

Seminar Series Report Including key thoughts and themes

Europarc Atlantic Isles Section of the Europarc Federation Embracing Iceland, Republic of Ireland and the UK

When renewables met sustainables



Renewable energy in protected areas with a European perspective

Bath, England 31 January – 1 February 2006









Published by



c/o Helen Noble 12 Hammerton Drive, Hellifield, North Yorkshire, BD23 4LZ Tel: 07909 614512 or 07890 581706 email: hq@europarc-ai.org.uk

www.europarc-ai.org.uk

CONTENTS

1. SEMINAR SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION5
Emerging key thoughts6 From speakers and participants
Emerging key themes
Howard Davies
Protected Landscape Policy officer,
Countryside Council for Wales

2. SETTING THE SCENE

A world perspective Renewable energy: the need for
balance and quality
A call for protected landscapes to 'be the change' The Welsh perspective 9 Peter Ogden Director, Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales
Discussion

3. POLICY AND PRACTICE: A EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE

We are on the brink
Policy and practice in
the Netherlands14
Hans Schiphorst, Secretary,
Weerribben National Park
Problems become opportunities
Renewable energy practice in Spain15
Carles Castell Puig,

Diputacio de Barcelona	

Discussion	6	5
------------	---	---

4. POLICY AND PRACTICE IN THE UK

Think small and look for champions **Community renewable energy initiatives in England – an overview18** James Markwick , CRI Manager, Countryside Agency

Winning hearts and minds Renewable Energy planning: engaging communities
The power of the sea A tidal energy experiment and more!
Ingenious ideas go back to the future Dartmoor Wind Turbine Alternative Model
Creating market confidence Developing wood fuel markets in the Highland region20 Rebecca Carr, Wood Fuel Project Officer Highland Region Forestry Enterprise
Building in renewables Renewable energy and Supplementary Planning Guidance21 Brian Taylor, Policy Planning Manager Peak District National Park Authority
Making a difference Embedded green energy systems21 Neil Winfield, Tenant Renewable Energy Manager British Telecom
4. APPENDICES Seminar Programme

Delegates
Speakers
Europarc Federation
Europarc Atlantic Isles
Useful websites

This report is a digest of presentations. Full powerpoint texts from all speakers available at: www.europarc-ai.org.uk

1. SEMINAR SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Protected areas are not 'no-go' areas for renewables. That was the clear message from the dozen speakers at this well-attended seminar.

Instead they have a role to play at the forefront of the international debate on the future of energy. They can be real testbeds.

Experience from colleagues in Europe showed the important role landscapes have historically played in developing sustainable energy solutions. In the Netherlands, wind and biomass have long provided power; in Catalonia hydro electric systems have stood the test of time.

Throughout the seminar statistics revealed the performance to date as being a beginning. Key challenges need to be addressed:

- · Improving existing use of energy
- Playing a part at a national level not opting out of the debate
- Making sure new technologies fit within protected landscapes
- Deciding what kinds of change are acceptable in protected landscapes
- Linking the management of a resource for nature conservation and energy generation
- Getting the timescales right planning and looking ahead
- Working together to share what we already know and are doing.

The seminar was a start in raising and addressing these issues, especially the last. There was agreement from the floor in the closing discussions that working together is essential and will bear fruit.

At this time there is a sense of urgency to the debate which fuels the actions that protected areas want to be, and are, part of. It is important to share results, and to assess and plan the future. To develop, in the words of a participant:

"Our own route map for energy, relating technologies to place, character and resources".

Emerging key thoughts

From speakers and participants

We need to be realistic about our position in the scheme of things. We can't save the planet on our own. We need to provide a compelling economic example. *Campbell Dunford*

Protected Landscape Authorities need to produce clear guidance and specific criteria for assessing the impact of different types of renewable energy technologies on their landscapes and communities. Before doing this they will have to undertake an audit of their landscapes to decide their relative sensitivity. Only by doing this can the capacity for change be properly defined and public reaction gauged. Protected Landscape Managers need to be proactive not reactive and clearly some are already being so. *Peter Ogden*

This is a time to rethink all our assumptions.

For example, greenhouses used to grow vegetables in Holland were not environmentally sound. But new types store warmth in the subsoil water system, producing energy as well as producing vegetables. *Hans Schiphorst*

Nature conservation is a way to develop new techniques. Emerging technologies can be combined with nature conservation and be made viable – for example, biomass production. *Hans Schiphorst*

This is a big opportunity in protected areas and a chance to rethink our landscape and our land use. For example in the Mediterranean forests that were strongly managed until the 1960s but are now maquis rather than Holm oak forest. We can take advantage of the need for biomass and plan for public and private forest. *Carles Castell Puig*

We shouldn't just be looking at the big picture – we should be looking at the small picture and approaching this on the community level, where project champions are so important – protected areas themselves can be project champions. James Markwick

Community projects get beyond being

initiatives. We want people to own the project and embrace change. It is a personal and community responsibility – we need their hearts and minds – so that they believe they can make a difference. *Vicki Shaw* **Working together a lot could be achieved.** The resource that is out there is enormous. Certainly we could meet the 2010 target from tidal stream technology alone. An injection of real money is needed in order to make this commercially viable. *David Fletcher*

Local solutions work well. Like the small scheme of a local farmer who now makes more money from generating electricity from water (\pounds 20k) than he does from farming (\pounds 19k) annually. Protected areas do not need to abrogate responsibility as there are many ingenious ways to implement these technologies. *Peter Joyce*

We are developing and joining up the supply chain. This is a new way of thinking about wood for most foresters; a lot of forests are left in an unthinned and unmanaged state now. This is finding a way to manage it. We're still at the early stages – we're moving ahead rapidly at the moment. *Rebecca Carr*

Reorganising the energy hierarchy came from our work developing planning guidance on this subject: firstly reducing need, using more efficiently, and using renewables. Secondly, any continuing use of fossil fuels has to be clean and efficient. *Brian Taylor*

Energy reduction is the first step. We need to start looking at energy efficient appliances – and make them accessible and possible to buy. Short term thinking is the problem – we are talking to the government – you should be too! *Neil Winfield*

Protected landscapes should not be no go areas. They need to play their part. Lets use this experience of sharing our knowledge – and keep sharing. *Martin Beaton*

We need our own route map for energy, relating technologies to place, character and resources. *Alun Owen*

There is a huge emerging opportunity to link energy and biodiversity requirements, and to think within and beyond protected areas, even offering opportunities for new biomass. We need to take these messages back to our colleagues and share them. *Michael Green*

Emerging key themes

Achieving balance in practice

Howard Davies

Protected Landscape Policy officer, Countryside Council for Wales

A series of balances have emerged:

- **Demand-side management or generation** Resources must be given to saving as well as creating energy.
- Local need or national need The potential for tension e.g. the Welsh Assembly Government and lack of devolved power re installations over 25 MW.
- Form or function

Issues of appropriate design and quality versus quantity.

There is lots of work that protected areas can do here – also a more general issue of landscape function versus form as opposed to form and function in the design of buildings. We are increasingly concerned with landscape function – the example of the Netherlands and flood control. The issue of added value is important.

• Development or implementation

We hear over and over again that we need to increase the suite of alternatives – is this purely an issue of perception? Do these alternatives already exist? We have seen many today.

We must aim for the 'right technology in the right place' – protected area management plans can provide the policy framework for this. With plans now subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) we have a process that can really work through the issues and bottom out problems such as cumulative impact. Following the infraction proceedings against the UK government over out its transposition of the habitats directive we now have appropriate assessments applicable to management plans too. This will help direct the management of land for nature conservation and with it too, as we have seen, create opportunities for energy generation.

• Vision – the medium or the long term We need to act now but think ahead. We have long-term visions for our protected areas; why not make an effort to link our planning in this area into the long-term vision?

