



To Whom It May Concern

19.12.09

**APPLICATION TO DECC 'LOW CARBON COMMUNITIES CHALLENGE' BASED ON Y MORFA SPORTS HALL EXTENSION, KINMEL BAY**

I have been an amateur sailor off Anglesey & the North Wales Coast for the last 50 years. I met elected members from Conwy's Partnerships Committee last year, when the lead applicant for the above project, Dr Stuart Anderson, invited me to speak at a meeting of his Committee examining the links between engineering and coastal towns' sustainability.

I am an Energy Consultant for Andritz Hydro of Austria in the UK & Ireland. Andritz Hydro is one of the 3 largest and is building the world's largest Tidal project using bulb turbines at Sihwa, S Korea. It has supplied Hydro plants to the UK for many years including the largest to be built in the UK for 30 years with the 100MW Pelton at Glendoe in the Scottish Highlands for Scottish & Southern Energy. I have been following Stuart's contribution to the wider UK tidal energy debate during the past two years. I was taken with not just his enthusiasm but also the patient, almost forensic attention to detail that has led to his conclusions. The sort of qualities that the medical profession has to apply in everyday life-and-death situations where diagnosis is unclear but honestly appropriate treatment pressing!!

I have two other primary interests which coincide with Stuart's: First, in the age of the computer, we share a concern for the need to root for real-life (rather than merely 'virtual') projects in order to gain the hands-on interest of young people in the professions. Secondly, we share great enthusiasm - in my case as a retired hockey player and still active as a field hockey umpire coach and National League Hockey Match Delegate of the England Hockey Board.- for the place of sport in all-round development, both of individuals and of communities.

In particular, the present grass-roots application would seem to be driven by factors deriving from inclusive attitudes of several people that have gathered around Stuart on the Board - the sort of attitudes than in my experience are essential for any challenging projects to succeed, such as those called for by the Low Carbon Communities Challenge.

From all I have seen and understood I am delighted, therefore, unreservedly to endorse it.

*John Epps*

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