



## NEWS FROM ERG

### ERG SUBMITS APPLICATION FOR SANDY KNOWE WIND FARM TO INCREASE GENERATING CAPACITY

**EMBARGO: Monday 17th September 2018**

Sandy Knowe Wind Farm received planning consent in November 2016 for 24 turbines of 2MW of capacity. Each turbine will have a tip height up to 125m, with the project having a total installed capacity of 48MW.

Given the advancement in technology, ERG is now looking to increase the total capacity of Sandy Knowe Wind Farm to upwards of 81.6MW. The physical aspects of the upgraded Proposed Development would remain the same, with the same turbine numbers, location and height as already consented by Dumfries and Galloway Council. An updated application was submitted to the Scottish Government in August 2018.

ERG are working in partnership with Burcote Wind on the Sandy Knowe Wind Farm project, a Scottish renewables company based in Dunfermline, who have an active portfolio of projects throughout Scotland.

Regarding the Sandy Knowe Project, ERG is using a fully merchant power price business model that does not rely on the need for support to deliver the project. The planned investment in Scotland follows an organisational restructure and rebrand in March 2018. ERG has a strong commitment to supply-chain partnerships in the markets in which they operate and strives to assure that local communities benefit directly from its projects.

ERG have signed a shared ownership agreement with the communities surrounding Sandy Knowe for 4.17% of the annual net profit of the project, the equivalent of one turbine. ERG have also developed a bespoke procurement partnership that will afford Dumfries and Galloway based companies a 5% price advantage when tendering for contracts to supply goods and services on the wind farm.

Mark Evans, Head of UK Business Development at ERG said: "If the updated application is consented, we will generate a greater amount of green electricity within the existing footprint, with no increase in turbine numbers or physical size. The higher capacity would increase community benefit from £240,000 per annum to around £408,000. There would also be an opportunity for greater community ownership and capital investment."

Mr Evans continued: "We are very keen to engage with the local communities. With this in mind, I would encourage as many local people as possible to come to our public information days in Kirkconnel and Sanquhar to hear more about our plans."

ERG are hosting two Public Information days to update the local communities on the progression of the project to date. They will be in the Sanquhar Community Centre, Sanquhar, Monday 24th September, 2pm - 6pm, and the Hillview Leisure Centre, Kirkconnel, Tuesday 25th September, 2pm - 6pm. These events will be open to the public.

## ENDS

Released by

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

ERG Group is an European renewable power producer, based in Italy, which has been operating successfully in the energy sector for 80 years. In recent years ERG has completed a radical transformation of its business, transitioning from being a major privately-owned oil company to being a leading independent operator in the market for electricity from clean, renewable sources.

ERG is active in seven countries, owning and operating wind farms with a total installed capacity of 1,8GW across Europe, including in the UK, France, Germany, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria and Italy, where ERG is now the leading wind energy operator. Furthermore ERG is among the top ten onshore wind energy operators in Europe by installed capacity. Listed on the Milan Stock Exchange, ERG is also active in the production of power from water (527 MW), sun (90 MW) and thermoelectric sources with low environmental impact (480 MW).

ERG's new Edinburgh office is located at 1 St Colme Street, EH3 6AA.

ERG Website: <http://www.erg.eu/home>

Sandy Knowe Website: <https://sandyknowewindfarm.com/>

ERG 2018 - 2022 Business Plan:

[http://www.erg.eu/documents/10181/360691/ERG\\_Presentazione\\_BP+2018\\_22](http://www.erg.eu/documents/10181/360691/ERG_Presentazione_BP+2018_22)