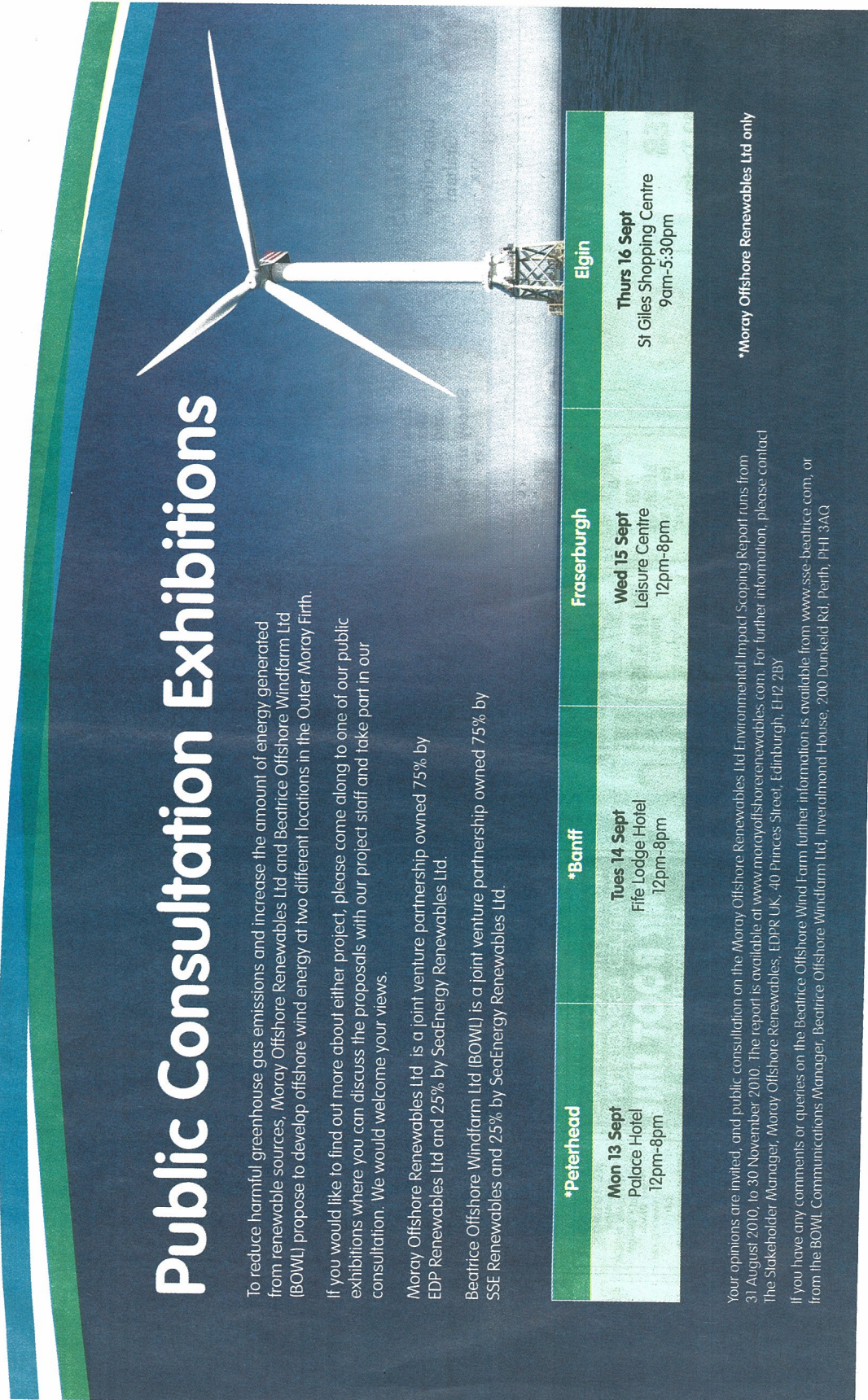
Beatrice Offshore Windfarm Ltd (BOWL) is a joint venture partnership owned 75% by SSE Renewables and 25% by SeaEnergy Renewables Ltd.

| *Peterhead | *Banff | Fraserburgh | Elgin |
|--|---|--|--|
| Mon 13 Sept Palace Hotel 12pm-8pm | Tues 14 Sept Fife Lodge Hotel 12pm-8pm | Wed 15 Sept Leisure Centre 12pm-8pm | Thurs 16 Sept St Giles Shopping Centre 9am-5:30pm |

