Form B R/IP/RA/2



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CO-OPERATIVE AND COMMUNITY BENEFIT SOCIETIES ACT 2014

The FCA acknowledges the registration of the following society under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 as a **Community Benefit Society**:

Society name: Gower Power Solar Limited

Registration number: 7236

Registration date: 29 October 2015



Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014

Rules of

Gower Power Solar Limited

NAME

1. The name of the society shall be Gower Power Solar Limited.

REGISTERED OFFICE

2. The registered office of the society shall be at The Old Hay Barn, Gower Heritage Centre, Parkmill SA3 2EH

INTERPRETATIONS

3. In these rules:

"Address" means a postal address or, for the purposes of electronic communication, a fax number, email address or telephone number for receiving text messages;

"the Act" refers to the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 or any Act or Acts amending or in substitution of it or them for the time being in force;

"Auditor" means a person eligible for appointment as a company auditor under Part 42 of the Companies Act 2006;

"The Board of Directors" or "Board" means all those persons appointed to perform the duties of directors of the society;

"Board Meeting" includes, except where inconsistent with any legal obligation a physical meeting, a meeting held by electronic means and a meeting held by telephone;

"Clear Days" in relation to the period of notice does not include the day on which the meeting is to be held and the day on which the notice is handed to someone or left at their Address, or the day on which it is sent, is in the process of being sent and is assumed to be delivered;

"Community Organisation" means any organisation established for the benefit of the Local Community (and being a charity, an asset-locked trust, a community interest company or a community benefit society), one or more of whose objects complement those of the Society and which the Society agrees to support in furtherance of its objects;

"**Director**" means a director of the society and includes any person occupying the position of director, by whatever name called;

"Document" includes, unless otherwise stated, any document sent or supplied in electronic form;

"Electronic Means" shall include, for example, email, video links and secure authenticated website transactions;

"Employee" means anyone holding a contract of employment with the Society;

"Extraordinary Resolution" means, unless the context requires otherwise, those decisions requiring an extraordinary resolution as detailed under 'Resolutions' in these rules;

"Founder Member" means a subscriber to these rules for the purposes of registration;

"Member" has the meaning as detailed under 'Membership' in these rules;

"Office Holder" means a receiver, administrative receiver, liquidator, provisional liquidator or administrator of a Member of all or substantially all of the Member's assets;

"Officer" has the meaning as detailed under 'Officers' in these rules;

"Person" means, unless the context requires otherwise, a natural person, unincorporated body, firm, partnership, corporate body or the nominee of an unincorporated body, firm, partnership or corporate body;

"Registrar" means the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) or any body that succeeds its function;

"Regulations" has the meaning as detailed under 'Regulations' in these rules;

"Rules" means these Rules;

"Secretary" means any person appointed to perform the duties of the Secretary of the society;

"Society" means the above named society;

"Transferable" means shares that are transferable to another Person who also qualifies for membership of the Society in accordance with these Rules;

"Withdrawable" means shares with the associated right for the Member to withdraw and receive in return the value of their shares from the Society;

"Writing" means the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied by Electronic Means or otherwise.

OBJECTS

- 4. The objects of the Society shall be to carry on any business for the benefit of the community which involves the development, financing, construction, installation, generation, transmission, operation and/or (if required) sale of a renewable energy and/or generation project, for the purpose of:
 - (a) generating and selling electricity/heat/fuel from renewable energy resources;
 - (b) generating income for, and/or to be able to provide grants and/or payments to, one or more Community Organisations, Persons and/or businesses within the community served by the society;
 - (c) developing a fund to facilitate grants for agro-ecology projects, improving food security, alleviating poverty and/or improving energy security;
 - supporting cooperative and/or social enterprise development, educational and/or other community activities which promote awareness and participation in environmental and social issues.
- 5. The Society shall be owned and controlled by its Members on a fair and equitable basis.

POWERS

6. The Society may do all such lawful things as may further the Society's objects and, in particular, may borrow or raise funds for any purpose that is beneficial to the Society.

BORROWING

- 7. The Society shall have the power to borrow money from its Members and others in order to further its objects providing that the amount outstanding at any one time shall not exceed £10,000,000.
- 8. The Society shall have the power to mortgage or charge any of its property, including the assets and undertakings of the Society, present and future, and to issue loan stock, debentures and other securities for money borrowed or for the performance of any contracts of the Society or its customers or Persons having dealings with the Society.
- 9. The rate of interest on money borrowed, except on money borrowed by way of bank loan or overdraft or from a finance house or on mortgage from a building society or local authority, shall not exceed a reasonable rate necessary, in the opinion of the Board, to obtain and retain the capital required to carry out the objects of the Society, nor shall it risk the Society's status as a community benefit society.
- 10. The Society may receive from any Person, donations or loans free of interest in order to further its objects but shall not receive money on deposit.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND MARKETS ACT 2000 ACTIVITY

11. For the avoidance of doubt the Society shall not engage in any activity by virtue of any of these Rules that would require a permission from the Registrar to carry on that activity without first having applied for and obtained such permission.

INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

12. The Society may invest any part of its funds in the manner set out in Section 27 of the Act.

MEMBERS

13. The first Members of the Society will be the Founder Members. The Board may at its discretion admit to membership any individual, corporate body or nominee of an unincorporated body, firm or partnership who supports the objects of the Society and who has paid or agreed to pay any subscription or other sum due in respect of membership for the time being in force.

