

# BHA Spotlight

ISSUE 2 • 2009

Hydropower - the pioneer of renewable energy



## Comment from the CEO



David Williams

We eagerly await the UK's strategy by the end of July.

The recession is yet to bite the hydro industry with continuing business for everyone although a bit more rain would be welcome!

European Union countries are rolling out their Renewable Energy Strategies which will culminate in plans next summer designed to meet the targets by 2020. We eagerly await the UK's strategy by the end of July and must not be too disappointed if hydro is expected to play second fiddle to some of the other technologies. In the preparation of the final plan we have the opportunity to convince our government that hydro has an important role to play in conjunction with other technologies and that the targets we set ourselves are actually achievable and are based on fact, not fiction. We will base many of our arguments on the EU Renewables Directive which "place obligations on member states to reduce the administrative burdens and other obstacles that have too often held back good renewable energy projects". The BHA is committed to continuing to debate and insist on equitable treatment in the consenting processes for hydropower and on areas where government appears to still have an unbalanced view on the importance of this valuable and significant renewable resource.

I hope to see you all at the AGM and BHA Conference in Liverpool on the 14th and 15th October!

David Williams, BHA CEO

# Hydro power -

the pioneer of renewable energy

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This newsletter aims at keeping members up to date with a range of news articles including updates on BHA activities

# Queen opens Glendoe as plans are unveiled to make Scotland 100% hydro-powered!



Glendoe

Scotland could be generating enough hydropower to power every household in the country in less than a decade.

Scottish & Southern Energy (SSE) have announced plans for two new large-scale pumped storage schemes in the Great Glen when the Queen officially opened SSE's £150m 100MW Glendoe Hydro Project – the first large-scale conventional hydro scheme to be built in 50 years.

The two proposed new pumped storage schemes would have an installed capacity of 300-600MW each and would produce 1,000GWh of electricity per year – 10 times the capacity of Glendoe. These would be the first to be developed in Britain since work began at the Dinorwig scheme in Wales – currently the largest in the UK – in 1974. Cruachan at Loch Awe, which opened in 1965, was

the last one to be built in Scotland, although 10 years later the conventional hydro scheme at Foyers on Loch Ness re-opened as a 300MW pumped storage station and produces 300GWh of electricity to help meet peak demand.

The sites for the proposed schemes have not yet been unveiled but the approval process is to commence shortly. A planning application is scheduled to be submitted in 2011. SSE is also submitting an application for consent to develop a 60MW pumped storage scheme at its existing Sloy hydro scheme at Loch Lomond, which would produce a further 100GWh of electricity.

## Ashden Awards Imperial College Conference

Copies of the slides used at the 2009 Ashden Awards Imperial College conference are now available to download on the Ashden Awards website (<http://www.ashdenawards.org/reports>) along with links to video footage of the entire event.

## Landmark decision wins appeal for hydro developer

The BHA is pleased to have been involved in assisting our member, Western Renewable Energy (WRE), in winning its appeal against a water abstraction decision for Tipton Rolling Mill hydro scheme in Devon.

Chris Elliott of WRE gives details of the appeal and some of the relevant remarks made by the inspector on it's website blog at <http://westerrenew.co.uk/blog/?p=92>. In it, he explains "The license as granted was for less than 50% of the volume applied for, and this made the project uneconomic. However, it was felt that a balanced decision was not made, and so WRE decided to appeal to test the policy."

In issuing directions to the EA to grant the license substantially as applied for, the inspector noted:

"Benefits for renewable energy of setting a Hands Off Flow at Q95 and allowing a higher maximum rate of flow are direct and clear... the case for a more restrictive approach has leaned heavily on arguments about up river migration of Salmon and Sea Trout. However linkage between facilitating up river migration with restricting water abstraction on the basis of hands off flow and through a limit on maximum flow is neither direct nor clear. Balancing a situation producing clear and identifiable benefits for generation of renewable energy against an alternative which has putative but not clearly defined benefits for up stream migration, my judgement comes down firmly in favour of the position taken in the original application."

The inspector continues "while I have been provided with a copy of the as yet unpublished draft Good Practice Guidelines, in view of the way the BHA has distanced itself from the contents, the weight that I attach to it is limited." He referred to the EA's application of these guides in this case as "a bludgeon: by that I mean an over-weight instrument, likely to have a poorly directed and uncertain effect".

Chris concludes that WRE are "very pleased with the outcome and look forward to realizing the full potential of this site."

This is a landmark decision on water abstraction licensing and we hope a clear message to any environment or other agency that it is the balance between the development of renewable energy and the protection of the environment which is paramount and that all conditions imposed upon a hydro developer can be backed-up by evidence of their validity.

