LCNF Full Submission

Supplementary Answer Form

DNO Name:	SHEPD	Question Number:	SSE011
Question Date:	16/09/10	Answer Date:	20/09/10
Question Topic:			

Original Question No:		Original Answer Date:	
Original Question:			
Original Answer:			

Question:	Please provide more information on the role of Highlands and Islands Enterprise with the project.
	See answer overleaf

Answer:	Highlands and Islands Enterprise Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE) are tasked with building sustainable economic growth in H&I's region and in their energy is identified as a key growth sector in the H&I's, specifically exploiting the potential of renewable energy sources. HIE prioritises support to those areas designated as fragile. Almost a quarter of the social houses targeted for improvement under this project are located in areas designated as fragile by HIE. Highlands and Islands Enterprise, while not a partner in the ERDF funding applications, are involved from a perspective of supporting the energy sectors, particularly renewable energy. Two of their high level priorities are to maximise opportunities in the renewable energy sectors and work towards a low carbon economy. Energy and specifically renewable energy, is a target growth industry for the agency and HIE have been engaged at all stages of the project development process. They were instrumental in facilitating the introduction of several of the other collaborators to the project. The agency is keen to ensure that the maximum economic benefit is gained from NINES and is particularly keen to assist participation of the Shetland business sector to reduce energy costs and aid profitability. The success of the NINES project is reliant on having a range of new generators and responsive demand customers connecting to the Shetland network. Going forward HIE have a key role in supporting and encouraging both new and existing Shetland businesses to exploit the opportunities presented by the NINES project.

Attachments:	