

Esk Energy (Yorkshire) Limited – Whitby Esk Energy

Letters of Support, June 2011

Letters of support have so far been received from:

CO₂Sense

East Cleveland World Development Movement

Friends of the Earth Whitby

Kirkbymoorside Environment Group

Scarborough Borough Council's Sustainability Officer

Whitby4Sustainability

Whitby 10:10

Yorkshire Energy Partnership

Esk Energy (Yorkshire) Limited
Endeavour Partnership,
Westminster, St Mark's Court
Teesdale Business Park
Teesside
TS17 6QP

20th May 2011

Dear Caryn Loftus,

CO2Sense Letter of Support: Whitby Esk Energy Project

Please take this letter as confirmation of CO2Sense's support for the Whitby Esk Energy project. Whitby Esk Energy is a community hydro project situated in the North Yorkshire Moors National Park which if progressed, will deliver community benefits and sustainable low carbon energy generation.

CO2Sense is a not for profit environmental consultancy offering financial support for low carbon projects. Over the last 2 years CO2Sense have invested in a number of community owned renewable energy projects which are now operational in the Yorkshire and Humber Region. CO2Sense are keen to continue this support going forward.

It is understood that this particular project will not only engage the local community in renewable energy but will also generate a sustainable revenue stream which will be reinvested in other community projects in the local area.

Whitby Esk Energy have been successful in securing planning permission for the project and we understand that once the project has achieved financial close the installation of the turbine will commence.

CO2Sense hope to have the opportunity to assess an application to further support the Whitby Esk Energy project through the provision of capital funding from the CO2Sense Investment Fund in the near future. This investment is likely to be in the form of a revenue share arrangement.

If you would like any further information on this project and CO2Senses involvement please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,



Victoria Maynard
Project Manager- Renewable Energy Funding Programme





To whom it may concern

East Cleveland World Development Group (WDM) offers its support to the Whitby Esk Energy project for the small scale 50KW hydroelectric turbine in the River Esk.

The East Cleveland WDM has been campaigning on climate change for a number of years, in particular in relation to the effects on poor countries in the south. These countries are suffering disproportionately from climate change whilst not having been responsible for emitting the greenhouse gases that have been greatly responsible for the changing climate. From melting glaciers in the Andes and severe flooding in southern Africa to sea level rises for poor island communities, the social and economic consequences are severe for the poorest and those least able to cope. We are presently campaigning for the World Bank/IMF to make grants rather loans to poor countries to help them deal with the adverse effects of climate change and for the new technologies required.

For that reason we are fully in support of projects in this country which produce renewable energy and help decrease our emissions of carbon dioxide. We are pleased to support the local community group in managing the project and see this as a concrete example of how we can work together to bring about change that will benefit us locally, but also be of benefit to poor people through the world. We are also pleased to see that income from the project will be spent on other local projects to develop further renewable energy supplies. Our group wants to help young people understand the complex rules that govern our globalised world and how these affect poor countries and we very much support that this project aims to involve young people through development of 'green' apprenticeships with local colleges.

We support the Whitby Esk energy project in its share issue and will be happy to publicise this among our members and supporters.

Clare Churley
Secretary
East Cleveland World Development Group

<http://groups.wdm.org.uk/east-cleveland/>

Please reply to:
Ian Clark,
9 Normanby Terrace, Flat 1,
Whitby, YO21 3ES



**Friends of
the Earth**

Esk Energy (Yorkshire) Ltd
c/o Caryn Loftus
Heatherley, Dikes Lane
Great Ayton
North Yorkshire
TS9 6HG

15 April 2008

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to offer my support, and that of my local group, for the Esk Energy hydroelectric project.

This is exactly the sort of initiative Friends of the Earth has been pressing for over the years.

As a nation it is necessary to reduce our emission of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, much of which comes from power generation. The bulk of this in England comes from burning coal and oil.

Another thing not often considered is that some 30% of all carbon-based fuel burnt is wasted on the sheer overhead of generation and transmission on the National Grid. A kW of electricity generated locally doesn't just save a kW of coal or oil, but a substantial proportion more which comes about from generating that electricity at remote power stations.

I am glad Esk Energy has been able to persevere in the face of ignorance and inexperience with schemes like this on the part of authorities with a say in the matter. Local generation of electricity from wind and water makes sound economic sense not just in saving carbon dioxide pollution, but in helping to sever this country's reliance on a near monopoly by major international companies, transporting fuel from politically unstable regions of the world, that instability arising directly out of the demands of supplying Western nations like us with oil. It is essential that pioneering ventures like this of Esk Energy, holding out such promise for the future, be not throttled at birth by red-tape, not to mention unregulated competition from heavily subsidised traditional power sources like coal, oil and nuclear power.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Clark
Whitby & District Friends of the Earth

Whitby & District Local group

Telephone 01947 ~~605043~~ Email earthspotty@gmail.com Website www.foe.co.uk

820278

Kirkbymoorside Environment Group

A TRANSITION TOWN

2nd June 2010

Dear Caryn

Members of the KMEG are delighted to hear about your plans to install a hydroelectric turbine at Ruswarp, and we would like to offer our wholehearted support.