In doing so we must inevitably consider limits of acceptable change. Many of us live near, or work in category V protected areas. These are dynamic areas. They change. Let us be clear as to how we want them to change.

• Timing - too soon or too late

We have the SDF and the EAI network of members. We have the Europarc Federation. We have many good examples of best practice. Let's get that message out. As with any network, the impact will always be greater than the sum of its parts.

2. SETTING THE SCENE

A world perspective

Renewable energy: the need for balance and quality

Campbell Dunford Chief Executive, the Renewable Energy Foundation

I wish others got together to discuss this topic as protected areas are doing here.

There is both an opportunity and a danger. The subject has been hijacked by politicians. Climate change is happening – the question is what we can do about it – if anything. We could be already too late.

When people are frightened, they are easy prey to quick solutions. But renewable energy cannot in the short term replace mainstream energy production. It can contribute to the mix.

In a global context, western Europe's share of emissions is 16 per cent, China's is 14 per cent and the UK's is 2.3 per cent.

The 2010 renewable energy target of 33.6TWh would save 9.2m tonnes of CO2 but be only 0.0004 of global emissions – at a cost of £1bn pa.

China is predicted to need more and more electricity in the future. They are building power plants at the rate of every few weeks. Whatever we do in Western Europe, that is what is happening in the world. There is no point in hiding from it.

In 2020 China predicts that it will need 11,000 TWh – today it generates 1,800 TWh.

China's oil demand is also increasing, and we need to factor in India, Indonesia and Brazil – each of whom could by 2020 be as large a consumer as Western Europe.

So what can the Western European states do? We cannot make a quantitative contribution to the figures. We can perhaps provide a qualitative contribution if we can provide an economically compelling example. Given the scale of the problem, where should our assets be spent?

For example, wind energy. We need to understand what we're sacrificing for wind energy and ask if we are getting value for that sacrifice. Is the game worth the candle? It is difficult to predict the strength of the wind, which fluctuates and can drop dramatically. This makes it difficult – and expensive – to cater to. A study has shown that 24,000 wind turbines would remove the need for just two medium sized power stations.

German engineers concluded that wind should be regarded as a supplementary generator – not a replacement for anything.

Wind also needs high power, bigger powerlines with bigger pylons – twice the height of what we are used to. About \pounds 0.5 million per turbine would be needed for grid expansion.

The experience from Denmark, where they have more wind per capita than anyone else, is that it tends to blow at the wrong time, when they don't need it. They have to spend £100 million per year to sell their electricity – a hidden additional cost.

So we could be paying a lot of money for a small emissions reduction. We need to ask if non firm renewables are economically compelling. A German report found that "whereas the gross effect of spending money on renewables is always positive, the net effect may be negative." Large areas of northern Germany have been abandoned to wind farms.

If the 2010 target is met (75% wind) the UK will spend £1bn pa in subsidy to save 1.7% of UK emissions and 0.00004% of global emissions – with no significant firm generation for the host economy.

The DTI has commissioned a report on the impact of these forms of development on tourism and small businesses, which will be available in the near future. It has apparently drawn some clear conclusions.

We need to concentrate on the security and reliability of supply – renewables that are team workers and value for money.

We need to be realistic about our position in the scheme of things. We can't save the planet on our own. We need to provide a compelling economic example. What we can do is:

- Enhance demand side management
- Mitigate supply side
- Explore and use domestic and community renewables

- Be realistic about the role of renewables
- Work as a team on the security and reliability of supply
- Get value for money
- Explore export potential

One of the largest energy companies in this country will this summer showcase a domestic in -house generation system.

Sensible things like this have an export potential – the Chinese are keen to learn and take these technologies back. It is important to be clever and realistic. We should favour firm renewables such as biomass and tidal systems for electricity, biofuel (organic energy) for transport and heat and domestic renewables for energy efficiency.

A considerable contribution could be provided from tidal sources. Wave technology exists but nobody has the incentive to put money into it as yet.

Biofuels provide organic energy for light and heat. Five percent of our need could be made from the surplus grain we dump on world markets, which could be made into bio ethanol.

We come back to quality not quantity – if we go for quality we stand a better chance of making a difference. Technologies include ground source heating, solar and mini hydro.

Wind does have a role, but it has been over marketed to the detriment of other renewables. It is expensive and not a team player – but it can give supplementary energy and is free. Especially offshore wind farms, where wind speeds are higher and more constant. With wind we stand to sacrifice a great deal more without affecting what the rest of the world do.

I don't want God's wilderness to be turned into man's wilderness simply because we got the balance wrong and we didn't understand.

A call for protected landscapes to 'be the change'

The Welsh perspective

Peter Ogden

Director, Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW)

As an organisation which campaigns for the conservation and responsible stewardship of all the landscapes of Wales, the theme of the Conference is very relevant to our interests. This presentation however focuses on the particular relevance of the present renewable energy agenda to protected landscapes and considers this against the circumstances which have emerged in Wales over the last twelve months.

In many respects the theme of this conference reflects a growing tension: the relationship and interface between landscape traditionalism and contemporary environmentalism.

Gandhi once said "We must be the change we want to see in the world" His words are particularly relevant here. If we are to be the change we want to see in the world, how flexible are protected landscape managers prepared to be to achieve this?

If we are to meet the challenges of today, are those who are entrusted with the task of caring for protected landscapes prepared to reconsider some of the accepted norms about the role and purposes of these areas?

Some want to move mountains to promote renewable energy, whilst others will not budge and have already raised the barricades. The renewable energy debate is forcing us to revisit the way we value landscapes and to think hard about the types of changes we are prepared to accept within them. This is causing tension and conflict and also testing the internal consistency and compatibility of many environmental organisations, CPRW included.

Although CPRW supports all forms of renewable energy, we do not do so at any cost. If renewable energy is to be sustainable it must be achieved in the right form, the right scale and in the right place, and most certainly not displace something which is more important or valued. For CPRW, the renewable energy debate has highlighted how difficult it is to grapple with change in valued landscapes, be they of local, national or even of international importance. This has been the case especially where features have been introduced into landscapes which have no immediate relevance or relationship to their surrounding and bring only limited benefits to the places where they are to be located.

Onshore wind turbines are a classic example of this contradiction and it is not surprising that given the focus of this agenda in the uplands of Wales, the issue has become so confrontational.

Climate change is a priority for the Welsh Assembly Government and represents a key theme in their new Environment Strategy. But the position it has adopted in so far as how their renewable agenda can contribute to reducing the impacts of climate change has had a very narrow and rigid focus.

They are determined to promote a rigid programme of onshore wind schemes, almost to the exclusion of any other alternative renewable technologies. In so doing it appears that all the renewable energy eggs have been given the same windy label, date stamped 2010 and put in a single short term political basket. The Assembly has also decided, contrary to a significant body of public opinion, to go strategic and big rather than dispersed and opportunist in their quest to develop Wales's renewable energy potential. To do this they have decided to focus major onshore wind development in seven key parts of upland Wales, their Strategic Search Areas or perhaps what others might better describe as the Strategic Sacrificial Areas. Wales can now look forward to a new category of landscape, "turbinescapes".

The Welsh Assembly jury has effectively decided what is best for Wales is to trade 'inferior' landscapes for minute, almost non existent, gains in the reductions of CO2 emissions that wind turbines produce. We have been told that the inherent asset value of certain landscapes of Wales is less than their transfer value for power generation.

CPRW doesn't accept this proposition, especially when alternative ways of producing renewable energy exist and have been shown to be both available and more environmentally benign. It is clear for instance that the forthcoming 250 3-5 MW turbines which forms the core of the Gwynt y mor strategic offshore wind scheme of the coast of North Wales, will produce 10% of 2010 Welsh renewable energy target. Likewise the suggested offshore tidal lagoon in Swansea Bay estuary could produce 60% of Wales's 2010 renewable energy needs. Developing these in combination with the schemes already approved will significantly reduce and possibly even avoid the need for any further onshore schemes and hence the loss of further upland landscapes. It is not surprising that CPRW believes that the landscapes of certain parts of Wales are being unnecessarily hijacked.