David Williams, BHA CEO

# DULAS Scoops Sought After Award

Long-standing BHA Member, Dulas, Ltd, was crowned Company of the Year at the British Renewable Energy Awards 2009, rewarding their diversity as they provide solar DVD players and vaccine refrigeration solutions in Africa through to grid connected PV and hydro power in the UK. Dulas' clear focus and understanding of each of those renewable energy markets has assisted them in achieving this award.



Dulas receives their award

The Company of the Year award recognises the industry participant who has done the most to

advance the renewables sector and was presented to Dulas in the presence of Ieuan Wyn Jones,

Welsh Assembly Deputy First Minister and Jane Davidson AM, Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing.

thanking them for the part that they have played in Dulas achieving this status of best Renewable Company in the UK.

## New money for small-scale renewable energy



**New opportunities for householders and communities hoping to install small-scale renewables will be available from 1 July 2009. An additional £45m has been allocated to the Low Carbon Buildings Programme (LCBP) in order to support technologies until the introduction of Feed-In Tariffs.**

The programme will be open to all products and installer companies registered on the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS). Organisations may apply for up to 50% of the cost of installing approved technologies up to a maximum of £200k.

For more details visit [www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk](http://www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk).

Deputy First Minister, Ieuan Wyn Jones said. "The Assembly Government is totally committed to supporting the development and expansion of companies like these because our support is enabling them to make a real impact on climate change, which is one of the greatest challenges we face in the world today. We look forward to following the progress of Dulas and the other Welsh finalists as they continue to build an exciting future for us in 2009 and beyond."

Receiving the award has also rewarded Dulas' delivery of the Low Carbon Building Programme and the innovation that was the Low Carbon Partnership, which is still enabling installers access to DECC's Phase Two money for the public sector. This fund puts solar PV installations in numerous establishments including hospitals, schools and social housing buildings.

Dulas will be congratulating all the installers that work with them and

Immediate challenges include responding to the demand for biomass heating as the oil price continues to make a sustained gradual climb and interest in the technology exceeds this increase. Increased demand in micro generation is expected with the announcement of the feed in tariff in coming months.

Ian Draisey, Marketing Director, received the award and said, "It is great to be recognised by the British renewable energy industry and be rewarded by our peers. Although recognising Dulas' longevity in the renewable energy industry this wasn't a life-time achievement award, it was about being the best renewable energy company in the UK today."

For more information on renewable energy consultancy, planning and installations please contact Dulas on 01654 705000, email [info@dulas.org.uk](mailto:info@dulas.org.uk) or go to the website [www.dulas.org.uk](http://www.dulas.org.uk).

# All Energy 2009 and the hydropower contingency continues to grow!



The BHA exhibition stand at All Energy

The series of "All Energy" exhibitions and conferences held in Aberdeen continues to grow annually and every year brings an increasing scope of technologies and developments in the UK Renewable Energy sector.

Traditionally hydropower had not been well represented in the past as a result of the concentration on onshore and offshore wind development and the interest in newer technologies. This has slowly changed over the years, however, and this year we made a bigger splash with the BHA hosting a substantial stand with five companies sharing the space and exhibiting their wares. The companies were Hydroplan, MannPower, Rosshire Engineering, SM Seals and Weir Services. All reported brisk business for the two days of the exhibition and the stand was always busy. Other BHA members at the show were Spaans Babcock, SmartestEnergy, Gilkes and Tenmat

BHA organised a hydro workshop as part of the conference programme at which Charles Crewdson of Gilkes and Kieron Hanson of Hydroplan presented their views on the future development of hydropower worldwide and in the UK and what were the main areas which needed attention to address this potential. A lively debate ensued with some fascinating ideas emanating from the audience.

With the continuing progress in developing new hydro schemes of all sizes and types we look forward to an even greater hydropower presence at All Energy 2010. If you are interested in joining the BHA exhibition stand next year, please contact Ellan at the BHA.

## BHA Micro-hydro seminars 2009 - New Lanark, Scotland

We have continued our roll-out of this year's micro-hydro seminars with our second at New Lanark World Heritage Site in South Lanarkshire, Scotland.

The Heritage Site boasts its own 500kW hydro scheme with a 1931 Boving Francis twin blade turbine. The scheme supplies all the commercial buildings at the site, with surplus going to the grid. Annual electricity production is 2.7MW.

Another great turnout with over 70 delegates attending and the superb venue afforded space for a mini-exhibition. Speakers covered subjects such as licencing, equipment and the project lifecycle. SEPA announced its Guidance for Applicants on Supporting Information Requirements for Hydro Applications (a copy of this can be found on our website) and asked for feedback, which has been



New Lanark

received in abundance since the event.

