

Business Plan: Ecodynamic Community Benefit Society Limited

23rd January 2013

The Painswick Inn, Gloucester Street, Stroud, GL5 1QG UK

www.ecodynamic.org.uk

The Ecodynamic Vision

Ecodynamic has been founded to support the biodynamic, organic, low carbon community. Ecodynamic will acquire and manage a portfolio of renewable energy assets, through community share issues and project finance. Surplus profits will be reinvested back into biodynamic, organic and sustainable community initiatives. The society will be run democratically drawing on the seven core principles of the cooperative movement; voluntary membership, democracy, economic inclusion, independence, education, cooperation and concern for community.

Ecodynamic will pioneer an innovative model of how communities can invest in themselves for long-term environmental and social benefit. The society empowers our communities to promote and develop sustainable, viable practices within the core themes of:

- Energy
- Food
- Water
- Land access

To achieve our vision, we aim to:

- Develop renewable energy projects using local installers
- Raise investment capital via share offers to our biodynamic, organic, low carbon community – locally & nationally
- Secure long term income streams via the Feed in Tariff Scheme

Development Strategy

The Society will take a low-risk approach to investment and intends to only raise member share capital as required for specific project acquisitions and developments. This should enable the Society to preserve net asset value and pay a fair rate of interest on shares once all the funds required are invested in a specific project.

Ecodynamic plans to expand its portfolio of assets to ensure a robust revenue stream, enabling the society to provide long term support to its community. The primary focus of project acquisitions will only target renewable energy technologies with commercial track record to minimise development and operational risks. Projects to be considered for acquisition will be:

- Post planning, with full land lease and network connection offers
- Where the developer and principle contractor have strong track record
- Where the society is able to make a tangible local benefit

The society may also aid and lead the development of community projects if risks are deemed reasonable, and where the financial liabilities will not undermine the society's core finances. All

acquisition proposals will be evaluated, in-depth by the management team, who may elect a third party consultant to conduct due diligence if the project is deemed of sufficient scale or risk.

Money, except for working capital, will only be raised for projects earmarked as ‘investment-ready’ with the intention that a short lead time to generation and revenue phases will ensure an efficient use of investor-members capital.

The first acquisition, Croft West turbine is intended to be operational by April 2013, and will be the foundation of the society’s assets. Upon completion of Croft West, the society will begin reviewing additional projects which maybe suitable for acquisition. It is the intention that a second wind turbine, ranging from 250kW-500kW is acquired within a twelve month period from completion of the Croft West project.

Management

The Ecodynamic management team are motivated to build and support community benefit projects. The team has significant experience covering community project development, co-ops, business development, renewable energy, investment banking and business accountancy. The founding directors are:

Robin Evans is a financial risk manager for an international investment bank. Prior to this he managed a wide range of portfolios across multiple asset classes for German, Swiss and US financial institutions. Robin studied Biodynamic Agriculture at Emerson College in 2008. He is a director of the Biodynamic Land Trust and the Treasurer of Tablehurst and Plaw Hatch Community Farm Cooperative. Robin lives on a farm in East Sussex where he and his partner have established the International Foundation for Equine Assisted Learning.

Martin Large is a director of Stroud Common Wealth Ltd, founded in 1999 to develop co-operatives, small businesses and community land trusts. He provided technical assistance to the Fordhall Farm community buyout in 2005 - 6, helped set up Gloucestershire Land for People CLT, and was the chair of the CLT National Demonstration Project 2007 - 9. Martin is also a Director/founder of Stroud Woodlands Co-op, a director of Stockwood Community Benefit Society Ltd and a founding director of the Biodynamic Land Trust. Martin is a founder publisher/director of Hawthorn Press Ltd, and is a visiting lecturer at the University of Kent.

James Mansfield holds a first class, M.Eng Renewable Energy from Exeter University. He founded the Green Exchange Network (GEN) in 2010 to focus on alternative financing models for low carbon community energy projects. He has conducted commercial research and feasibility studies for clean power generation across the UK and worked on utility wind farm operations. James is a Co-founder and director of Gen Community, a low carbon, social impact Community Benefit Society.

Farimah Englefield, Ecodynamic Society Secretary, AAT & BSc Maths, financial administrator for Hawthorn Press. Hon.Treasurer, Minchinhampton Charitable Trust.

Legal Structure

The legal form utilised by Ecodynamic Community Benefit Society is that of an Industrial & Provident Society (IPS), run for the benefit of the community to provide services to people other than its members. The structure enables the society to operate democratically and efficiently, keeping costs low without compromising quality of service. The society is registered with the Financial Services Authority under reference number: 31937R