Similarly we do not believe that a mentality which trades landscapes for the purposes of power generation is acceptable when little effort has been made to reduce energy wastage or promote the demand management of energy in a responsible way. If the £200K spent every year subsidising each upland turbine was used to implement domestic energy conservation, we wouldn't be here today debating the tensions I have alluded to previously.

Lessons from our experience over the last few years

Our experience in grappling with the renewable energy nettle in Wales has focused primarily on our challenges to the logic, content and evolution of TAN 8, the Welsh Assembly Government's Technical Advice Note.

This work has highlighted more than anything to us the fact that landscape is not on the political radar, nor even of particular strategic relevance. More disconcertingly it has been a real struggle to register its existence.

It is also perhaps interesting in this context, to remind ourselves that protected landscapes have been almost completely detached from the challenge of understanding how sensitive landscapes can be used for renewable energy generation purposes. This has been good in one sense, in that they have been saved from the blight of large wind farm schemes but on the other hand, their landscapes haven't been subject to scrutiny or had to prove themselves like the other landscapes beyond their boundaries.

This may not have helped their cause and may have isolated them strategically and certainly detached them unfairly from the renewable energy debate. In some quarters this has caused resentment and there are politicians who believe that protected landscapes should play their full part in the nation's renewable energy agenda. Challenges have been made that if wind farms have to be located in one part of Wales for the benefit of the nation then why can't they also be put anywhere including Snowdon!

Excluding National Parks and AONBs from scrutiny has certainly reinforced the view that all landscapes in protected landscapes are sacrosanct and landscapes which are non designated are not important. This is neither fair nor in the long term interests of protected landscapes. Either way the TAN 8 exercise has shown this is not the case. In a number of areas of Wales outside protected landscapes, non designated landscapes have been shown to have values comparable to those within designated areas. Landscape sensitivity is not just an issue restricted to protected landscapes.

The on shore wind debate has also increased everyone's understanding of the important relationship between the landscapes surrounding protected landscapes and those within them. In particular two themes have been highlighted: the significance of views out of protected landscapes and also the significance of views into protected landscapes from their immediate surroundings.

Views into protected landscapes across the Severn Estuary for instance were central to the decision of the Inspector to recommend refusal for the Scarweather sands scheme off the coast of Port Talbot in South Wales. This again suggests that protected landscapes managers should be more prepared to challenge schemes beyond their boundaries and press for the greater recognition to be given to visual buffer zones around the edges of their areas, than presently exist.

So what role should protected landscapes play in this new sustainable energy era?

Given the high profile which the renewable energy debate now has nationally, it is clear that it would be unreasonable to presume that 25% or more of Wales' land area should be excluded or isolated from having some form of sustainable energy role. If they were, this I fear would alienate many people still further in accepting the proposition that protected landscapes and National Parks in particular are exemplars of sustainable living.

So if commercial scale wind schemes are not acceptable, what contribution can our protected landscapes make? Do small scale community wind energy generation schemes have a legitimate role?

Most protected landscape Authorities in Wales have indicated they should, but will the same conflict arise even at this level? Will the promotion of such schemes by a Park Authority be acceptable to those who believe the technology is flawed? Will this agenda split communities in Parks as has already happened elsewhere outside them? If nothing else I would suggest that protected landscape Authorities need to produce clear guidance and specific criteria for assessing the impact of different types of renewable energy technologies on their landscapes and communities. Before doing this it seems obvious that protected landscape Authorities will have to undertake an audit of the landscapes within their areas to decide their relative sensitivity. Only by doing this can the capacity for change be properly defined and public reaction sensibly gauged. Protected landscape managers need to be proactive not reactive and clearly some are already being so.

If wind however is deemed to be totally unacceptable then what else might be acceptable? Protected landscapes will certainly need to be more encouraging of energy efficient developments. Existing design guidance and building standards will need to be revisited so as to provide greater encouragement for energy conservation measures in buildings. The three Parks in Wales, I know are already moving in this direction.

A key question for Planning Authorities in protected landscapes will likewise be whether the vernacular design principles they have steadfastly promoted for many years, can still be justified. Is it still appropriate to insist on traditional building forms if they are not energy efficient and rely on the use of some local materials whose production is energy hungry? How can Parks continue to insist on building in stone if no local sources exist and the energy implications of quarrying and transporting these materials from elsewhere are so huge?

By 2050, the Energy Saving Trust suggests that 40% of our energy needs could be met by home generation systems. How will the Planning Departments in protected landscapes react when the demand for small scale domestic energy generation becomes more widespread and its availability more cost effective? Positively I suggest. In Wales microrenewable energy schemes could soon be Permitted Development, are the Authorities happy with this change and how are they preparing for it? Protected landscapes clearly need to be ahead of the game and anticipate what all these changes will mean for their particular area. It is for this reason that CPRW is currently working closely with the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority to consider the implications of community scale energy management in that part of Wales.

Equally if fibre is considered the preferred option for renewable energy in the medium term, will protected landscapes become a greater focus for the production of the biomass needed to fuel this new generation of wood burning power stations? Is the expansion of alder and willow across the lowlands of the Gower or the hill slopes of Snowdonia likely to be acceptable? How will protected landscapes react if CAP reform encourages landowners to become biofuel producers and less economic farm land is converted into fields of yellow oil seed rape?

I believe that the reaction to and quest for alternatives to the present Government obsession with onshore wind generation is bringing all these agendas ever closer and protected landscapes ignore them at their peril.

Protected landscapes in Wales and National Parks in particular, need to consider their positions carefully and develop their own Renewable Energy Route Maps. Landscape scale visioning centred on renewable energy opportunities and constraints is needed sooner rather than later. National Park and AONB Management Plans are the ideal vehicle to do this and must grasp the challenge posed by this renewable energy nettle.

They need to balance very carefully the purist views and principles of landscape conservation and stewardship with the need to demonstrate that protected landscapes can add credits to the national energy balance sheet. Protected landscapes need to demonstrate clearly to politicians that even the most cherished and sensitive landscapes can make a positive contribution to energy management and not a block to it.

As Gandhi may have suggested... protected landscapes must be the change they want to see in the world.

Discussion

Chris Blincoe, Norfolk Coast AONB: Why the negative view? Would have liked to hear about some more of the positive aspects of other renewables.

Campbell Dunford: Criticism accepted – was trying to give the 'big picture' in half an hour.

Ted Johnson, Chairman, New Forest National Park Authority: We want to do our bit, but whatever we do on a global scale, our energies need to be directed at how to cope with the consequences... should we give up and prepare for the worst?

Campbell Dunford: Whatever we do will only make a difference if other people think it is worth doing. Our standard of living depends on energy. So first we need to save energy and use the skills that we have to develop new technologies – like tidal energy development using the skills of the offshore oil industry.

David Fletcher, Sustainable Development Officer, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority: It is a shame that the opportunity of devolved government has not led to investment in tidal technologies. The Welsh have not invested fairly – it has been too little, too late. There is a role for wind but it has been at the expense of other technologies. The debate has become so polarised and now we are in 2006, with four years to reach a conservative target – so the solution becomes a new generation of nuclear power.

National Parks have an opportunity to lobby government. We need to get closer together and think what we might do as a protected landscape family, because the wider issues will affect us all. We cannot hide from the bigger picture.

Campbell Dunford: Agreed. Other renewables have been starved of funding. There is much more that could be done to promote biofuels, bio ethanol and the more reliable tidal energy.