BHA CEO, David Williams, said "This was yet another well-attended seminar, demonstrating the high level of interest in micro hydropower. I feel that we have helped to inspire new development in the region of high potential".

The BHA is grateful to all the speakers who make these events so successful and looks forward to their continued support at our future seminars throughout the year. See Forthcoming Events for details of the 2009 programme.

## UK engineering expertise insufficient

The UK government lacks sufficient in-house engineering expertise to fully exploit the UK's world-class engineering base, warns a recently published report by the UK parliament's Innovation, Universities, Science & Skills Committee. The report, Engineering: turning ideas into a reality, also says the government is failing to seek timely engineering advice and lacks detailed strategic planning for engineering policy.

More trained and experienced engineers are needed at all levels of

the civil service as many officials do not have adequate knowledge of the sector to decide who to seek advice from and when to ask for it. The report found that engineering advice is shockingly absent in the formulation of key government policies including renewable energy.

The Committee recommends a reorganisation of advisory structures, including the creation of a government Chief Engineer.

Source: IWP&DC May 09

## BHA Operations & Marketing Manager ties the knot!

BHA Operations & Marketing Manager, Ellan Parry, got married at the end of March this year to become Mrs Ellan Long (no change of email address as yet). Ellan and her husband, Tony, had a fantastic day would like to thank all those who sent their best wishes. They will be enjoying their honeymoon later this year.



Mr & Mrs Ellan Long



## New Role for Spaans Babcock Archimedean screws generating electricity

**In a world where durable energy and alternative energy resources are becoming more and more important, Spaans Babcock is also creating solutions to use natural resources to obtain energy. The screw generator has now been introduced successfully worldwide.**

The screw generator is being installed as a standalone generator. In this application the water flows downwards through the screw. This downward flow in turn causes the screw to rotate turning the generator thereby producing energy. This energy

can be used locally (i.e. within a water treatment plant, factory or dwelling) or can be sold to an energy company – often at a premium price.

The new product has already been successfully installed at a number of sites in the United

Kingdom. Spaans Babcock has already supplied one of the largest screw generators in the world; the twin screws generate up to 180 kW with a head of 10 metres. Over the next few months several more installations are scheduled worldwide.

Due to the environmentally friendly aspect and ability to be used in locations with relatively low head, the screw generator is proving to be an interesting way to generate durable energy. The

screw generator is very reliable, requires minimum maintenance, is fish friendly and a highly efficiency product.

Screw generators can be used in any situation with water flows and height differences, i.e. rivers, industrial effluent plants, within or at the outlet from water treatment plants.

For more information visit [www.spaansbabcock.com](http://www.spaansbabcock.com).

## Renewable Energy website offers free marketing opportunity for suppliers and installers

**Companies supplying renewable energy and energy efficiency products and services can promote their services free of charge and be recommended by their customers on a new website. YouGen (<http://www.yougen.co.uk>) uses social media to help people find out about renewable energy.**

A lively renewable energy blog adds to the range of information available, and enables both suppliers and those interested in getting renewable energy to add comments and join in and discuss issues they are interested in. Professionals in the microgeneration market act as YouGen Energy Experts, giving practical advice and information in their blogs.

“The seed of the idea for YouGen was born when we renovated our house and wanted to make it as low carbon as possible,” says YouGen founder Cathy Debenham. “We considered a wood pellet boiler, but found it impossible to assess the relative benefits (and enormously different prices) of the products quoted for that we gave up and bought a condensing gas boiler.

“While there was plenty of information about the different technologies, there was no advice to help us make the ‘commercial decision’. That gap is what YouGen aims to fill, by enabling people who have already got renewable energy to share their experience to help others.”

Installers, suppliers and manufacturers of renewable energy and energy efficiency products and services, as well as builders and architects specialising in the energy efficiency field, can add a free profile to YouGen. They can upload their logo and photos, and give details about the service they offer, and the products they supply. Visitors to YouGen will be able to email suppliers from their profile.

“Word of mouth is often the best way for businesses to get new customers,” adds Cathy Debenham. “As microgeneration and renewable energy are such new markets that it’s not always possible to phone a friend for a recommendation. YouGen will bring buyers and sellers together and offers the comfort of word of mouth on the web.”