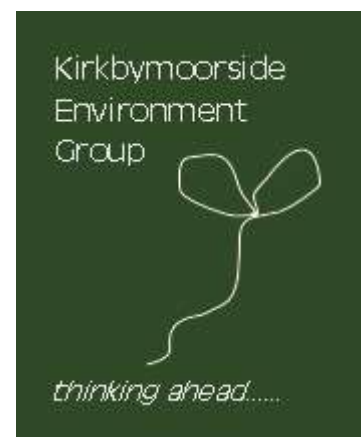
It is good that the whole thing is being managed by the local community, and also that it is planned to involve some educational possibilities for local young people to learn more about green energy.

We in Kirkbymoorside are also planning to launch an energy co-operative to install PV panels, so we are much in sympathy with your fund-raising efforts, and wish you all success.

All good wishes

June Emerson (Chairman)

Caryn Loftus
Whitby Esk Energy



Scarborough Borough Council
Human Resources and Performance
Services
Town Hall
St Nicholas Street
Scarborough
YO11 2HG

Contact: James Bridges (Sustainability Officer)

Tel: (01723) 23 24 34
Fax: 0870 191 39 97
e-mail: james.bridges@scarborough.gov.uk

Head of Human Resources
Services: Roger Kaye

Web site: www.scarborough.gov.uk

Monday 16th May 2011

Dear Sir / Madam

Support for the Whitby Esk Energy Project: installation of a small-scale hydroelectric turbine at Ruswarp in the River Esk

I refer to the business case by the Esk Valley Community Energy Group to install a 50kw hydroelectric turbine, using an Archimedes screw, on the River Esk at Ruswarp.

This small-scale hydro project is an excellent example as to how a community group can engage with the localism agenda to manage and to take forward a local project using its own initiative, inspiration, leadership and project management skills and to work with partner organisations to bring about change.

This particular project has a number of positive implications for taking forward Scarborough Borough Council's (SBC) sustainability agenda. For example, the project will provide five clear benefits for delivering on sustainability:

- First, the project will deliver on local and national environmental policy because it will produce renewable energy thereby reducing carbon emissions. As is laid out in SBCs Sustainability Policy (2009), Sustainable Development Strategy (2010-2013) and Sustainable Community Strategy (2010-2013), the Council has made a commitment to reduce carbon emissions within the Borough. For example, the Council is keen to support community led initiatives that provide an opportunity to reduce carbon emissions and that promote renewable energy in the community.

Alongside SBCs own commitment to carbon reduction, the national Climate Change Act 2008 states the 80% greenhouse gas emissions reduction target by 2050 against a 1990 baseline; and there is a national target to supply 15% of the UK's energy consumption from renewable energy by 2020 as set out in the 2009 Renewable Energy Directive. It is through local action that the national carbon reduction context can be achieved. For example, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for tackling climate change agreed in March 2011 between the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC) and the Local Government Group, highlights the need for local authorities to work with and to support their local communities to deliver on actions locally that also reflect national carbon reduction priorities. The MOU also stipulates the need for local communities to take an active role in tackling climate change.

- Second, the project will help to improve energy security for the Borough because the hydro powered energy generation will help to reduce the Borough's reliance on foreign



fossil fuels that will run out. For example, an independent study of flows at the Ruswarp site estimated that 200,000 kilowatt hours of electricity will be produced annually, equivalent to approximately the electricity needs of 60 houses. Should this type of scheme be replicated a number of times it can be seen how such a project can help to facilitate the energy security for the Borough and contribute to its 'energy mix'.

- Third, income from the project will be invested to develop further local renewable energy supplies as the project aims to produce a regular income to finance continuing carbon reducing initiatives over 25 years. For example, the income will be used to develop and operate a grant system towards the installation of solar, wind and water energy generating systems in the Esk Valley.
- Fourth, sustainability is about taking forward the low carbon sector, and the hydroelectric turbine project will help to achieve this aim because the surplus money incurred by the project will be invested to involve young people in 'green' energy apprenticeships with local colleges and to promote green energy educational programmes. SBC is particularly interested in supporting and promoting low carbon skills in the local community.
- Finally, the hydroelectric project will set an example of good practice to the wider community in taking forward environmental initiatives. The Council is always looking to support sustainability projects that can be rolled out as examples of good practice to other communities in the Borough of Scarborough to encourage the up-take of similar schemes. As such, SBC is keen to work with the Esk Valley Community Energy Group so that their experiences can be disseminated to other community groups across the Borough.