Christopher Gledhill, Chief Executive, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority: We could highlight the other renewable resources to people. We have used the Sustainable Development Fund to spur on community schemes. We need local champions to look at schemes and build them up from the grass roots – a strategy to encourage?

Campbell Dunford: The government is difficult to move, and the argument has become polarized – a

choice between nuclear power and wind turbines. But we can do things from the ground upwards. Our areas of custody are exemplars of what can be done and will have a gearing effect on public opinion – an unnaturally large effect.

Roger Emmett, District Councillor, Wycombe District Council/Chilterns: I am a farmer and there is a case for oilseed rape. Agriculture has a huge amount of set aside land it could be grown on. The government should be persuaded that this can be done from our landscape- it uses CO2 when it's growing.

Peter Ogden: This is difficult to sell to the landscape traditionalists. We all have a traditional mindset. Stewardship will take on a new meaning in the future. Perhaps we need to make these decisions then sell them back to the landscape protection organisations in a positive way. Then politicians will realise that protected landscapes are relevant to the sustainability agenda.

Ted Johnson, Chairman, New Forest: It is difficult because change will need to be made at the highest levels of political decisions.

Peter Ogden: Protected landscapes should be ahead of the game – it is the worst option to sit back in the wings because things will end up being forced on you.

Campbell Dunford: It is wrong to generalize. There are individual solutions for individual cases. We need to be ingenious – get ahead of the game and develop our thinking so that we can play a leadership role.

3. POLICY AND PRACTICE: A EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE

We are only on the brink

Policy and practice in the Netherlands

Hans Schiphorst

Secretary, Weerribben National Park Board

There is a lot going on at the moment, although we also have a long history of using sustainable energy in the Weerribben – our windmills!

Energy consumption is growing. Natural gas is the main contributor to energy use in Holland, as well as oil and some coal for electricity production.

But use of sustainable energy is also growing. The big growth at the moment is in biomass use – mainly palm tree oil from Malaysia at present – but is this sustainable? Waste material is also burned in plants and used to produce electricity.

We are trying to meet the Kyoto targets of 10 per cent sustainable energy by 2020. The greenhouse effect and the rising of the seawater levels are a hairy business in Holland! And as well as sea level rise the problem also comes from the large rivers on the other side of the country, like the Rhine. The flooding of Zeeland in 1953 was a major catastrophe. Today, if the water rises one metre and the flood walls break 14 million people will be evacuated and most of the country will be flooded.

The main sources of renewable energy in Holland are wind energy, solar energy and biofuel. The most productive sustainable energy at present is biomass (75%). Of that 60% is burning of biomass in electricity plants, 30% waste material from industry, households etc and 10 % is 'real' biomass plants. Coal fired operations have changed to biomass. Waste material is not tipped but used for energy production. Around 10 per cent of these plants are specialised 'real' biomass plants.

20% is wind energy. There have been long debates about whether wind energy is compatible with nature conservation. The big potential is in offshore wind farming.

Solar energy is small at present (5%). It had been thought that there was not enough sun – however that is changing – solar power is growing fast and evolving. Hydro energy is only two per cent due to the flat landscape. The public awareness of green and natural energy is high. People can choose 'green energy' or 'natural energy'. They pay a small extra amount – a lot of people are willing to do so and so the electricity company have to build more plants. At present they are building them in Spain to keep up with demand. The public are aware and are willing to put in more effort.

The policy within the main nature conservation organisations - the State Forestry Service and Natuur Monumentum (similar to National Trust) – is twofold. The forestry service has started to go into biomass – this has grown over the past year and a half and it has targets to meet. Natuur Monumentum takes more the line of awareness-raising projects related to the subject.

The state forestry biomass services include wood harvesting, reedpellets, woodchips and wood pellets. Big electricity plants have contracts with the state forestry to provide at least 50,000 tonnes of biomass. There is a big market, growing fast, for wood chips and wood pellets.

The Weerribben is man made – it was made from biomass production, old style. More and more the market for thatching could fade away –due to cheap imports - and this could be replaced by biomass production. Wetland requires maintenance and it has always been a problem dealing with the biomass produced – now this problem has become an opportunity.

So far pellets have been tried, which did not work – but a new experiment is to make peat-style bricks from the biomass.

A similar issue comes with meadow hay, which farmers no longer want, so at present we burn. We are investigating changing the hay to pellets.

The average age of a Dutch farmer is over 55, and many don't have successors. This means that the remaining farms get bigger, and there will be a surplus of arable land not used for farming. We could convert some polders into biomass producers and water storage areas, deliberately flooding them in a controlled way in winter in conjunction with biomass production.

Windmills – modern versions, tuned in to the type of the landscape, and small but effective types are used. Solar power is used to pump water for reedbeds too. In all, there are many possibilities and at the present time we are only on the brink.

Problems become opportunities

Renewable energy practice in Spain: a rural electrification project in Montseny Natural Park

Carles Castell Puig

Head of the Technical Office for Land Analysis and Planning, Natural Areas Dept, Diputacio de Barcelona



In Catalonia a general overview is that we rely on oil for our power – it provides half our consumption. Gas gives us 20 per cent, nuclear 25 per cent and three per cent comes from renewable energies.

The renewable energy is mainly hydroelectric from the Pyrenees (58%), which has a fairly long history. We also have started burning waste and woody biomass (together amount to 32%). Solar is 0.4%, wind is 1.9% and biofuels are 7%. Half the investment is going into production, and half is going into improving energy efficiency.

The Energy Plan for Catalonia 2006 – 2015 invests 9.956m euros into renewable energy, energetic efficiency, burying electric cable and rural electrification and gasification. The plan is for 11% of energy consumption to be renewable by 2015.



Between 2003 and 2015 eolic (wind) power will increase 1.226%, solar 2.163%, hydroelectric 10%, biofuels 1.611%, woody biomass 143% and wastes 35%.

To create woody biomass, there is a plan to set up ten big plants to use 200 000 ha of forests. We have had a problem of a lack of management of forests – this is an opportunity to manage them for biodiversity and well as biomass.

The Barcelona area is a great pole of economic dynamism in the Mediterranean area. It has a network of protected areas close to areas of high population, with one of the biggest population densities in Europe – 1,300 inhabitants per sq km. Agriculture as the primary sector is decreasing and there is an increasing demand for education, leisure and tourism from this land.

Montseny is one of the 12 natural parks of a network covering 1000 sq km of protected area, with a total budget of 30 million euros p.a. In Montseny Natural Parc we took forward a project to provide electricity to places without it. Cables would have a negative impact on the landscape in these areas. Analysis showed that it would be cheaper to produce electricity autonomously on the spot rather than connect them to the grid.

The conclusion was to promote a programme of electrification based on solar energy. We applied for European funding via the 'Program Thermie', with the Natural Park of Haute Provence in France.

Objectives:

- Promote sustainable energies
- Supply electricity in rural areas at lower cost and impact than traditional cable network
- Increase electric power with small changes
- · Enhance reliability and guarantee of service
- Standardize equipment and set up monitoring system.

Technical features:

- Elec supply 230 VAA/50 Hz
- Max power 4 kW
- Mean cost 20,500 Euros 22% to owner, 34% to THERMIE, 44% to Montseny NP
- Total investment 655,000 Euros

• Electrification of 32 isolated places (24 permanent homes)

We focused on electrifying the homes of farmers. It was successful – people living there are happy and feel comfortable with it.

Since 2000 we have carried on the project with our own resources, stimulating renewable energy technologies. We subsidise investments by farmers and regulate the new developments – they have to meet standards. Our role is to regulate and subsidise – we try to put examples into practice.





Discussion

David Archer, Snowdonia National Park: Was wind energy explored as an option?

Carles Castell Puig: It is not a good area for wind. Small windmills are used, and small turbines can be used in rivers.