Companies who want to add a profile can register now at [www.yougen.co.uk](http://www.yougen.co.uk). For more information contact: Cathy Debenham t: 01395 597879 or [emailinfo@yougen.co.uk](mailto:emailinfo@yougen.co.uk)

# RUSHLIGHT Cleantech Survey



The Rushlight Cleantech Survey ([www.rushlightevents.com](http://www.rushlightevents.com)) is a survey of clean technology development throughout the UK for the purposes of ascertaining, inter alia, the following:

1. the locations in the UK where there is significant clean technology development
  2. the types of technology being pursued and, perhaps of most concern, those areas that are not receiving the attention that they require
  3. what stage the development has reached
  4. what has helped in the development of the technology so far and what hurdles have had to be overcome
  5. what help is most needed now.
- The survey provides you with the opportunity to have your say and to be heard by those in government who direct policy. On top of that, all respondents will have the opportunity to receive free advice on legal, intellectual property, investor readiness, technical copywriting and incubator support, as well as free subscriptions to magazines, on-line information and a special price when entering the Rushlight Awards 2009 ([www.rushlightawards.co.uk](http://www.rushlightawards.co.uk)).

The Rushlight team is very keen for this survey to give meaningful results so that the key messages can be given to those that influence and direct regulations, legislation, funding and support. They would therefore like to encourage as many developers of clean technology as possible to take part and are offering the following benefits to all who complete the survey:

1. A free introductory telephone conversation with a leading

- firm of international patent agents with a cleantech capability.
2. A free introductory telephone conversation with a top international law firm.
3. A free investor-readiness assessment.
4. A free introductory telephone conversation with a cleantech investor.
5. A free introductory telephone conversation with a cleantech incubator.
6. A free introductory telephone conversation with a technical authoring specialist.
7. The opportunity for any key messages to be sent to the most relevant government department or organization.
8. A 25% discount off the cost of entering the Rushlight Awards 2009. Please go to [www.rushlightawards.co.uk](http://www.rushlightawards.co.uk) for further details.
9. Free one month trial to an online cleantech news and transaction database.
10. Free trial subscription to a magazine devoted to the cleantech sector.
11. A copy of the final report.

Make sure that your voice is heard and your region is well-represented and then enjoy these valuable benefits as a thank you.

Please go to: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=YcOsibSMng2oRD7oiqFM8A\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=YcOsibSMng2oRD7oiqFM8A_3d_3d) now and invest just 10 minutes of your time. The benefits should last a lot longer.

# SCOTLAND Review

It has been an exceptionally busy few months in Scotland. Whether it was the dropping of hydro CAR licensing charges up to the end of March or the increased interest in hydropower as a result of the publishing of the Scottish Government's hydro resource study last autumn, the hills are certainly alive with the sound of hydro!

The pace of development has picked up from the large (Glendoe being opened and the announcement of two proposed pumped storage schemes) to small (Roshven 550kW hydro opened in May) and this has created a lot of interest from within and outside the industry. BHA CEO, David Williams, chaired the opening session at the Scottish Renewables hydro seminar, "Using the resource", in Stirling in May, and a week later the BHA held a micro hydro seminar in New Lanark. Both of these seminars reviewed the process of developing hydropower resource in Scotland with input from the industry and agencies such as



Jim Mather opens Roshven Hydro

SEA and SNH, and were exceptionally well-attended.

The Scottish Government is keen to assess the support necessary to develop the available hydro potential after the main work from the FREDS (Forum for Renewable Energy Development in Scotland) Hydro sub group, which initiated the resource study and is now reporting on the results and what needs to happen next. The BHA and other interest groups were asked to report on what we considered to be the important priority actions. This has been debated at some length at various seminars and meetings since the beginning of the year so, with further input from members, we were able to submit a full report. This is available from the BHA.

## CAREERS

### SENIOR HYDRO ENGINEER

A major energy consultancy based in Leeds is looking to employ a lead designer on small and medium-sized hydro projects, or as part of a project team on major commissions. Responsible for planning and managing the delivery of the design elements of the project (including time and cost), either alone or through multi-discipline project teams.

Educated to degree level or equivalent in energy engineering or related discipline, the appointee will have or be working towards a recognised professional qualification and membership of Energy Institute and/or other appropriate professional bodies.

The successful applicant will have varied post-graduate experience in the renewable energy sector, the majority of which is in the hydro market; detailed knowledge of the management of hydro generation projects, both financially and technically; experience in design, contract and tender preparation, tender assessment, construction supervision and administration with regards to hydro projects; and will be able to demonstrate experience in hydro generation from sub 100kW to 1MW, including the commercial understanding of the project lifecycle.

For more information on this role, please call Greg on 0161 969 7234 or send your CV to [apply@consort-recruitment.com](mailto:apply@consort-recruitment.com).

# HYDRO DEVELOPMENTS....

## TAKE THAT! Settle hydro lifts off

Construction started on £300,000 Settle Hydro project, the first community owned hydro scheme in the UK selling electricity directly to the grid, on Monday 15th June and is scheduled to take 74 days.