A feasibility study by MannPower Consulting Ltd (May 2007) has assessed the implications for the locality of the hydroelectric turbine project and has taken into account a range of environmental considerations including fish protection, flood protection and pollution control. The report notes the need for the Esk Valley Community Energy Group to work with the Environmental Agency as the scheme design is progressed to ensure environmental considerations are captured.

Given that the hydroelectric turbine will facilitate the objectives of SBC to reduce carbon emissions, promote renewable energy, deliver on the sustainability agenda, be a locally based project and environmental considerations will be taken into account, taking forward this project would be very welcome.

I would like to offer my strong support for this application.

Yours sincerely



Dr. James Bridges,
Sustainability Officer,
Scarborough Borough Council



From Whitby 4 Sustainability – from Wynne Jones Whitby Project Co-ordinator

Whitby 4 Sustainability, a small, local group within the town, is pleased to support the work and development of the Esk Valley Energy organisation. The organisation's objectives, strategic planning and sustained commitment over the last few years have presented a commendable model for local initiative.

Formed to represent the Borough in a project introduced by York University with the Stockholm Institute, under the auspices of the Yorkshire Energy Partnership in association with the Energy Saving Trust, Whitby 4 Sustainability have a brief to address key green resources, including energy, food, transport, water and recycling. A reduction of the carbon footprint – in a regional programme with other Yorkshire groups (York, Richmond, Selby, Pickering, Ripon, Harrogate) is the aim of our project.

Your initiative with the development of Whitby Esk Energy is a wonderful example of the potential of local self-help and community power. Addressing global issues "in your own backyard", and to effect a contribution to the agenda of change, is a model which will have a dual impact. Essential to contribute to measures effecting a reduction in carbon emissions, but pioneering and strongly committed in being prepared to be in the vanguard to open doors to transition. Nationally, plaudits for a green agenda are not yet secure so you are adventurous and brave to take this step to secure your financial base. But a green agenda is the only strategy to support a healthy and aspiring society. Your management and business plans present a balanced and thoughtful response to the climatic issue. Your strength is that you have the advantage of a keystone: a local enthusiastic team who are prepared to plan and drive this initiative through.

Whitby 4 Sustainability supports you and welcomes the opportunity to liaise with you, in the future. As discussed, we are pleased that you are taking the opportunity to discuss your scheme at our open Public Forum on 24th June at the Coliseum.

Best wishes to Whitby Esk Energy.

Yours sincerely,

Wynne Jones

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Wynne Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

19/5/11

Whitby 10:10 Campaign
c/o 28a High Street
Ruswarp
YO21 1NH

To Whom it may Concern

We applaud the vision and effort of the locally based Esk Energy Group in developing a viable small scale hydroelectric turbine project to be sited in the River Esk.

At Whitby 10:10 we are committed to promoting the exchange of green ideas for the reduction of our community's carbon footprint. The Energy Group's proposal is an example of how the local community working together can make a significant step to achieving this objective

Apart from the obvious impact of the project in reducing carbon emissions it will provide the opportunity to raise awareness of what is possible at the local level and a basis for green educational programmes. There is no substitute for a concrete example to promote learning and discussion.

We are happy to give the project our full support and wish the Esk Energy Group every success in their endeavour.

Yours truly,

Tricia Griffin and Keith Mollison
On behalf of Whitby 10:10 campaign



Your local partner for a sustainable future

Yorkshire Energy Partnership Ltd
 20 George Hudson Street, York YO1 6WR
 Tel: 01904 554406 Fax: 01904 554412
 Email: advice@energypartnership.org.uk
www.yorkshireenergypartnership.org.uk

To whom it may concern

Yorkshire Energy Partnership wishes to offer its support to the Whitby Esk Energy project.

Yorkshire Energy Partnership (YEP) works to inspire people, businesses and communities to take positive action on climate change. We are recognised as a key organisation specialising in regional and sub-regional co-ordination and delivery of sustainable energy measures.

We believe that the Esk Valley Community Energy group is fully capable of reaching the project's full potential and have a real impact on the local community.

We welcome projects which are managed by local community groups, who are in the best position to know the needs and interests of their neighbours and surrounding areas. Projects such as this can act as a 'flagship' to demonstrate to others how efforts to tackle climate change are underway in their local area. This can also encourage homeowners to look at their own energy use and act to reduce it.

One of the projects that YEP manage, the Energy Saving Trust advice centre, is here to give free, impartial, expert advice on how to reduce energy use and reduce fuel bills. We are keen to support residents of the Esk Valley should they want to know more about renewable energies.

Please let us know if we can help further,

Yours sincerely

Rosie Hughes
 Sustainable Communities Project Co-ordinator