Moya Turrell, Yorskhire Dales National Park: There are hay meadows in the Yorkshire Dales. Will the hay meadows in the Weerribben be used for pellets?

Hans Schiphorst: At present haymaking is only done as a nature conservation activity. Farmers don't want it. If we stop there will be a loss of biodiversity – we can go on as we are on the fringe of pelleting as a technique to get rid of it. But as we are in a water based system this is difficult.

Michael Green, Broads Authority: Has there been a full life scale analysis of pelleting?

Hans Schiphorst: It is an issue. Transport distances should be small but a recent study showed that only three per cent net result was lost due to travel – so transport isn't such a big problem when you examine the figures.

Questioner: Solar energy has issues when analysed on full life scale due to the energy used in the batteries.

Carles Castell Puig: The full life balance is negative, but there will be change. Solar cells are expensive in energetic and material terms but in the future there will be a chance to invent. In this case, because they were geographically distant the balance was in favour of solar.

Hans Schiphorst: This is a time to rethink all our assumptions. For example, green houses that used to grow vegetables in Holland were not environmentally sound. But new types store warmth in the subsoil water system, producing energy as well as producing vegetables.

Martin Beaton, South Downs AONB: How much profit is made by biomass? Activities will be driven by commercial decisions in the long term.

Hans Schiphorst: It is an investment in the future. We are near the break even point.

Carles Castell Puig: We assume that we need to provide an alternative for power.

Paul Esrich, Malvern Hills AONB: Solar panels were the most economical solution – would the government have paid if solar had been more expensive?

Carles Castell Puig: Our planning laws state that supply lines are allowed – but an analysis of the impact on nature is needed.

David Fletcher, Pembrokeshire National Park: Does the government provide financial incentives to householders? Are there subsidies?

Hans Schiphorst: There are national programmes – there is government support and a keen understanding that we need to do something.

Carles Castell Puig: There is a real commitment with different lines of subsidies.

Ted Johnson: New Forest National Park: Hans showed agricultural land which is performing effectively to produce biomass. Are we satisfied that environmental, social and economic needs are being met?

Hans Schiphorst: The production needs to be combined with nature conservation to be viable.

Ted Johnson: That equation needs to be pushed as part of the related debate.

Michael Green, Broads Authority: large areas thinking for nature conservation is well advanced in Holland – has this been linked to biomass production?

Hans Schiphorst: We are combining areas and this could be the future.

Carles Castell Puig: This is a big opportunity in protected areas and in the Mediterranean forests that were strongly managed until the 1960s – now maquis rather than Holm oak forest. We can take advantage of this and plan for public and private forest. This is an opportunity – a chance to rethink our landscape and our land use.

Chris Gledhill, Brecon Beacons National Park: How is this incorporated into the planning rules?

Carles Castell Puig: Through materials, forms and structures – there are many initiatives, including a separate plan for saving and recovering water.

4. POLICY AND PRACTICE IN THE UK

Think small and look for champions

Community renewable energy initiatives in England – an overview

James Markwick

CRI Manager, Countryside Agency

We shouldn't just be looking at the big picture – we should be looking at the small picture. In the Energy White Paper of 2003 the DTI said: "local communities should become producers as well as consumers of energy, establishing and benefiting from the local ownership of some forms of generation'.

The Community Renewables Initiative was launched in 2001, funded by the DTI, CA and Forestry Commissions, and managed by the CA.

The Community Renewables Initiative provides no capital funds – it is a network of advice and support which covers 70 per cent of England. It is completely conceived and led by communities.

Community renewables are defined as development of renewable energy technologies which deliver electricity or heat and which are devised and agreed by local people and organisations with the knowledge and support of stakeholders, and are environmentally sensitive and informed by the character of the countryside and locality and neighbouring areas.



Project champions are so important – protected areas can be project champions. Local support teams provide advice and co ordination to community groups; policy support and delivery; and play a catalytic role. They are proactive and capacity building.

To date 95 community renewable developments have been completed; 300 projects advanced and over 3000 enquiries made.

Winning hearts and minds

Renewable Energy planning: engaging communities

Vicki Shaw

Community Renewable Energy Officer

North York Moors National Park

The dCARB uk programme explores community led renewable energy projects on village, town and city scales. It is funded by Yorkshire Forward and the aim is to facilitate the development of community-led renewable energy projects in three communities in the National Park.

There's no magic wand or one way of getting started. We have a free rein to explore how to foster low carbon economies. If it can happen in a national park, then there's no excuse for anyone else.

We want people to own the project and embrace change. It is a personal and community responsibility – we need their hearts and minds – so that they believe they can make a difference.

So that this will not just leave initiatives, but so that the initiative will change attitudes and behaviour – which will take a long time.

I spent time talking to people and making contact – I got to know the community and issues. I discussed ideas and concepts and the project, and identified local concerns.

We formed two energy groups within communities and built trust, aiming to be useful and a valuable member of the community. It is important to find a focus, and realise that people have different motivations. Try to foster a proactive approach – don't get bogged down in being negative and reactive. To do this develop clear aims and outcomes.

The problem is the fear of the unknown – what is the right way forward? We need to welcome, encourage and support communities to embrace these new technologies and share experiences.

The results so far are three engaged communities; two groups; two action plans; local contacts and an example set.

The power of the sea

A tidal energy experiment and more!

David Fletcher, Sustainable Development Officer

Pembrokeshire Coast National Park

Tidal energy is potentially a huge source of power – this was a modest beginning, a small project part funded by the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park's Environment Fund, which has become the Sustainable Development Fund.

It was aiming to provide valuable information about the potential of generating electricity from a tidal stream of about two knots. The concept was of free flow hydro turbines grouped together in a modular system, to generate electricity with a low environmental impact.

It was not straightforward – so much torque was produced that it was impossible to find a gear box strong enough to stand it - in the end we used one from an enormous earth mover.

The trial collected data from this simple device which used the immense knowledge of the marine industry. One of the most complicated aspects of the project was that a self cleaning system would be needed.

It was a very exciting project, one that we hope would be enthusiastically supported by the Welsh Assembly Government, but unfortunately that has not been the case. We are however hopeful that a production model can be developed. A five turbine rig would provide enough power for St Davids, Britain's smallest city. An injection of real money is needed in order to make this commercially viable, which it could be – the Welsh Coast probably has the best tidal stream resource in the world.

Other technologies are the tidal stream rotor approach, the wave converter. There are many little organisations and projects working on ideas – if we work together a lot could be achieved.

The resource that is out there is enormous. Certainly we could meet the 2010 target from tidal stream technology alone.

It has a great deal of potential, and was a very interesting experience for a national park to be involved in this small and modest project.



Ingenious ideas go back to the future

Dartmoor Wind Turbine Alternative Model

Peter Joyce, Sustainable Development Fund Officer

Dartmoor National Park

Conservation in National Parks is not enough – we need living countryside with thriving local economies. The SDF aims to integrate the environment, community and economy with a range of projects.

Renewable energy doesn't have to mean monster wind farms. There are 11,000 ha of woodland on Dartmoor. Woodland has to be managed. It produces low grade timber. Hedgerows also produce renewable fuel. In Dartmoor we have used the Sustainable Development Fund to encourage this.

For example South West Wood Fuels Dartmoor Woodburning Cluster Project produces affordable stoves; reliable and local fuel supply chains; trained installers; public awareness and promotion.

Also 12 rivers have their source on Dartmoor – in the industrial revolution this was an industrial area, where the tin miners used water wheels. The wider thinking encompasses allowing hydro eclectic stations. One local farmer now makes more money from generating electricity from water (\pm 20k) than he does from farming (\pm 19k) annually. His scheme is small and local. It is these local solutions which work well.

For example putting wind power generators at the point where the power is to be used. Turbines like the Wind Dam turbines are not obtrusive; they sit on top of buildings.