An Archimedean screw turbine is being installed, which will generate electricity using water from the River Ribble at Bridge End in Settle. The project has the backing of Yorkshire Forward, Future Energy Yorkshire and 165 individual shareholders. Around £100,000 of the revenue towards the project has come from the sale of shares. By the end of October it will be producing clean, green, renewable energy, from a sustainable source, and at the end of every year there will be a fair division of profits between the shareholders and the community.

Opening the scheme could be Pop superstars Take

That! The chart-topping former boy band is to be invited to open Settle's new hydro-electric plant because band member Jason Orange is among the shareholders in the scheme.

Visitors are welcome to go along to the site during the building work and it is also understood that the project is being filmed through to its completion by the BBC. Interested parties will be able to keep up with proceedings by logging onto the [greensettle.org](http://greensettle.org) website, as well as Facebook in the near future.

Take That



Settle Weir

## Historical site generates its own hydro electricity

Local hydro expert and BHA Council member Terry Maguire of NHT Engineering has installed a 10kW hydro system on a historical site on the shores of Larne Lough, once home to two mills dating from 1798 and 1835.

The 10kW micro hydro system, funded by Northern Ireland Electricity's Smart programme and Northern Ireland DETI Reconnect scheme is built on the Taper length. Constructed to resemble the old mill which once stood on the same site, the turbine has a 10 meter head which produces an average of 126,000 kWh of electricity each year - enough energy to supply Terry's home and some of his office premises.

The hydro system is a hydropak - a micro hydro system which is pre-assembled and fully wired in the manufacturing factory, making it easily connectable on site. This system helps to reduce carbon emissions as it cuts the amount of vehicles transporting machinery between sites for installation and commissioning. Terry has built a turbine house using recycled bricks and cast iron windows to re-create the old corn mill which once stood on the same land.

"We have used materials such as the recycled Bangor Blue slate roof tiles to blend into the surrounding area."

He intends to demonstrate the hydro system for educational purposes, offering schools and community groups the chance to learn about this system in operation.

Northern Ireland Electricity's Smart programme is keen to offer support to those considering hydro systems and have funded five small scale hydro installations to date with five further grant offers made. The installed projects total 124kWe and are dispersed across the province from Omagh to Larne.

Delta Hamilton, from NIE Energy, recently visited the system and believes that hydro is the way forward for Northern Ireland.

"There is great potential for hydro generated electricity and this project will benefit the local community through the reduction of carbon emissions. A number of out of use hydro generating systems in Northern Ireland could easily be restored to become working installations".

If you would like more information about saving energy and renewable energy solutions for a home, school or business in Northern Ireland, check out the NIE Energy website [www.nie-yourenergy.co.uk](http://www.nie-yourenergy.co.uk).

R T Maguire, NHT Engineering Ltd



Terry Maguire shows Delta Hamilton from NIE Energy his hydro system.

HYDRO DEVELOPMENTS continued....

## Scottish Water unveils 1.9MW of hydro at treatment works



Loch Turret

Scottish Water has installed a new 500kW hydro turbine at its £30m water treatment plant in Perthshire.

The treatment works is currently undergoing a refurbishment and the new unit, located within the works itself and replacing one installed over 25 years ago, is currently being tested and will be commissioned later this summer. This and a second hydro station on the hillside, which is capable of generating 1400kW, will deliver enough electricity to power 450 homes.

Source: New Energy Focus 23/06/09

## New Abstraction License Applications for hydropower

- **2 June 2009: Esk Energy at the River Esk, Ruswarp Weir;** full licence to abstract water from the River Esk at Ruswarp Weir, Ruswarp, North Yorks, to be used for generating electricity through a hydro scheme. Two Archimedean screw turbines will be installed on the south bank of the river, with the water being returned downstream of the weir.
- **3 June 2009: Tintern Angiddy Project (TAP) at Angiddy Brook;** full licence to abstract water from Beaufort Pond Dam for a micro-hydro power station and a licence to obstruct or impede the flow of the Angiddy Brook at Beaufort Pond Dam in order to control the intake and maintain residual flow. A stainless steel Coanda intake screen and collection tank with a bar spacing of 1mm will be constructed across the width of the first two apertures within the Beaufort Pond Dam.

Details of new license applications are available on the EA website for a period for 28 days ([www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk))

## Fury over Rabbie Burns waterfall

A landowner has been accused of ruining the waterfall which inspired one of Robert Burns' most famous songs, by diverting water from the Birks of Aberfeldy for a hydro scheme. Opponents of the scheme claim that the plans will reduce the waterfall to a trickle and leave an eyesore concrete block in the middle of the beauty spot.