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If you have any comments or queries on the Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm further information is available from www.sse-beatrice.com, or from the BOWL Communications Manager, Beatrice Offshore Windfarm Ltd, Inveralmond House, 200 Dunkeld Rd, Perth, PH1 3AQ

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COAST PROTECTION ACT 1949
Deployment of Metocean Equipment and attached Buoys by Moray Offshore Renewables Limited, c/o SeaEnergy Renewables, Britannia House, Endeavour Drive, Arnhall Business Park, Westhill, AB32 6UF

Notice is hereby given that **Moray Offshore Renewables Limited** has applied to the Marine and Fisheries Agency (acting on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) for consents under Section 34 of the Coast Protection Act 1949, as amended by Section 36 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1988 in order to deploy one wave buoy and four Acoustic Doppler Profilers (ADCP) in the outer Moray Firth.

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Inverness Library, Farraline Park, Inverness, IV1 1NH

Representations or objections on navigational grounds in respect of the application should be made in writing or alternatively by email, giving an address to which correspondence relating to the representation or objection may be sent, to Alan Gibson, Marine Fisheries Agency, PO BOX 1275, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE99 5BN or email offshore.renewables@mfra.gsi.gov.uk, within 28 days of the date of this notice, quoting reference **34739/100215**

The Secretary of State will pass to the applicant a copy of any objection or representation he receives.

UNDER THE FATAL ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS INQUIRY (SCOTLAND) ACT 1976

The Sheriff of Grampian Highlands and Islands at Banff will hold an Inquiry on 18th March, 2010, at 10 am, within the Sheriff Court House at Low Street Banff, into the circumstances of the death of Wallace Ewen, Farm Worker, date of birth 25.08.1963, 13 Wellfield Terrace, Aberchirder, Huntly AB54 7TQ, who died on 30th August, 2009, at the entrance to Hillend Farm, Fordyce, Aberdeenshire.

A. B. HUTCHISON District Procurator Fiscal for the District of BANFF Sheriff Court House, Low Street, Banff, AB45 1AU

22

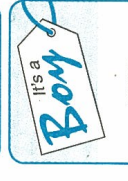
Elgin 554207 / Inverness 272393

YOUR ADS

Aberdeen 691212 / Fax 341212

Friday April 15 2011
www.pressandjournal.co.uk

HUNTER
Michael Iain (Mikey) Mark and Tammy (nee Allan) are delighted to announce the birth of their son, on April 1, 2011, weighing 7lbs 20z.
Lexi is thrilled with her baby brother, sixth grandchild to Pat & Iain Hunter of Afrod second ground, Millriggie & the Millriggie Farm, Kinlochmuir. Thanks to all at AMH.



KIDD
SCOTT DEREK
Jack and Mark are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their little brother, Scott Derek, on March 29th. Third grandchild for Avril and the late Derek Golder and fifth grandchild for Billy and Audrey. Many thanks to all at the Midwives unit at AMH.
Alan and Emma

Engagements

MIDDLETON - COOPER
Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Zoe, only daughter of Alan and Carol Middleton, to Andrew, oldest son of Alan and Avril Cooper on Sunday, April 10th, 2011 in Milan.
Congratulations to a lovely couple.

Deaths

BOLTON
Peacefully at Allan Ward Inverurie Hospital, on Wednesday, April 13, 2011, at the age of 83 years, beloved husband of the late Isabella, dear dad of Sarah, Renee & Gordon, a devoted grandpa and great-grandpa. Funeral private by request.

Beloved wife of the late Alexander, much loved mother-in-law of Sandy, loving mother-in-law of David and Lorraine, devoted grandmothers of the late James, and dear great-grandma of Riley and Zane. Funeral service at Hazelhead (East Chapel), on Wednesday, April 20, at 10.50 am. All friends Family flowers only please. Resting at The Aberdeen Funeral Home, 143 Causewayend.

DALGARNO
Suddenly on Friday, April 8, 2011, at his home, Sandy, dearly loved husband of Jacqueline and devoted dad of the late James (Jimmy), dear dad of Catherine, a special son of Muriel and brother of Eric, a loving brother and special uncle, and a service private.