Protected areas do not need to abrogate responsibility as there are many ingenious ways to implement these technologies.



Creating market confidence

Developing wood fuel markets in the Highland region

Rebecca Carr, Wood fuel Project Officer

Highland Region Forestry Enterprise

We are working with wood fuel markets because of climate change and renewable energy targets but also because here there is fuel poverty (households spending more than 10% of income on energy). Also for rural development: there is no economic use for low grade timber at present.

So far the focus has been on renewable electricity generation, but biomass is better for combined heat and power. The Scottish Executive has made a

commitment to support biomass.

Aims and objectives:

- Information, advice and support
- Develop six wood fuel clusters across Highlands and Islands
- Capital grants of up to 50% to wood fuel suppliers
- Capital grants of up to 50% to small and medium sized enterprises

We need to set up a supply chain on both sides of the equation. Foresters need to talk to people who want boilers – they need to connect. These small to medium scale developments are happening.

Logs, chips and pellets are used. Pellets are the most flexible. Most pellets used are imported but it is hope that they will be produced in Scotland soon. We are supporting clusters of wood fuel markets, and tapping into green tourism schemes.

We are developing and joining up the supply chain – awareness raising, giving advice and information, helping customers. Also working with producers this is a new way of thinking about wood for most foresters, and it's important to get the quality of wood right.

A lot of forests are left in an unthinned and unmanaged state now. This is finding a way to manage it. We're still at the early stages – but we're moving ahead rapidly at the moment.

We have enough demonstration projects to know what works and what doesn't. Making sure that projects are designed effectively is important – the boiler should match the fuel available, and energy efficiency should come with renewables. We need to develop local supply chains and installations should be close to the resource. The main aim is to create market confidence.



Building in renewables

Renewable energy and Supplementary Planning Guidance

Brian Taylor, Policy Planning Manager

Peak District National Park

Developing Supplementary Planning Guidance around this topic was a method of clarifying and building on the local plan. For example, many big mills have been converted to residential developments in the past few years – meaning lots of opportunities in alternative power terms.

The East Midlands Development Agency gave funding (£8K) and we added to that to bring in consultancy help in the form of a consortium of local universities. There was a six week consultation.

The guidance clarifies and interprets policy; it looks at the technologies available.

Different renewables suit different landscapes – we need to be creative and think about how they will apply in different situations. So it seeks to move from visually harmful technologies to innovation in materials rather than standard approaches, and highlights opportunities and constraints.

The document majors on policy and energy generation. We are looking to move ahead in innovation; paying attention to roof slopes and materials, getting people to think innovatively about texture and reflection – better siting and design – creative thinking about the landscape and its features – don't assume that landscapes are no-go areas.

The process was a good opportunity to reorganise the energy hierarchy. We can find solutions, by reducing need, using more efficiently, and using renewables. Any continuing use of fossil fuels has to be clean and efficient.

The consultation raised awareness, so from now on we are building on engagement that exists. The task is to get sustainable solutions that fit with the purposes of the national park.

In planning terms we will be looking for a proportion of on-site renewables. There is scope for individuals and householders to think what they can do without the need for planning permission. The National Park must keep an eye on the small changes whilst being proactive on the big picture. Looking forward, we will continue to lobby and put pressure on industry, promote the information and review the policy as a Supplementary Planning Document.

Making a difference

Embedded green energy systems

Neil Winfield, Tenant Renewable Energy Manager

British Telecom

BT's new green energy contract – a 2.1 TWh requirement – covers

- 950 GWh of new green wind, solar, hydro and biomass
- 1 TW of combined heat and power providing significant CO2 saving (typically 40%)
- Small quantity of 'brown' electricity

Energy reduction is the first step. BT has a range of energy reduction projects including consolidated offices, and fresh air cooling plants.

As a society we need to start looking at energy efficient appliances – and make them accessible and possible to buy.

BT is trying our best but it is a real uphill struggle. The short termism of the government is frustrating – we are talking to them.

The way forward is

- Embedded generation installed
- Innovate integrate intermittent renewables in steady state power systems
- Change mindsets

BT is considering:

- Biodiesel standby generators
- Photovoltaics at sites and on buildings
- Biofuel for heating
- Micro wind turbines
- Joint ventures with electricity suppliers

Initiatives include:

- Biomass units at research park
- Goonhilly Visitors Centre wind, PV and solar energy project.

APPENDICES

Seminar Programme

DAY 1 TUESDAY 31 JANUARY

- 17.00 Arrival and registration of participants
- 18.00 Introduction and Welcome to the Seminar Martin Lane Chairman Europarc Atlantic Isles

Session 1: Scene Setting Presentation and Discussion

Chairman Martin Beaton South Downs Officer

- 18.15 Renewable Energy 'The Need for Balance and Quality' Campbell Dunford CEO and Dr John Constable Renewable Energy Foundation
- 18.45 'The Welsh Perspective' Peter Ogden Director Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales
- 19.00 Questions and Discussion
- 19.30 Summary and Conclusion of Session by Chairman
- 20. 15 Dinner Zuccotta's Restaurant in the Hotel

DAY 2 WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY

- 07.30 Breakfast in Hotel
- 08.30 Arrival and registration of day participants

Session 2: Policy and Practice A European Perspective

- 09.15 Welcome to new participants Martin Lane Chairman EAI
- 09.20 Introduction to session Chairman Anita Prosser BTCV
- 09.30 'Policy and Practice in the Netherlands' Hans Schiphorst Weerribben National Park (NL)
- 09.50 'Renewable Energy Practice in Spain': A Rural Electrification Project in Montseny Natural Park Carles Castell Puig Disputacio de Barcelona (E)
- 10.10 Questions
- 10.40 Break

Session 3: Policy and Practice in the UK

Chairman Anita Prosser BTCV

- 11.00 Community Renewable Energy Initiatives in England 'An Overview' James Markwick CRI Manager Countryside Agency
- 11.10 Renewable Energy Planning : 'Engaging Communities' Vicki Shaw Community Renewable Energy Project Officer North York Moors National Park

- 11.25 'A Tidal Energy Experiment and More!' David Fletcher Pembrokeshire Coast National Park
- 11.40 'Dartmoor Wind Turbine Alternative Model' Peter Joyce Sustainable Development Officer Dartmoor National Park
- 11.55 'Developing Wood Fuel Markets in the Highland Region' Rebecca Carr Highland Region Forestry Enterprise
- 12.10 Questions and Summary
- 12.30 Lunch in Zuccotta's Restaurant

Session 4: Renewable Energy, Balance in Practice?

- 13.30 Introduction to the Session Chairman Howard Davies Countryside Council for Wales
- 13.40 Renewable Energy and Supplementary Planning Guidance'The Peak Park Experience'BrianTaylor Peak District National Park
- 14.00 'Embedded Green Energy Systems' British Telecom Neil Winfield Tenant Renewable Energy Manager
- 14.20 Panel and Participants Forum Moderated by Howard Davies
- 15.00 Summary and conclusions by Moderator and Lucy Galvin
- 15.30 Close of Seminar by Chairman Martin Lane
- 15.45 Departure

Delegates

Aitken Clark Ally Rood Alun Morgan Owen Anita Prosser Arnold Boer

Brian Taylor Campbell Dunford Carles Castell Puig Carol Huston Cathy Hopley Chris Blincoe Christopher Gledhill David Archer David Fletcher David Fletcher David O'Neil Dr John Constable Edward Holdaway Hans Schiphorst

Helen Noble Howard Davies Hugh Llewelyn

James Markwick John Brownscombe John Lanchbery Jonathan Richards Joy Tetsill Kelda White Kimmo Evans Lynette Leeson Lucy Galvin Lynn Kettles Malcolm Watt Martin Beaton Martin Lane Michael Green Mike Taylor Moya Turrell Neil Winfield Nina Ockendon Paul Ashton Paul Esrich Peter Joyce Peter Ogden Phil Holden

