

Winter 2012-13 Edition

the

GREAT GLEN ENERGY CO-OP NEWSLETTER

Update from the Board



The directors of Great Glen Energy Co-operative Ltd are pleased to report another good year for our wind farm. This newsletter will give you a brief report on our activities as a board. Our main aim is to ensure members receive the best return possible on their investments. If you would like to know more about any of our activities we'd love to hear from you.

Project



A photo of Graham Strachan handing over a cheque to Abriachan Forest Trust Chairman Jim Barr. The £5000 grant nearly exhausts our community fund but will go a long way to ensuring the success of this project to develop a local sustainable forest classroom project. Members will be given the opportunity to consider whether they want to subscribe to top up the fund in the future. Let us know what you think.



AGM

Please remember that the 2013 Annual General Meeting will take place at the Kingmills Hotel, Inverness on the evening of Tuesday 16th April. Full details are enclosed with this mailing and you will receive your formal invitation nearer the time. Please try and attend and consider any possible motions in advance.

Meeting the Minister

Representing the co-op, Lorna Lumsden joined Falck staff for a brief meeting in July with Energy Minister, Charles Henry. Falck provided a brief overview of how they manage community involvement, and the Minister asked a few pertinent questions about how the Co-op concept was run. The meeting with the Minister took place whilst he was in the Highlands looking at energy issues generally.

Site Visit

The Board are planning a site visit for next summer if there is enough interest to justify hiring a small mini-bus. Please contact tammy@greatglen.coop or the office if interested in seeing the site up close.

Production News

As we await final year end results we know that up till the end of November we had cumulatively achieved 85% of the yearly budget and December output seems to have been similar to November. Members will be advised of the details and expected payout before the AGM in April. The year generally has been good and whilst there has been the usual variation in actual against predicted wind speeds, generally good turbine availability and an increase in grid outages for which we are compensated, the directors are happy with the expected outcome.



Share Transfer

As members will be aware, investment in the wind farm was always promoted as long-term but we were also aware that some members may want to opt out and we were always keen to try and facilitate this where possible. We started a list of members wanting to acquire additional shares - if interested in adding your name to the list contact Energy4All. We have recently developed a share transfer policy which is available on the website (members area) or from the office. Please let us have any comments you may have on the policy. There are still many more members wanting to acquire extra shares than shares becoming available.

Falck News

In 2012 Falck celebrated 10 years of work in the UK, largely in Scotland. The Co-op was represented at a dinner in Inverness to celebrate this achievement. Later Co-op Chairman Graham Strachan met up with Falck representatives and reporters from the Italian press on a visit to the Highlands. A positive piece appeared in Corriere della Sera (Italian Newspaper) on 3rd December.

Thank you

A big thank you to Ian Whyte who retires from the Board at the next AGM and is relocating - good luck Ian. Fellow directors Lorna Lumsden and Garry Page stand down as per our rules and offer themselves for re-election. Our thanks to them both and best wishes in any election. Even if both Lorna and Garry are re-elected we still have room for one or two new directors- if interested contact the office or any director. Directors would also like to pass on their thanks and best wishes for 2013 to all the staff and members of Energy4All and especially to Andrew King who retired as Chairman of E4A at the end of 2012.



Contact :

Please keep us posted of name and other contact detail changes. Administrative contact for notifying changes is Tammy Calvert, Office Manager, Energy4All Limited & Associated Co-ops, Unit 33 Trinity Enterprise Centre, Furness Business Park, Barrow in Furness, Cumbria, LA14 2PN. Tel: 01229 821028 tammy@greatglen.coop Alternatively you can amend your personal details in the members area of the website. Please check out our website regularly at www.greatglen.coop