



Clifton
Stronsay

10 Nov 2009

Dear Stronsay Residents

Stronsay Community Wind Turbine Project

The Stronsay Development Trust wrote to you last December to explain what had been happening with the wind turbine project and it is time to let you know how we are progressing towards an income of over **£2,000,000** for the community.

The very good news is that our application for **£499,000** Big Lottery funding for the community turbine has been accepted to go forward to the Lottery committee. Stronsay's Local Development Officer took the boxes of supporting documentation, the application form and the business plan to Inverness and delivered it by hand, in view of the postal strike.

Thank you to all those people who contributed over the years at various stages to what has been a very long haul.

It is now a waiting game to hear if we are successful, but the maximum we shall wait is 6 months.

The latter stages of the long haul, which were adding delay to the final application to the Big Lottery Fund, have fallen into place in the past few months: SSE offered us a grid connection in June 2009 which we accepted in July, after consultation. Then the Development Trust set up a trading subsidiary, Stronsay Renewable Energy Limited, in August, which was formally incorporated by Companies House on 3 September 2009.

Another change to the plans which will help us in the long term was the decision to join up with other islands for the turbine build project management. Stronsay Development Trust and its trading subsidiary will seek value for money project management for the building of the turbine by joined up working with: The Eday Partnership, The Island of Hoy Development Trust, Rousay, Egilsay & Wyre Development Trust and Shapinsay Development Trust and their respective trading subsidiaries.

Our partners:	HIE Orkney	Orkney Islands Council
OCPD	The Crofters' Commission	Communities Scotland

The total budget for our proposal is **£1,403,600** capital and **£132,000** revenue costs. It is hoped that **£400,000** of the capital and **£99,000** of the revenue costs will comprise of grant funding from the Big Lottery, and this will be supplemented by a lesser grant from the Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme. The project will also require loan funding of about **£935,000** for the balance of capital and revenue costs.

What happens next?

- We hope that we are successful with Lottery funding and then we can work to get the remaining finances in place.
- Stronsay Renewable Energy Ltd will expand its board to include directors with business expertise and with the help of Community Energy Scotland; a project management team will be employed for the turbine installation.
- Two new part time posts will be created on the island, a project liaison officer who will be the link between the project management and SRE Ltd, and a project outcomes manager who will be working with SDT and other community groups to deliver the projects made possible with the income from the turbine.
- Over the lifespan of the turbine, the profits of at least £2,000,000 will be used by the community

The full business plan is available in the Post Office for further information.

Thank you for your support

Yours faithfully

Julia Crocker
For Stronsay Development Trust.

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OCPD	The Crofters' Commission	Communities Scotland