DUNCAN (Montrose)
Peacefully, at home in Montrose, 2011, Sarah (nee Peter), aged 85 years. Loving wife of the late James (Jimmy), the mother-in-law of the late John, dear sister of Willie, and dear sister-in-law, aunt and great-aunt. Funeral service to which all family members invited, to be held at Montrose Old and New Church, Parish of St. Andrew's, on Monday, April 20, at 1.15 pm. Sleepyhill Cemetery. Donations may be made, if desired, to the church door, in aid of The Foundation.

SUTHERLAND
Peacefully, at Ninewells Hospital, on Monday, April 14, 2011, Alice Sutherland, aged 75 years, of Lunan Park, 75 years. Much loved daughter and Charlie Sutherland of White Rathes. Sadly missed. Funeral service on Parkgrove Crematorium on Wednesday, April 20, at 3.30 p.m., to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited.

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PORTER (Lossiemouth)
Peacefully, at Ward 1, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, on April 12, 2011, John Porter (Iain), aged 80 years, much loved husband of Rosemary and dear great-grandma of Riley and Zane. Funeral service at Hazelhead (East Chapel), on Wednesday, April 20, at 10.50 am. All friends Family flowers only please. Resting at The Aberdeen Funeral Home, 143 Causewayend.

PROFFIT (Glasgow)
Peacefully, at Muirhead Care Home, Muir Fowls, on Tuesday, April 12, 2011, John (Senet) aged 100 years beloved wife of the late Andrew Proffit, also a Crematorium (East Chapel), on 20th April. Friends respectfully invited. Sadly missed.

SIMMERS (Keith)
Peacefully at home, on April 14, 2011, Sid, dear dad, grandpa and brother. Graveside service at Broomhill Crematorium, on April 19, at 12.15 pm. All friends respectfully invited. Family flowers only please.

FAWICIT (Forvie)
Dickon, John and family thank sincerely all neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy and support following the passing of their beloved wife, mother and grandma. Special thanks to the medical wards, to the Medical Practice and Portyours Carers. Grateful thanks also to Rev. Norman for their sympathy and support. Thanks also to all who paid their last generous donations of nearly £7000 to nursing charities and the Scottish NHS Society.

CRUCKSHANK (Inverurie)
Sadly to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy. The family were comforted by cards, letters and phone calls following the recent sad loss of Sheila, granny and sister. Special thanks to the nurses at Inverurie Hospital and the Rev. Ian Groves for his most comforting presence. Thanks also to Craig, Funeral Directors, for their professional and arrangements. Grateful thanks to all who attended the service and Sheila at the graveside. Generous donations amounted to £470 for Paternosters UK.

DAVE (Forvie)
The family of the late Elizabeth (Betty) Dave thank all friends and neighbours for their expressions of sympathy extended to the family. Thanks also to the Rev. George Gollie for his comforting service and to all who paid their last respects at Aberdeen Crematorium and donated £350 to CLAN.

SNEDDON
The family of the late Jean Sneddon would like to sincerely thank everyone who attended the funeral service and paid their respects at the graveside. Also special thanks to all staff at ITU and HDU ARI for their support. Thanks also to Rev. John Renton for his comforting service and to all who supported the family. Special thanks to all who kindly donated to ITU, ARI, £370 and graveside service on Wednesday, Dr Gray's Hospital.

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colleagues, friends and expressions of sympathy extended and shown to Jim, a dearly loved husband, father, father-in-law and grandpa. A caring and loving man who willingly and lovingly cared for Jim during his illness, without their help Murray Campbell for his visit, and his help in the hall, and graveside. Ladies for providing such lovely tea, and James McLeod for his help for the kind, caring and loving way they handled the arrangements. Really a all who paid their last respects and donated so generously £1315 for cancer research. God bless you all.

MALCOLM (Elgin/Alford)
Jim, gratefully thanks all relatives and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy extended to the family, calls, cards and flowers following his sad loss of 50 years. Grateful thanks to all staff at Ward 5, Dr Gray's Hospital, Elgin for their care. Special thanks to Rev. John Renton for his support and comforting service, to Duncan & McCollie for their efficient handling of the funeral arrangements and to the Inverurie Hotel for their last respects at the church and graveside service on Wednesday, Dr Gray's Hospital.

