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1st December 2008

Dear Mr Allison,

Consultation on the Framework for the Development and Deployment of Renewables in Scotland

I am responding on behalf of the British Hydropower Association (BHA) to the consultation on the Framework for the Development and Deployment of Renewables in Scotland.

The BHA is the trade association for the UK hydropower industry. With around 100 members, the Association represents a wide range of interests: consulting engineering, design, manufacture, investment and operation, and specialist service providers. The BHA represents generators from small owner-operators to large UK companies.

We believe that the existing contribution of hydropower and its potential contribution to new generation, system security, skills development and exports has not been properly appreciated. *It represents 47% of the renewable electricity capacity in Scotland today.* The big advantages of hydropower – unobtrusive, benign, low maintenance, long-lived – has meant that it is all too frequently overlooked. We have set out the case for hydropower in previous consultation responses and I have attached a copy at Annexe 2

The BHA believes that the Framework offers an important opportunity to provide clear guidance for the sustainable development and deployment of renewable energy resources for the future, if properly integrated into overall energy and environmental policies. The Association's response to the specific questions in the consultation paper are attached at Annexe 1.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Adrian Abbott'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Adrian Abbott
Policy and Consultations Manager
British Hydropower Association