

STRICT EMBARGO: 00:01AM Wednesday 24 August 2016

RWE Innogy UK officially inaugurates Scottish hydro power station Cia Aig

- **Energy Minister welcomes economic impact of new hydro power resource**

RWE Innogy UK's latest run-of-river hydro scheme in Scotland will be officially inaugurated today (Wednesday 24 August 2016) by Paul Wheelhouse MSP, Minister for Business, Innovation and Energy together with Hans Bunting, Chief Operating Officer Renewables of RWE International SE .

Board members from the British Hydropower Association, contractors and members of the local community will join other invited guests on a tour of the 3 megawatts (MW) Cia Aig hydro scheme, visiting the powerhouse and intake weir and viewing first-hand the process of renewable electricity generation.

Cia Aig Hydro Scheme is located on the Abhainn Chia-aig river, at the eastern end of Loch Arkaig, approximately 20 miles to the north of Fort William. The scheme took 24 months to construct at a cost of just under £12M, and became operational with the first turbine in February 2016.

Dr Hans Bunting, Chief Operating Officer Renewables of RWE International SE is delighted to welcome the Minister to the inauguration:

“Scotland is a great place to do business. We value the skilled supply chain that Scotland can offer and when developing our renewables projects, it is important to us that we are able to work with local companies and to maximise the economic benefits to the local economy.”

Paul Wheelhouse MSP, Minister for Business, Innovation and Energy said:

“Congratulations to RWE Innogy UK on the inauguration of their hydro power station Cia Aig. This 3 MW hydro scheme will help contribute to the growing importance of hydro generation in Scotland - the largest source of renewable power in Scotland after onshore wind.

“I welcome RWE Innogy UK's commitment to provide community benefit funding associated with their renewables schemes including their Cia Aig hydro development. The Scottish Government is committed to supporting the development of renewables – including hydropower – as part of Scotland's balanced energy portfolio, and we are already developing an overarching energy strategy, setting out what we can do to optimise the benefits of Scotland's significant energy resources and expertise through to 2030.”

Simon Hamlyn, Chief Executive, British Hydropower Association said:

“We are delighted that another of our member’s schemes is now in full operation and we welcome this opportunity to demonstrate to Scottish Government the positive impact the development of new hydropower has on Scottish communities.

“There is now more than 177 MW of small-scale hydropower available in Scotland with approximately 1,700 people working in the sector in Scotland and increasingly many local communities are taking a stake. Small-scale hydropower energy is a popular, long-term form of low carbon energy with a generation profile which matches demand and supports a significant Scottish supply chain.

“With the right support from Scottish Government, this industry can continue generating rural jobs and green energy in Scotland for many years to come.”

ENDS

PHOTOGRAPHS OF DR HANS BUNTING AND PAUL WHEELHOUSE MSP AT CIA AIG HYDRO SCHEME WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM 4.00PM ON WEDNESDAY.

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About RWE Innogy UK

RWE Innogy UK is part of RWE International SE. For further information about RWE Innogy UK visit www.rweinnogy.com/uk

About RWE International SE (innogy)

RWE International SE (innogy) is one of the leading European energy companies. With its three business areas of Renewables, Grid & Infrastructure as well as Retail, it addresses the requirements of a modern, decarbonised, decentralised and digital energy world. The focus of RWE International SE (innogy)’s activities is on offering existing and potential customers innovative and sustainable products and services which enable them to use energy more efficiently and improve their quality of life. The key markets are Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium and several countries in Central Eastern and South Eastern Europe, especially the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland. In renewable power generation, the company is also active in other regions, e.g. Spain and Italy. The new subsidiary of RWE AG started operations on 1 April 2016. On 29 June 2016, the name of the European stock company was announced: innogy. The new name is expected to take formal effect as of September 2016, at which time the company as well as its products and services will be gradually rebranded. Until then, the subsidiary will continue under the



name RWE International SE. The innogy brand name is a symbiosis of the terms innovation, energy and technology.