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Happy Birthday
HAPPY 21ST SCOTT CHRISTIE
And still a charmer!
Love Granda & Grandma and all the family xxx

Happy Birthday
GORDON DUNCAN IS 60 TODAY
Wishing you the very best on your birthday.
Lots of love from Rona, family and friends xxx

Happy Birthday
SCOTT CHRISTIE
21 TODAY
Some things never change!
Love Dad, Mum, Becky, Cameron, Nannie & Granda Souter xxx
"Stand Free"

Happy Birthday
DAVE MITCHELL
Happy 60th Grandad
Love from your three little boys xxx

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS CAT?
Has been a regular round the Cuthill, Land Street area of Keith for some time now and sadly has not been seen since 24/03/11. He is white with black patches and a thick black tail.
Any info please tel 07939317913.



MISSING
Young female cat, tortoiseshell, microchipped.
Missing from the Conglass area of Inverurie.
Last seen on Tuesday, April 12th.
Tel: Please contact 01467 621428
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MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS ACT 2009
MARINE WORKS: INSTALLATION OF A METEOROLOGICAL MAST, MORAY FIRTH.
Notice is hereby given that Moray Offshore Renewable Ltd has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4, of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of the installation of a METEOROLOGICAL MAST:
Outer Moray Firth

| Description | Latitude | Longitude |
|-------------|------------|-------------|
| MORAY FIRTH | 58°10.928N | 002°49.215W |

(WGS84)
Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Inverness Library, Fairline Park, Inverness. IV1 1NH. Objections relating to safety of navigation in respect of the application should be made in writing to:
Licensing Operations Team, Marine, Scotland, Marine Licensing Unit, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice quoting reference: FK9Z231

McHardy Holdings Limited In Members Voluntary Liquidation
Notice of Appointment of Liquidator
I, Ewen R Alexander BSc MA BARR of Rilton Smith, Chartered Accountants, 16 Carden Place, Aberdeen AB10 7XK hereby give notice that I have been appointed Liquidator of the above company on 13 April 2011 by a resolution of the shareholders.
All creditors are required to lodge claims with me as soon as possible and no later than 13 July 2011.
This notice is purely formal as all creditors have been notified by a resolution of the Liquidator.
Ewen R Alexander
Liquidator
13 April 2011

12 Find a Friend
BRIDGET JONES
Pretty, female, 37, active, fit, seeks lively relationship. GSOH and a requirement of a pet!
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WIDOW 70
Requires male companion, 60-70 years old, widowed and long lasting loving relationship.
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Place an advert in **YourAds**
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public notices

There is an alternative route for westbound traffic only avoiding the restriction via Private Road through Gordonstoun to Junction with U38E Coveasea Road >> U38E to Junction with B9040 Lossiemouth-Burghhead Road >> B9040 to Junction with B9012 Elgin-Williamston Road >> B9012 to Duffus.

Roderick D. Burns, Chief Legal Officer
Council Office, High Street, ELGIN

www.morray.gov.uk

Coast Protection Act (CPA) 1949 Geotechnical investigation using boreholes by Moray Offshore Renewables

Notice is hereby given that **Moray Offshore Renewables Limited** has applied to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) under the Section 34 Coast Protection Act (1949) for consent to carry out up to 30 boreholes within the Moray Firth Round 3 Offshore Wind Farm zone. Documents describing the project and showing the position of the works to support the current application may be inspected at Inverness Library, Farraline Park, Inverness, IV1 1NH.

Representations or objections on navigational grounds in respect of the application should be made in writing, giving an address to which correspondence relating to the representation or objection may be sent, to Alan Gibson, Marine Management Organisation, PO BOX 1275, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE99 5BN (offshore.renewables@marinemanagement.org.uk), within 28 days of the date of this notice, quoting reference "34899/100716".

The MMO will pass to the applicant a copy of any objection or representation received.

general notices

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general notices

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seek to resolve your complaint quickly and amicably.
Helen Hackett, Complaints
Helpline: 0845 600 2757
www.pcc.org.uk

THANKS NOTICES



ELAINE

Would like to thank family and friends for cards and gifts, especially Marilyn for the lovely lunch on Friday 16th July, on the occasion of her 70th birthday. Thanking everyone.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

Golden Wedding Anniversary

HUGH CAMPBELL



LOUISE & BOB MILNE

Would like to thank everyone for the lovely cards, flowers and gifts, on the occasion of their Golden Wedding. Also our family for providing a great holiday which we both enjoyed.