Chairman Countryside Adviser Countryside Officer Conservation Holiday Manager EUROPARC Treasurer/ Council Member Policy Planning Manager **Chief Executive** Council Member **Regional Park Manager** Project Officer Strategy and Projects Officer Chief Executive Head of Conservation Sustainable Development Officer **Regional Park Manager** Technical and Advisory Director Member Secretary, Weerribben National Park Board Co-ordinator Protected Landscape Policy Officer Team Leader. Landscape Conservation Branch **CRI** Manager AONB Lead Officer Head of Climate Change Policy AONB Planning Liaison Officer Planning and Policy Officer Countryside Adviser Assistant AONB Officer Journalist/Reporter Manager Planning Officer South Downs Officer Director Director of Research and Stragtegy Chief Executive Sustainable Development Officer Tenant Renewable Energy Manager Member **AONB** Manager Sustainable Development Officer Director

AONB Manager

EUROPARC Consulting Countryside Agency Isle of Anglesey County Council BTCV

EUROPARC Federation Peak District National Park Renewable Energy Foundation EUROPARC Federation Pentland Hills Regional Park Forest of Bowland AONB Norfolk Coast AONB Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Snowdonia National Park Authority Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park Authority Renewable Energy Foundation Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

Weerribben National Park Board EUROPARC AI Countryside Council for Wales

Defra

Countryside Agency Isle of Wight AONB Partnership RSPB Mendip Hills AONB Service Shropshire Hills AONB Countryside Agency East Devon AONB Countryside Agency EUROPARC Consulting Blackdown Hills AONB Cotswolds Conservation Board South Downs AONB Cotswolds Conservation Board Broads Authority National Association for AONBs Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority **British Telecommunications** Countryside Agency Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Malvern Hills AONB Unit Dartmoor National Park Authority Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales Shropshire Hills AONB

aitken.clark@btinternet.com alison.rood@countryside.gov.uk amopl@anglesey.gov.uk a.prosser@btcv.org.uk

arnold.boer@planet.nl brian.taylor@peakdistrict-npa.gov.uk ceo@ref.org castellpc@diba.es carol.huston@edinburgh.gov.uk cathy@lancashireruralfutures.co.uk chris.blincoe@norfolk.gov.uk patricia.doree@breconbeacons.org david.archer@eryri-npa.gov.uk DavidF@pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk david.oneill@clydemuirshiel.co.uk research@ref.org edward.holdaway@btinternet.com

JJ.Schiphorst@prv-overijssel.nl hrnoble@btopenworld.com h.davies@ccw.gov.uk

Hugh.Llewelyn@defra.gsi.gov.uk james.markwick@countryside.gov.uk johnbrownscombe@iow.gov.uk john.lanchbery@rspb.org.uk jrichards@somerset.gov.uk joy.tetsill@shropshire-cc.gov.uk kelda.white@countryside.gov.uk kevans@eastdevon.gov.uk lynette.leeson@countryside.gov.uk adrian.galvin@ntlworld.com lynn.kettles@devon.gov.uk malcolm.watt@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk mbeaton@southdowns-aonb.gov.uk martinlane.aonb@cotswold.gov.uk michael.green@broads-authority.gov.uk clmtaylors@screaming.net moya.turrell@yorkshiredales.org.uk neil.winfield@bt.com nina.ockendon@countryside.gov.uk patricia.doree@breconbeacons.org pesrich@worcestershire.gov.uk pjoyce@dartmoor-npa.gov.uk peter@cprw.org.uk phil.holden@shropshire-cc.gov.uk

Rebecca Carr Regina Green Richard Gunton Richard Partington Robin Toogood Roger Emmett Russell Monck Sarah Jackson Sarah Young Steve Trow Ted Johnson Mary Johnson Vicki Shaw

Wayne Evans

Wood Fuel Project Officer

Head of Park Services Senior Adviser AONB Manager District Councillor Planning Officer AONB Manager Associate-Environmental Planner Head of Rural and Environmental Policy Chairman Community Renewable Energy Project Officer

Energy Project Officer Estates Services Manager Highland Regional Forestry Enterprise EUROPARC AI North York Moors National Park Authority Countryside Agency South Devon AONB Wycombe District Council Hertfordshire County Council Mendip Hills AONB Service Land Use Consultants

English Heritage New Forest National Park Authority

North York Moors National Park Authority Brecon Beacons National Park Authority rebecca.carr@forestry.gsi.gov.uk regina.green@broads-authority.gov.uk R.Gunton@northyorkmoors-npa.gov.uk richard.partington@countryside.gov.uk robin.toogood@southdevonaonb.org.uk rogeremmett@lycos.co.uk russell.monck@hertscc.gov.uk sjackon@somerset.gov.uk young_s@bristol.landuse.co.uk

steve.trow@english-heritage.org.uk abigale.hooper@newforestnpa.gov.uk

v.shaw@northyorkmoors-npa.gov.uk wayne.evans@breconbeacons.org

Speakers

Cambell Dunford (GB) – Chief Executive of The Renewable Energy Foundation

Mr Dunford was formerly Chief Executive of Moscow Narodny Bank, and International Director of Midland Bank, responsible for subsidiaries worldwide. He is a past director of Coface, the French State Export Insurer. Prior to banking, Mr Dunford was International Trade Director of the Guthrie Corporation (a major South East Asian Plantation group) and involved in the global affairs of a private US conglomerate. He has spent extensive periods in Japan, the Middle East and Africa. He is a former Chairman of The British Exporters Association, a Director of the London Chamber of Commerce and sits on various Committees of the ICC.

Peter Odgen (GB) – Director, Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW)

A geography graduate and a qualified Chartered Town Planner, who has worked in Protected Landscape planning and management in Wales for over 30 years. Mr Ogden is currently a Technical Advisor to IUCN on World Heritage issues and a Member of the World Commission on Protected Areas. He has extensive experience working in Europe and beyond assessing nominations for World Heritage Sites and providing technical support in respect of the management of these sites. He has assisted EUROPARC with various elements of its programme work in protected areas across Europe and in recent years was involved in organisation of its annual conferences. Before becoming the Director of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW) in January 2004, he was the Planning Manager (Policy) for the Snowdonia National Park Authority.

Hans Schiphorst (NL) - Secretary of the National Park Board of Weerribben

A forester and education consultant who has been involved in national parks as an education officer since 1987. He is involved in a number of rural development projects and is coordinating an Interreg III project (Transnational Ecological Network) in which the province of Overijssel is a partner. Furthermore, Mr Schiphorst chairs the EUROPARC Wetland Group. His particular areas of experience and expertise include involving local people in park management, particularly in management planning and generating local commitment for park aims, and developing sustainable tourism through practical local initiatives.

Carles Castell (E) – Head of the Technical Office for Land Analysis and Planning, Diputació de Barcelona

Carles Castell has a PhD in Ecology and a MA in Environmental Management. For ten years he was a researcher on the dynamics of Mediterranean land ecosystems. Since 1993 he has worked in the Natural Areas Department of the Barcelona Provincial Council (Diputació de Barcelona), where he has been involved in conservation, monitoring and landplanning programmes. He is also lecturer in Landscape Ecology at the University of Catalunya.

James Markwick (GB) – Community Renewables Initiative Manager, Countryside Agency

James Markwick has been the CRI Manager since February 2005. The Community Renewables Initiative (CRI) has been co-ordinated and developed by the Countryside Agency since its inception in 2002, with central government funding support. Prior to that Mr Markwick had a long career within the Countryside Agency and its predecessor, the Countryside Commission, covering such areas as land management, agri-environment schemes, open access mapping and regional policy delivery.