Rabbie Burns statue at the Birks of Aberfeldy

Birks of Aberfeldy

The Urlar Estate, which is diversifying from farm operation, has planning permission from Perth & Kinross Council for a 985kW scheme in the Site of Specific Scientific Interest. Councillors on the development control committee gave unanimous approval to the scheme and a licence was granted by SEPA. Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) backed the proposals as long as the turbine was switched off from mid-March to mid-May to protect the endangered cow-wheat. Rent paid by the Urlar Estate to the Council, owners of the Birk, could be ploughed back into the Aberfeldy community.

Councillor Ken Lyall said "We are crying out for good hydro schemes and I think this will be one we can be proud of".

Source: [Sundaymail.co.uk](http://Sundaymail.co.uk)

# Market Report



## CURRENT CONSULTATIONS

- **Members are alerted to the anticipated consultation on Feed-In Tariffs, which is expected to be published next month.** The BHA will be forwarding a summary of the consultation highlighting relevant points and asking for comments and feedback in order to prepare a response.
- **Don't forget that the Renewable Energy Strategy (RES) is due out at the end of July,** from which the Renewable Energy Plan will be developed and the BHA will be involved.

For more details, contact Adrian Abbott, Policy & Consultations Manager on [Adrian.abbott@british-hydro.org](mailto:Adrian.abbott@british-hydro.org).

The general economic gloom and erosion of industrial/commercial energy demand has continued to put downward pressure on the UK energy markets and there is little sign of this "bearish" sentiment changing. The recent hot weather, well above seasonal norms, has put a little upward pressure on power prices mainly in the within day and day ahead markets, however, the UK has generally operated with comfortable system margins of around 9GW for most of this period, with surprisingly good power plant availability. The short term hot weather effect has not rippled down to prices for future years unlike the situation three summers ago when sustained high temperatures affected plant availability and greatly increased energy demand leading to higher prices across all contracts. Oil prices, the historic driver for UK electricity prices further out, have been moving in the \$60-\$70 range throughout most of the recent period, with the spikes in power prices

corresponding with the highest oil prices. However, over the last couple of weeks oil has steadily dropped off and is now around \$64 bbl, which has had a knock on effect in both the power and gas prices. Going forward it is very difficult to judge where prices may go. There is certainly room for them to drop further, especially on the back of oil and continued economic uncertainty but with talk of a potential economic recovery during the latter part of this year confidence may be restored leading to increased demand over the winter. The political dimension can never be discounted and the current situation in Iran, being a major oil producer, could have a significant impact on the long term direction of energy prices. Being British, and therefore fascinated by the weather, we are also awaiting the general forecasts for the winter. Watch this space – hopefully there should be more clarity and direction by the end of the summer.....

Tim Foster, SmartestEnergy



## NEW MEMBERS

The BHA would like to welcome the following new members:

- **Mr Christopher Anderson:** Private membership: A private investor currently with interests in wind projects but looking to get involved in a community hydro scheme.
- **Ash Design & Assessment Ltd:** Correspondent membership: Landscape architects involved in environmental consultancy.
- **Berwyn Hydro Ltd:** Correspondent membership: Owner of a 240kW scheme in Wales.
- **C J Haughey Construction Ltd:** Company membership: Civil engineers embarking on their first hydro scheme, and supplier of permanent magnet generators incorporated into waterwheels.
- **Fountain Design Ltd:** Correspondent membership: Specialist engineers and supplier of permanent magnet generators incorporated into waterwheels.
- **Interliever Hydro Ltd:** Correspondent membership: Owner of a 500kW scheme in Scotland.
- **Mountain Environments Ltd:** Correspondent membership: Environmental consultants specialising in rivers; their use and protection.
- **Osspower Ltd:** Company membership: Scottish estate-based development company currently working on 4 small schemes.

# INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## Sarawak to lead in hydropower

Sarawak hopes to become a major hydropower player in the region when the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) is fully developed by 2030.