ADVERTISING DEADLINE ~ 4.30 pm TUESDAY

SILVER WEDDINGS

Silver Wedding
Brian and Susan Duguid



general notices

30
Happy Birthday
JOHNNY D
24/7/10
Love from Mum and all the Gang xx



40
Happy Birthday
Innes Smith
SAFEST WAY TO TRAVEL!
Loads of love x



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Wedding Anniversary





edp renováveis



moray offshore renewables ltd



MORAY FIRTH OFFSHORE WIND FISHERIES CONSULTATION MEETINGS

Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd (MORL) and Beatrice Offshore Windfarm Ltd (BOWL) propose to develop offshore wind energy at two different sites in the Outer Moray Firth and following recent public exhibitions, would like to invite the local fishing community to further consultation meetings.

The aim of these meetings is to provide the local fishing community with the opportunity to learn more about the MORL and BOWL proposals, ask any questions and feed into the design of the projects at an early stage of development. The meetings will take place on:

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Wednesday 17th November | Buckie Townhouse Cluny Place Buckie Banffshire AB56 1HB | 7:00pm – 9:00pm |
| Thursday 18th November | Portland Arms Hotel Main Street Lybster Caithness KW3 6BS | 7:00pm – 9:00pm |

Further information is available on the respective project websites at www.morayoffshorerenewables.com and www.sse-beatrice.com.

Phone: 0044 (0)7900036151
www.gardnerdieselenines.co.uk
and www.gardneryachts.com

Email:
info@gardnerdieselenines.co.uk

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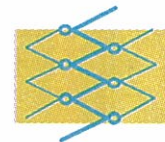
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Fife KY10 2RU

07765 799770

01333 720314

jbnet@btconnect.com

Newspapers that MORL project was advertised 2011

11-02 - Metocean Equipment Buoys Advert

- Fishing News
- Inverness Courier
- John O Groat
- Press and Journal
- The Northern Scott
- Banffshire Journal

11-04 - Met Mast Public Notice

- Fishing News
- Inverness Courier
- John O Groat
- Press and Journal
- The Northern Scott

11-07 - Bore Holes Coast Protection

- Fishing News
- Inverness Courier
- John O Groat
- Press and Journal
- The Northern Scott

11-11 - Project Update

- Caithness Courier
- John O Groat
- Ross-Shire Journal
- Inverness Courier
- Northern Times
- Forres Gazette
- Midweek Extra – Buckie
- Banffshire Journal
- Fraserburgh Herald

