

Western Morning News

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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT THEIR CREDENTIALS

Date : 12 Nov 2004

The WMN asked for a statement from all the members of the BWEA who also sit on the Renewables Advisory Board.

We received the following replies:

DAVID WILLIAMS OF ECO2:

"During my career I have built the world's largest straw-fired power station, the world's first fluidised bed poultry litter-fired power station, the world's first tyre pyrolysis project as well as undertaking the largest private placement in renewable energy with venture capitalists in 1998.

"I therefore sit on the Renewables Advisory Board because I am one of the few people worldwide to have developed, built and funded most renewable energy technologies and I also have unique experience in biomass.

"I am deeply concerned that you should be trying to remove the ability of Government to draw on commercial expertise and to potentially block practical measures which ensure that renewable energy is deployed. This appears to be taking place against an anti-windfarm stance on your part.

"I am a known promoter of technologies other than wind and I share your concerns that other renewable energy technologies need to be deployed as part of an overall solution to our targets. The focus on wind is nothing to do with the membership of the board but is a recognition of the fact that it is cheap and proven. In a market where all technologies get the same price, the cheap and proven technologies will always win.

"If the Western Morning News wants to genuinely promote a balanced portfolio of renewable energy technologies, I would be pleased to lend my support to any campaign aimed at both the public and government. This can only be achieved by identifying the specific funding needs of individual technologies and to then ensure that the money is made available. More importantly, the deployment of any diverse mix needs to public and media support.

"In view of the fact that I am well known as a supporter of emerging technologies and that my role on RAB is to help with their deployment, you will be misrepresenting the situation if you claim that membership of the BWEA in my case makes me biased for wind technology."

ALAN MOORE of NPOWER:

"I retired from the post of manager director at npower renewables in May,

although I retain some advisory links with the company. As my title implied, I was responsible for all renewables and under my leadership the company invested in a wide range of renewable technologies eg hydro, onshore wind, offshore wind, biomass, as well as activities promoting marine technologies. Npower renewables continues to invest in these areas under the new managing director. I believe you will find that most of the BWEA members you mention in your note have a direct interest in more than one renewable technology."

CAMBRIAN CALEDONIAN:

A spokesman said: "His (David Williams') appointment to the Renewables Advisory Board is a personal appointment recognising his long experience and tenure in the industry and was made prior to the establishment of Cambrian Caledonian. It would therefore not be appropriate for me to make comment about your further questions."

DALE VINCE OF ECOTRICITY

"If you were the DTI and you wanted to assemble a team of experts to advise you on how to meet renewables targets, to identify barriers and opportunities, would you not recruit experts with actual experience of the issues, and would you not recruit them from the fields that had most relevance?"

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY:

"The board provides advice to government on a wide range of renewables issues. It's perfectly understandable that experts on renewables are drawn largely from the renewables industry. Nor is it surprising that the board includes representatives from the wind industry.

"Wind is the most economically viable form of renewable generation at this time, and is expected to provide the bulk of our ten per cent renewables target by 2010.

"The board also contains representatives from other key sectors of the industry, including wave, tidal, solar, hydro and biomass, and these are likely to play an increasingly important part of our energy mix.

"As with all public bodies, the Board is subject to the Nolan procedures and the Cabinet Office code. An open process inviting applications was undertaken in autumn 2002 and was publicised through the DTI website. Individual companies and trade associations were notified of the advertisement. The application process and method of advertisement was fully in accordance with Cabinet Office guidelines.

"The 18 individuals suggested for membership represent those candidates that the selection panel felt were necessary for the Board to act effectively given the broad range of interests in the renewables industry. Individuals were considered on their experience and skills not on the organisation they represent. All the major technology sectors are represented and the candidates have strong backgrounds in manufacturing, services, R &D and finance."

TOMORROW: Developer speaks up for 'green' power of wind

11 'APPOINTED' MEMBERS FROM WIND INDUSTRY

Date : 12.11.04

Robert Hastings, vice-president of Shell Wind Energy Ltd. (BWEA member) Bob Leicester, sales manager of NEG Micon. (not listed as BWEA member)

Alan Moore, former managing director of National Wind Power (BWEA member), and chairman of the British Wind Energy Association

Dr Chris Morris, commercial director of Wind Prospect. (BWEA member)

Dr Brian Smith, head of projects of Scottish and Southern Energy plc. (BWEA member)

Dale Vince, managing director of Ecotricity Group (BWEA member)

David Williams, of Cambrian Caledonian. (BWEA member)

Doug Coleman, managing director of United Utilities Green Energy. (BWEA member)

Gearoid Lane, head of electricity supplies of Centrica Energy. (BWEA member)

Jason Scagell, head of E.ON UK Renewables. (BWEA member)

David James Williams, managing director of Eco2 Ltd (BWEA member)

OTHER APPOINTED MEMBERS

Dr Tariq Ali, research director, Imperial College

Tom Delay, of the Carbon Trust

Dr Jeremy Leggett, of Solar Century

Ray Noble, Government liaison officer, BP Solar

Simon Roberts, Centre for Sustainable Energy

David Still, DTI renewables advisor

Dr Patricia Thornley