### SARAWAK CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT AREA



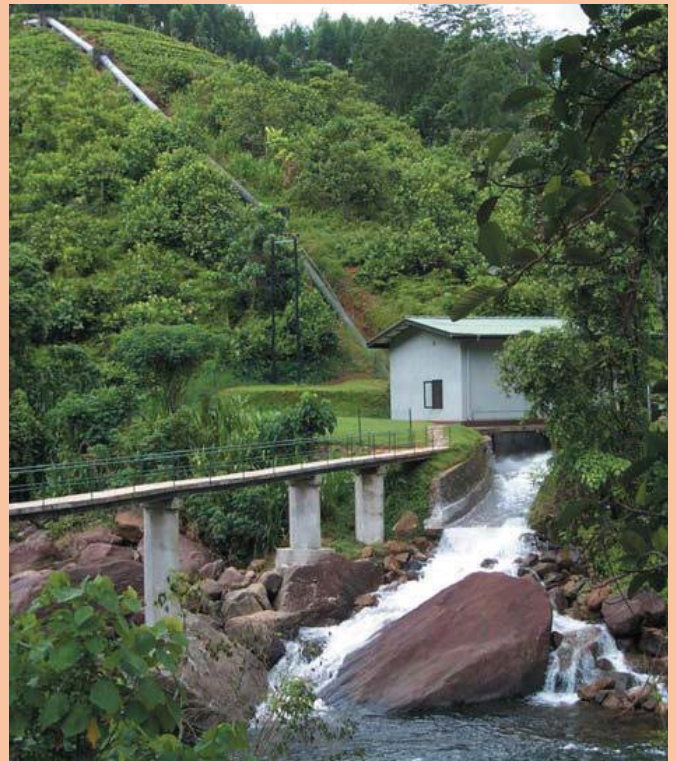
Sarawak has an abundance of natural resources and hydropower projects are high on the list of priorities. SCORE is located in central Sarawak, stretching 320km along the coast. 24 projects have been approved by the Regional Economic Development Authority (RECODA) to be implemented within the next five years. The projects would generate more than 20,000 jobs, not including

those created in the construction of basic infrastructure and factories. The biggest projects approved include an aluminium smelter plant and a polysilicon manufacturing plant.

RECODA spearheads SCORE's development, management and promotions, and serves as a one-stop agency to facilitate all investment activities in SCORE.

## Sri Lanka gets backing for new hydro

The development of small hydro projects in Sri Lanka through private sector involvement is to be helped by the International Finance Corporation (IFC).



Part of the World Bank Group, the IFC plans to boost the development of renewables by providing around US\$15m to support the Commercial Bank of Ceylon, which is seeking to invest in more small hydro, wind and biomass.

While there are some larger hydro schemes in Sri Lanka, most of the country's electricity generation assets are based on fossil fuels. This new funding would help to diversify the energy mix and assist with infrastructure needs in the region.

Source: IWP&DC 23/06/09

## Micro-hydro development in Indonesia

The Banjarnegara regency administration has announced plans to develop micro-hydro plants at 60 potential sites in the Central Java region. The area is in a mountainous region with lots of waterfalls. According to surveys carried out, the water never stops flowing even in extended dry periods. The administration is also testing a 2MW scheme supplying power to a village with 1,000 homes. The new plants are

expected to replace an existing hydro plant which relies on the aging 200MW Mrica Banjarnegara dam, which the government proposes to close because of uncontrolled sedimentation. Each new micro-hydro plant will cost Rp10bn (\$970k), so investors are being sought.

Source: The Jakarta Post 24/06/09

INTERNATIONAL NEWS continued....

## China's Environment Ministry halts construction on two new dams

**Construction has been suspended on two ambitious hydropower dams in the upper Yangtze River region.** China's

Environment Ministry said that the projects were illegal because they were started without the necessary environmental assessments. The dams are part of an estimated \$30bn project involving hydro stations along the Jinsha River tributary in south-western China, which environmentalists have said would damage the region's biodiversity. The ministry claims that two large state-owned companies, Huadian Power and Huaneng Power, started blocking the middle reaches of the river in January without approval.

China plans to build 12 hydropower projects along the



Yangtze River

1,423 mile-Jinsha River, with an estimated combined output equalling that of the Three Gorges Dam in central China.

Source: Associated Press 24/06/09

## Work starts on Pakistan's first private-sector hydropower plant

**Work on the first private-sector 84MW hydro project, located 7.5km downstream of the existing Mangla Dam in Mirpur, Azad Kashmir, is due to start. The local international financial institutions have given approval to Laraib Energy Ltd and Hub Power Company to start construction on the low-head run-of-river project located 120km from Islamabad.**

Joint funding has been received from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), the French Development Agency (FDA), the National Bank of Pakistan and Habib Bank Ltd. The World Bank's International Financial Corporation (IFC) may also participate.

The New Bong Escape project, to be completed under Build-Own-Operate-Transfer (BOOT), is among the first mega projects initiated in the private sector. It is expected that it will be completed within three years and cost around Rs25bn. The project will not only contribute to power availability but will also generate a considerable number of jobs both directly and indirectly.

Source: thenews.com.pk

## Storing Wind Energy

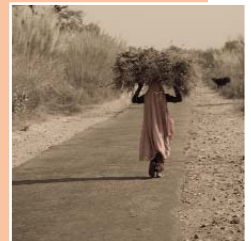
A swiss-Norwegian consortium, Norger KS, is planning to temporarily store excess German wind production in Norwegian hydropower plants, using a 570km power cable from Germany to Norway, which could transport up to 1400MW of electricity. Financing is yet to be put in place but planning requirements are currently being addressed. It is estimated that work could get underway by 2014.