11-12 - Project Update

- Inverness Courier
- The Northern Scott
- Highland News



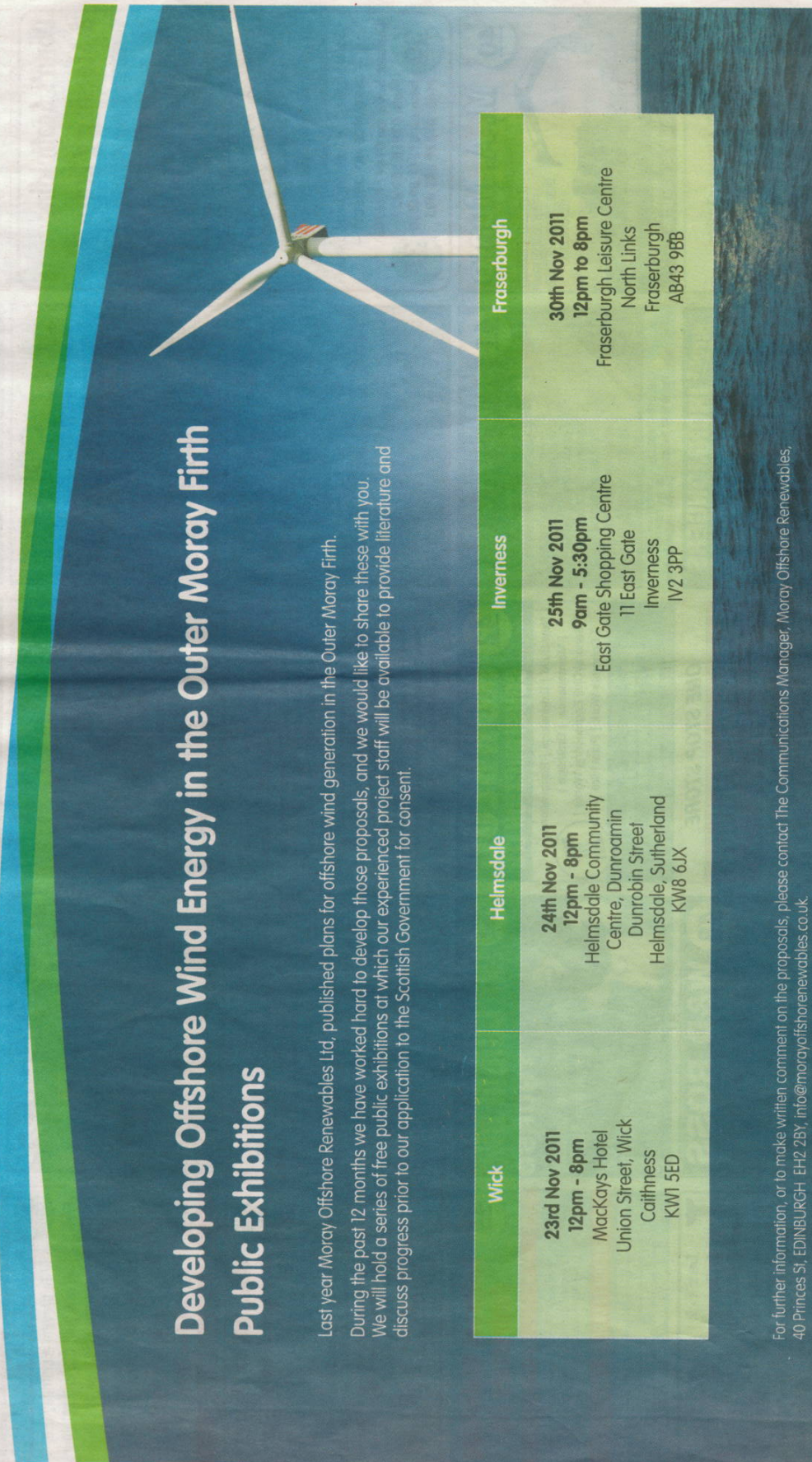
moray offshore renewables ltd

Developing Offshore Wind Energy in the Outer Moray Firth Public Exhibitions

Last year Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd, published plans for offshore wind generation in the Outer Moray Firth. During the past 12 months we have worked hard to develop those proposals, and we would like to share these with you. We will hold a series of free public exhibitions at which our experienced project staff will be available to provide literature and discuss progress prior to our application to the Scottish Government for consent.

| Wick | Helmsdale | Inverness | Fraserburgh |
|--|--|--|--|
| 23rd Nov 2011 12pm - 8pm MacKays Hotel Union Street, Wick Caithness KW1 5ED | 24th Nov 2011 12pm - 8pm Helmsdale Community Centre, Dunroamin Dunrobin Street Helmsdale, Sutherland KW8 6JX | 25th Nov 2011 9am - 5:30pm East Gate Shopping Centre 11 East Gate Inverness IV2 3PP | 30th Nov 2011 12pm to 8pm Fraserburgh Leisure Centre North Links Fraserburgh AB43 9BB |

For further information, or to make written comment on the proposals, please contact The Communications Manager, Moray Offshore Renewables, 40 Princes St, EDINBURGH EH2 2BY, info@morayoffshorerenewables.co.uk





moray offshore renewables ltd



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| Fraserburgh | Buckie | Inverness | Elgin |
|---|---|---|---|
| 30th Nov 2011 12pm to 8pm Fraserburgh Leisure Centre North Links Fraserburgh AB43 9BB | 5th Dec 2011 12pm - 8pm Buckie Town House Cluny Place Buckie AB56 1HB | 6th Dec 2011 12pm - 8pm Eden Court Bishops Road Inverness IV3 5SA | 7th Dec 2011 9:00am - 5:30pm St Giles Shopping Centre 121 High Street Elgin IV2 3PP |

For further information, or to make written comment on the proposals, please contact The Communications Manager, Moray Offshore Renewables, 40 Pirries St, EDINBURGH, EH2 2BT, info@morayoffshorerenewables.co.uk

www.property-north.co.uk

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www.property-north.co.uk

FANTASTIC TRADES DESCRIPTIONS

All advertisements for "The Banffshire Journal" will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene the Consumer Protection From Unfair Trading Regulations 2008.

public notices

UNDER THE FATAL ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS INQUIRY (SCOTLAND) ACT 1976

The Sheriff of Grampian Highlands and Islands at Banff will hold an Inquiry on 18th March, 2010, at 10 am, within the Sheriff Court House at Low Street Banff, into the circumstances of the death of Wallace Ewen, Farm Worker, date of birth 25.08.1963, 13 Wellfield Terrace, Aberchirder, Huntly AB54 7TO, who died on 30th August, 2009, at the entrance to Hillend Farm, Foydice, Aberdeenshire.

