

Press Release: 19th May 2007.

North Wind Associates Ltd.

A new multi-dimensioned Wind Energy Consultancy will be launched in time for this week's All-Energy Conference, 23rd – 24th May, at the Aberdeen Exhibition & Conference Centre: -

North Wind Associates Ltd, based in Stromness, Orkney, will offer the full range of professional services required for the development of Wind Energy Projects, with a special focus on the needs of the growing number of independent and community project springing up in the Highlands & Islands.

North Wind's Directors include leading figures in the fields of Engineering, Law, Finance, & Procurement.

Heading up the team in terms of public profile is the **Rt Hon Jim Wallace QC**, retiring member of the Scottish Parliament for Orkney, former Leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats, Deputy First Minister and Minister for Enterprise. Apart from his long standing interest in the Industry, Jim will be developing a special expertise in the vital contractual issues associated with site development, turbine supply and warranty.

Engineering expertise will be provided by **Richard Gauld**. An environmental engineering graduate, a professional designer and a member of the Institute of Measurement and Control, Richard is the proprietor and Managing Director of Orkney Sustainable Energy, and has been responsible for designing most of the wind energy projects in Orkney, with further success across Scotland. Richard has a proven track record in planning, design, development and operations over the last two decades, and has completed projects in locations as diverse as Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom.

Financial planning and business advice will be the province of **Alistair Gray**. A Finance graduate and Chartered Accountant, Alistair was a main board director of HIE between 1997 & 2003. He is currently Managing Director of the

Family Jewellery business, Ortak, has active involvement in a number of Orkney wind turbine developments, and sits on the board of the European Marine Test Centre.

Mike Craigie's achievements at CESS (Combustion, Energy & Steam Specialists Ltd) are something of a local legend. Returning to Orkney in 1995, Mike quickly established CESS as one of the leading international valuation, marketing and project development companies in the surplus power plant field. CESS won the Queen's Award for International Enterprise in 2004. Mike's expertise in the field of Procurement will address what is perhaps the number one challenge facing the Wind Energy Sector in the north, today.

Speaking at the Weekend, **Richard Jenkins**, North Wind's Co-ordinator and spokesman said: **"What we have here is a team of four first class professionals covering key areas of Engineering, Law, Finance, and Procurement. Individually, each has an outstanding record of achievement; together, they have an unparalleled experience of economic development in the Highlands & Islands. We are available, individually, or as a team, to help with planning, procurement, construction, operations and trouble-shooting, in the Wind Energy Sector."** –

North Wind Associates Ltd can be contacted at:

www.Northwindassociates.co.uk or through the Orkney Sustainable Energy stand at the All-Energy 2007 Conference.

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