



Bro Dyfi Community Renewables Ltd

Unit 1, Dyfi Eco Park, Machynlleth SY20 8AX

admin@bdcr.org.uk

www.bdcr.org.uk

22nd October 2018

Dear Member

Autumn 2018 Newsletter

The summer is over, and the autumn gales have arrived, after what has been a summer of low windspeeds. Nonetheless, both turbines have been operating for most of the time. The Nordtank had some minor problems earlier in the summer, which have now been rectified, and at last, the V17 is back in service. Tim Brewer has steadily been resolving the teething problems following the complete refurbishment, and although the turbine is not yet quite as reliable as we would like, it is generating and has earned some income. The main problem yet to be resolved is to integrate the turbine control system into the remote access to the Nordtank,, allowing us to monitor performance of both machines via the internet. So far, to the end of September 2018, the Nordtank has generated 531MWh and the V17 18MWh .

The main reason for this mailing is to let you know about a forthcoming General Meeting. One of the main agenda items relates to some changes we are proposing to BDCR's rules. BDCR was set up in 2000 – 2002, and over the last few years, the Regulations governing how Co-operatives operate have undergone some significant changes, and we have to bring our Rules into line with the current Regulations. Sonia Kuznetsov, our outgoing Secretary, and Rachel Kennedy, who has taken over the role from Sonia, have worked hard over the summer, with help from Co-ops UK to align our rules with Co-ops UK's Model Rules, which have been agreed with the regulating body, the Financial Conduct Authority. Rule changes require the agreement of 75% of Members in attendance at a General Meeting, or have submitted a Proxy Vote prior to the meeting taking place. If you cannot attend the meeting, I would ask that you take a minute to fill in the enclosed Proxy Form and return it, or contact us at admin@bdcr.org.uk if you would prefer an electronic copy. If we do not already have your email address, we would be grateful if you could let us have it, as makes communicating with our Members much easier. More information about the rule changes that are proposed is enclosed with this letter.

The other Agenda item is to make a grant to Ecodyfi. This is something that BDCR has done each year at the AGM, as such discretionary donations are allowed for in the 'Application of Profits' Clause in our Rules. It is in recognition of an initial grant of £43,000 that was raised for BDCR by Ecodyfi, at a time when legislation limited to 20,000 the number of shares that any Member (whether a person or an organisation) could hold, and Ecodyfi was already a Member with a substantial shareholding. Due to a complete mix-up by the Directors in preparing for the AGM in June this item was omitted from the agenda. The Directors are therefore using the opportunity of this General Meeting for the Rules Change to rectify this situation, with apologies to



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Ecodyfi. The minutes from the AGM in June (including a report from Andy Rowland of Ecodyfi) and the other AGM presentations are now available in the Members section of the website: www.bdcr.org

We'd also like to tell you about an exciting new initiative in Machynlleth that might allow Members who live close to Machynlleth to have their electricity largely supplied from the V17, and other renewable sources in the area, through a Local Energy Club. These have been pioneered by the National Trust and Co-op Energy, in Bethesda, and Co-op Energy are keen to replicate this elsewhere. Unfortunately, due to technical and regulatory constraints, both generators and consumers have to be connected to the same electricity substation, so at the moment, this will only be available for Members who live close to Machynlleth, though other Energy Clubs are also being set up elsewhere in the UK (see the Energy Local website – details below). One of the first tasks for the Energy Club is to establish whether there are sufficient potential consumers who would be interested in the idea. If you are interested, please register your interest at www.energylocal.org.uk - just scroll down the list and click on "Machynlleth – Corris, Pennal and surrounding area". We are in dialogue with the Energy Club regarding the possible purchase from the output of the V17, so watch this space !

Best Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rod Edwards'.

Rod Edwards
Chair BDCR