A. B. HUTCHISON District Procurator Fiscal for the District of BANFF Sheriff Court House, Low Street, Banff AB45 1AU

COAST PROTECTION ACT 1949 Deployment of Metocean Equipment and attached Buoys by Moray Offshore Renewables Limited, c/o SeaEnergy Renewables, Britannia House, Endeavour Drive, Arnhall Business Park, Westhill, AB32 6UF

Notice is hereby given that Moray Offshore Renewables Limited has applied to the Marine and Fisheries Agency (acting on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) for consents under Section 34 of the Coast Protection Act 1949, as amended by Section 36 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1988 in order to deploy one wave buoy and four Acoustic Doppler Profilers (ADCP) in the outer Moray Firth.

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Inverness Library, Farraline Park, Inverness, IV1 1NH

Representations or objections on navigational grounds in respect of the application should be made in writing or alternatively by email, giving an address to which correspondence relating to the representation or objection may be sent, to Alan Gibson, Marine Fisheries Agency, PO BOX 1275, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE99 5BN or email offshore.renewables@mfa.gsi.gov.uk, within 28 days of the date of this notice, quoting reference 34739/100215

The Secretary of State will pass to the applicant a copy of any objection or representation he receives.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

WANTED BANFF AREA Professional gentleman seeking self catering accommodation in Banff Area Contact: Box No CMN 353, Banffshire Journal, 22 Old Market Place, Banff AB45 1GE

WANTED CULLEN 1/2 bedroom ACCOMMODATION for employed local females. Non-smokers. No pets. Reasonable rent. - Tel (01542) 84781.

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TO LET WHITEHILLS 1 bedroom COTTAGE. - Telephone (01542) 840563 (day) or (01261) 861441.

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PROPERTY TO LET

TO LET MACDUFF Detached 2/3 bedroom HOUSE. Walled garden. Recently refurbished. Quiet area. No DSS. £475 pcm. - Tel (01261) 831400 after 5 pm.

TO LET GARDENSTOWN 2 bedroom fully furnished COTTAGE. Available March. No DSS, pets or smokers. - Tel (01464) 820361.

HOUSE TO LET BANFF 3 bedroom furnished HOUSE with sea views. £495 pcm. Deposit required. No DSS, pets or smokers. - Tel 07702 121930.

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THE BANFFSHIRE JOURNAL

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publicnotices



PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 Regulation 20(1)

The plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at the local planning office as given below between the hours of 10am to 4pm (excluding public holidays). You can also examine the application and make comment online using the Planning Application Information System. Internet access is available at all Aberdeenshire libraries.

When making a comment, please include the application reference number and stating clearly the grounds for making comment. These should be addressed to the Head of Planning and Development at the Planning Office as given below. Please note that any comment made will be available for public inspection and will be published on the website by 9th May 2011. Local Planning Office: Town House, Low Street, Banff, AB45 1AY or Email: bb.planapps@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

| Proposal/Reference |
|---|
| Erection of 1 No C&F Green Energy CF20 20kw Wind Turbine on 20 metre mast (Total height 27 metres) NGR NJ (E) 378329 (N) 864266 – BB/APP/2011/1125 |
| Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse – BB/APP/2011/1210 |

UNRESOLVED
PLANNING (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008
 submitted to Scottish Development Plan for
 for inspection within
 at the Council's Area
 AB51 3WA;
 et, AB42 1DA; and
 AB39 2DQ
 aberdeenshire Council
 ved on the Council's
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(WGS84)

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Objections relating to safety of navigation in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice quoting reference:

FKB/Z231

Moray Offshore Renewables Limited
4th Floor
40 Princes Street
Edinburgh EH2 2BY

publicnotices

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entertainments



SUNDAY 1st AUGUST
2PM-6PM

FAMILY FUN DAY

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Longest Drive Competition
Target Golf Competition
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