Dr Vicki Shaw (GB) – Community Renewable Energy Officer, North York Moors National Park Authority

Previously engaged in full-time research whilst lecturing on a part-time basis at Sheffield Hallam University, Dr Shaw has a PhD in Renewable Energy and a Masters in Environmental Management for Business and Commerce.

David Fletcher (GB) – Pembrokeshire Coast National Park

Mr Fletcher is a graduate in politics and economics who has worked in the area of both urban and rural regeneration since the mid '80s. Following 18 months' work in India and posts in the UK on waste management, recycling, and training development, he worked for Watford Borough Council on sustainable development issues and projects under the government's Single Regeneration Budget. In 2000 he joined Pembrokeshire Coast National Park to run the Environmental Development Fund. He is the lead officer for the Welsh Association of National Park Authorities on sustainable development.

Peter Joyce (GB) – Sustainable Development Fund Officer, Dartmoor National Park Authority

After more than thirty years in the computer industry as programmer, systems analyst, educator, and account manager, the need for a re-energising change led to a few years with Great Torrington Community Development Trust. Initially concerned with the setting up and promotion of the "living history" tourist attraction Torrington 1646, duties increased to encompass running all of the community businesses owned by the Trust. The opportunity to join the Dartmoor National Park Authority to manage its Sustainable Development Fund came as a welcome chance to lend experience to the other side of the fundraising / grant giving equation. Still only half way through its planned life, the Dartmoor Sustainable Development Fund has so far given more than £600,000 in grants to initiate more than 100 innovative projects for better ways of living in, working in and visiting the National Park.

Rebecca Carr (GB) – Woodfuel Project Officer, Forestry Commission Scotland

Rebecca Carr is the Forestry Commission Scotland Woodfuel Project Officer for the Highlands & Islands. She works in close co-operation with HIE and other agencies in the Highlands & Islands to run the Woodfuel Development Programme. This programme promotes and co-ordinates woodfuel development activities in the north of Scotland, as well as a capital funding project to encourage the development of local woodfuel markets. Prior to joining the Forestry Commission Scotland, she worked for the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Management, developing projects to realise the carbon benefits of forestry and biomass schemes.

Brian Taylor (GB) – Policy Planning Manager, Peak District National Park Authority

Mr Taylor has a degree in Planning Studies and a Diploma in Town Planning (eligibility for RTPI).

Up to June 1997 he worked at the Cumbria County Council as Highways Officer, changing in March 1998 to Copeland District Council (Welt Cumbria) as DC Officer. From 1998 to 2000 he worked as Policy Planner at Bassetlaw District Council. Since 2001 he has worked for the Peak District National Park Authority, as Village Officer, Policy Planner, and currently as Policy Planning Manager where is responsible for review of the National Park Management Plan and the review of planning policies towards the creation of a Peak District Local Development Framework.

Neil Winfield (GB) – Tenant Renewable Energy Manager

Mr Winfield has worked in BT for 26 years, but has only recently come to renewables through a life changing event. He does actually practice what he preaches by generating 50% of his electricity via a micro wind turbine at his house. Mr Winfield has an MBA, an honours degree and is currently studying toward a MSc in environmental decision making. In his current role he is responsible for recovering electricity costs from the tenants in BT buildings. However, his passion is renewables and in the other 'fun' half of his job he is solely responsible for bringing renewables in BT which is proving an interesting task!

The EUROPARC Federation and EUROPARC Atlantic Isles

The EUROPARC Federation – the Federation of Nature and National Parks of Europe – brings together a wide range of organisations and individuals involved in the policy and practice of managing parks and protected areas. Its members represent well over 300 nationally protected areas in 35 European countries. The EUROPARC Federation aims to raise awareness of and support for protected areas and to promote good management practices among them. Its overall purpose is to promote 'conservation without frontiers'.

EUROPARC aims to bring together all those with a responsibility for the management of parks and other protected areas in Europe, in order to increase their effectiveness in conserving and enhancing the natural and cultural heritage by:

- Facilitating the establishment of new parks and protected areas;
- Promoting good practice in the management of such areas;
- Raising their profile as a vital means of safeguarding many of the continent's most valuable natural heritage assets and thereby increasing support for their future protection;
- Influencing the future development of public policies and programmes, especially with the European Union, to the benefit of their objectives.

Through all these activities it seeks to establish itself as the "voice of parks and other protected areas in Europe".

EUROPARC Atlantic Isles is a Section of the EUROPARC Federation. It has an expanding membership of over 60 organisations who bring with them a wealth of practical experience, from national parks, regional parks, areas of outstanding natural beauty, local authorities, academic institutions, government agencies and non-governmental organisations. It is the only organisation to have such a comprehensive resource network spread across the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland and Iceland, and linking into the rest of Europe.

EUROPARC Atlantic Isles is a non-profit making organisation that operates under a constitution with

an Executive Committee of 10 officers elected from our member organisations. The Executive Committee directs and manages the work of the Section through a prepared strategy, annual action and business plan. The Section purchases the services of a part-time Co-ordinator, with administrative support, through a service level agreement with host organisation.

The general purposes of the Atlantic Isles Section of EUROPARC are the same as those of the EUROPARC Federation, but with a specific focus upon the Section's member nations and protected areas. It exists to enable its members to share their practical knowledge and expertise with one another, and with their colleagues in Europe, in order to enhance the effectiveness of the management of protected areas and to raise their profile as part of Europe's unique environmental and cultural heritage.

The section is currently core funded from the Countryside Agency, the Countryside Council for Wales and Scottish Natural Heritage. Other funding is raised through membership fees, fees for conferences and workshops and third party sponsorship.

Our Unique Selling Point

EUROPARC Atlantic Isles offers a unique service to its members. Unlike other similar bodies we are able to access and work with protected area organisations and other associated bodies throughout Europe. Within the Section we can offer experience and expertise from six countries – England, Iceland, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Scotland and Wales. These skills are drawn from a number of different bodies including government agencies, non governmental organisations academic institutions and local authority bodies such as national park authorities and areas of outstanding natural beauty.

As a constituent part of the European network EUROPARC Atlantic Isles can offer direct links to our colleagues within protected areas. At a national level and due to our European dimension, we are able to complement a range of organisations within the geographical executive area of the Section.

As a result of the above, we aim to be the voice and body representing all protected areas in the Atlantic Isles on European matters.

Vision

To be the body representing all Protected Areas in the Atlantic Isles on European matters.

Mission

"To bring together, in a European context, all people in protected area management within the Atlantic Isles Section, to share experience and expertise, to jointly address issues concerning protected areas and their management, to influence policy and programmes in support of protected area objectives, and to support the work of the EUROPARC Federation at a European level".

Aims

- To develop the Section into a vibrant and proactive body that will engage our members at all levels. To ensure that our geographic area is well represented through building new relationships and improving our communications and links with existing members, including a variety of individuals within our member organisations
- To promote the unique opportunities for our members by offering innovative and relevant events, which are member focussed and offer a European flavour
- To actively promote good practice and share experiences in addressing issues of common concern
- To influence policy and programmes at a national and international level in support of protected area objectives
- To enhance the capacity of the Section, its communications and events and ensure that the Section is actively promoted to a wider audience
- To support the development of EUROPARC Federation

Achieving our Aims and Objectives

EUROPARC Atlantic Isles operates in a unique and special way. We are able to offer our members direct access to some of the leading specialists in protected area management at a local, national and international level. The Executive Committee has developed a three-year strategy and business plan, which will look at innovative ways in delivering our aims and objectives. Through this Strategy and Business Plan, we will seek to develop the Atlantic Isles Section and secure long-term funding. With the Strategy agreed, the Business Plan will be reviewed annually and will be member led and focussed. The Strategy and Business Plan is focussed on outcomes, rather than processes.

Useful websites

good-energy.co.uk the carbontrust.co.uk dcarb-uk.org est.org.uk (Energy Saving Trust) woodfuelresource.org.uk