

Scots Green Energy industry hails Government advisers backing for wind power

A new report published today (Thur May 19) by the Government's independent advisory body on sustainable development came out firmly in favour of onshore wind power.

According to the report by the Sustainable Development Commission (SDC), wind may even become one of the cheapest forms of electricity generation over the next 15 years

The report 'Wind Power in the UK' concludes that technological advances mean there are no limits to the amount of wind capacity that can be added to the country's electricity system, and states that to tackle the problems of climate change and energy security, wind power must be made to work.

Commenting on the report, Maf Smith, chief executive of Scottish Renewables, said: "The SDC report confirms what we have been saying all along, that onshore wind is essential if we are to tackle global warming and that it has a role to play in ensuring the lights stay on in the UK. It also demonstrates that wind farm development is essential for meeting the Scottish Executive's renewables targets and that the myths peddled by many protestors are baseless criticisms of a technology that can deliver thousands of skilled jobs to Scotland.

"We particularly welcome the report's analysis of some of the misconceptions about wind power and note the SDC's conclusions that the cost of onshore wind power is competitive, that it does not threaten the stability of the electricity network and that environmental effects of wind farms should be set against the impact of global warming on Scotland's landscape

and ecology."

'Wind Power in the UK' is set against the UK Government target to increase the contribution of renewables to UK electricity to 10 per cent by 2010 - with an aspiration of 20 per cent by 2020 - as part of efforts to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions while enhancing energy security.

However The Scottish Executive has set itself the further goal of generating 18 per cent of Scotland's electricity from renewable sources by 2010 and 40 per cent by 2020. The report aims to help policy-makers and planners balance genuine local concerns with wider environmental and social needs, so the benefits of renewable energy are realised through careful design and consultation.

Stop Press

Stoneflex URP

John Dominy of Stoneflex has just given me an up date on their 1% rebate on all orders placed by Corporate RIDBA members over the last year. As the year ends at the end of June 2005 he has not yet got the final figure but in the first 6 months of the year we earned a rebate of more than £500.00, soon we will know the final figure, but we can expect it to be over £1000.00. Once again thanks to John for this generous support for RIDBA.

John went on to tell me about the new machinery they have installed at their Dunkeswell Factory to increase the quality and range of steels and profiles they can offer and the planned expansion of production with a new plant in South Wales, to profile steel roofing and cladding sheets and fittings for the Welsh market. He will provide more details and information for a feature in the next issue of Countryside Building.



Reader Enq. 016



Reader Enq. 017