Serving as a model for the project is the 700MW Norned cable between the Netherlands and Norway, which went into operation last year.

Source: New Energy Mo.3/June 2009

## India: Low rainfall cuts hydro generation

The Power Ministry in New Delhi has urged a curb on power usage as hot weather has boosted demand while hydro generation has declined because of a continued spell of dry and hot weather due to a delayed start of the monsoon. Monsoon rains are currently around 68% below normal. The Meteorological Department have estimated that the crucial June-September monsoon would be 93% of the long-term average – coming in below normal for the first time in four years. Hydropower accounts for a quarter of India's total power generation and water storage as 81 major reservoirs, which account for 72% of total reservoir capacity, has declined by almost 56%.



Source: Reuters 29/06/09

## Devon inventor brings hope for ocean hydro in the Middle East

**A Dartmouth man is hoping to make a commercial version of his wave energy machine, which uses a hydro turbine, in the Middle East.** Former garage mechanic, Alvin Smith, claims to have received some serious interest from a number of Gulf countries for his Searaser, which works using wave energy to pump water up to container

tanks, then releasing it to a hydro turbine.

Smith came up with the idea after developing a number of wave energy systems. The advantage of the Searaser is that there is a controllable supply. The system has been tested off south Devon and Smith has now patented the system, which he believes, with 11,000 machines, could provide enough power for UK domestic needs. He is now negotiating a contract to construct the first Searaser system in the Middle East.

Source: BBC News April 09

# Forthcoming BHA EVENTS 2009

## Other EVENTS for your DIARIES

### The 2nd ESI Africa Hydropower Africa conference

28th & 29th July – Johannesburg, South Africa  
www.esi-africa.com/hpa

### SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FAIR

12th September - Scottish Agricultural College campus, Auchincruive, Ayrshire  
Tel: 01292 521896

### IET DISTRIBUTED GENERATION SYSTEMS COURSE

14th September – Blythe, Northumberland  
http://conferences.theiet.org

### FT-WEC ENERGY LEADERS SUMMIT

13th-14th October 2009 – Millenium Mayfair, London  
20% off the price for BHA members!  
www.ftconferences.com/energy

### OFFSHORE GRID CONFERENCE

24th November 2009 –  
Edinburgh International Conference Centre  
www.ct-live.com



### ENERGY NOW EXPO 2010

17th & 18th February 2010 –  
Three Counties Showground,  
Worcestershire

Conference focusing on all  
aspects of renewable energy,

as well as practical demonstrations of products and services. Suppliers and developers will have the opportunity to exhibit over both days to increase market awareness and business levels. www.energynowexpo.co.uk

## TRADE LEADS

The BHA receives numerous overseas trade leads regarding opportunities for UK companies to develop their business on a global level. Details of these are circulated to Company, Principal Company and Sponsoring members, in line with our membership structure. Should you wish to be included in the dissemination of this invaluable information, please contact Nicki at the BHA – tel: 01202 880333 or email info@british-hydro.org.



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For more details of any of these BHA events, please contact us at info@british-hydro.org or tel: 01202 880333, or visit www.british-hydro.org.:

### BHA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) 2009



09.30 – 12 noon, 14th October – Art & Design Academy, John Moores University, Liverpool

BHA exhibition pavilion with participants: Hydroplan, Mann Power Consulting, Ross-shire Engineering, S M Seals, and Weir Power & Industrial.

### BHA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2009 "HYDRO IN THE DRIVING SEAT!"



14th & 15th October – Art & Design Academy, John Moores University, Liverpool

Our 8th Annual Conference aimed at the whole of the hydropower industry and its associated stakeholders. Sponsorship packages and exhibition spaces are available – contact Ellan for more details (tel: 01202 880333 or email: ellan.parry@british-hydro.org).

### BHA PAVILION AT HYDRO 2009



26th – 28th October – Lyon, France

UK Exhibition Pavilion and Networking Reception at this leading international hydropower conference and exhibition. If you would like more details or are interested in participating on the high-profile UK stand, saving money and time, please contact Ellan at the BHA (tel: 01202 880333 or email: ellan.parry@british-hydro.org). Spaces are limited and on a first-come, first-served basis!

### BHA MICRO-HYDRO SEMINARS 2009

September – Cheshire

November – Northumberland



## BHA Secretariat:

- David Williams, CEO
- Ellan Long (Editor), Operations & Marketing Manager
- Adrian Abbott, Policy & Consultations Manager
- Nicki Salmond, Operations Assistant
- Chairman: Andrew Frazer
- Vice-Chair: Chris Brett