Applications for Membership

- 14. No natural person shall be admitted into membership of the Society unless they have attained the age of 16. All those wishing to become a Member must support the objects of the Society and complete an application for membership which shall include an application for at least one share in the Society. Such an application form must be approved by the Directors and the Directors must approve each application for membership.
- 15. A corporate body which is a Member shall by resolution of its governing body appoint a representative who may during the continuance of her/his appointment be entitled to exercise all such rights and powers as the corporate body would exercise if it were an individual person. Each such corporate body Member shall supply notification in Writing to the Society of its choice of representative.

Member Commitment

16. All Members agree to participate in general meetings and take an active interest in the operation and development of the Society and its business. Members have a duty to respect the confidential nature of the business decisions of the Society.

Termination of Membership

- 17. A Member shall cease to be a Member of the Society immediately that they:
 - (a) Fail to hold the minimum shareholding; or
 - (b) Fail to pay the annual subscription (if any) within 3 months of it falling due; or
 - (c) Resign in Writing to the Secretary; or
 - (d) Are expelled from membership in accordance with these Rules; or
 - (e) Die, are wound up or go into liquidation.

Expulsion from Membership

- 18. A Member may be expelled for conduct prejudicial to the Society by an Extraordinary Resolution, provided that the grounds for expulsion have been specified in the notices calling the meeting and that the Member whose expulsion is to be considered shall be given the opportunity to make representations to the meeting or, at the option of the Member, an individual who is there to represent them (who need not be a Member of the Society) has been allowed to make representations to the general meeting.
- 19. If on due notice having been served the Member fails to attend the meeting the meeting may proceed in the Member's absence.
 - (a) An expelled Member shall be paid the nominal value of shares held by them at the time of expulsion;
 - (b) No Member expelled from membership shall be re-admitted except by an Extraordinary Resolution.

PROCEEDINGS ON DEATH OR BANKRUPTCY OF A MEMBER

- 20. Upon a claim being made by:
 - (a) The personal representative of a deceased Member; or
 - (b) The trustee in bankruptcy of a Member who is bankrupt; or
 - (c) The Office Holder to any property in the Society belonging to such a Member, the Society shall transfer or pay property to which the Office Holder has become entitled as the Office Holder may direct them.
- 21. A Member may in accordance with the Act nominate any individual or individuals to whom any of her/his property in the Society at the time of her/his death shall be transferred, but such nomination shall only be valid to the extent of the amount for the time being allowed in the Act. On receiving a satisfactory proof of death of a Member who has made a nomination the Society shall, in accordance with the Act, either transfer or pay the full value of the property comprised in the nomination to the individuals entitled thereunder.

Share Capital

- 22. The shares of the Society shall be of the nominal value of £1. The minimum shareholding required of a Member shall be defined as such number of fully paid shares as the Board may determine subject to the Act, or as may be required by a particular offer of shares, or, failing such determination or requirement, shall be one share.
- 23. A Member may apply for shares in tranches of shares which are smaller in number than the minimum shareholding, provided that any Member who does not achieve the minimum shareholding within 12 months of their first payment may, at the discretion of the Board, cease to be a Member. Any person ceasing to be a Member under this rule shall have the value of their shares as at the date on which they ceased to be a Member returned to them and the relevant shares shall be cancelled.
- 24. Applications for shares shall be made to the Board of the Society who shall allot to Members, upon their admission, the share or shares for which they have applied

provided that the total number of shares allotted to any Member shall not exceed the maximum shareholding permitted by law. Shares shall be paid for in full on allotment.

- 25. If a Member who is required to withdraw from membership under these Rules is unable to transfer their shares and the right to withdraw shares has been suspended, then the nominal value of their share capital shall be converted into loan stock upon such terms as may be agreed between the Board and the Member, or their personal representative, trustee in bankruptcy, or Office Holder provided that such agreement shall require the repayment of the loan within a period not exceeding three years.
- 26. Shares shall be Withdrawable only in accordance with the provisions of these Rules. Shares shall be non-Transferable except:
 - (a) on death or bankruptcy; or
 - (b) (in the case of an unincorporated organisation or partnership), on a change of nominee(s) and only to the new nominee(s).

Withdrawal of share capital

- 27. Shares may be withdrawn by Members upon giving three months' notice to the Society (though the Board retain sole discretion to return money paid for them), provided that:
 - (a) All withdrawals shall be paid in the order in which the notices were received by the Society;
 - (b) A Member shall not be entitled to withdraw shares which would leave them with less than the minimum shareholding, unless they intend to terminate their membership of the Society;
 - (c) The Board may waive the notice required for a withdrawal and may direct payment to be made without notice or on such shorter notice as they consider fit;
 - (d) The Board may, at their sole discretion, suspend the right to withdraw either wholly or partially, and either indefinitely or for a fixed period. The suspension shall extend and apply to all notices of withdrawal which have been received and remain unpaid at the time the Board suspends the right to withdraw. Where the suspension is for a fixed period, such period may be extended from time to time by the Board;
 - (e) During any period when the right of withdrawal has been suspended under the provision immediately above, the shares of deceased Members may, if the Board agree, be withdrawn by their personal representatives upon giving such notice as the Board may require;
 - (f) The amount to be paid to a Member on withdrawal shall be the amount paid up or credited on the shares to be withdrawn, except where the shares are subject to a reduction in their value in accordance with the provisions of these Rules;
 - (g) Interest shall be payable on any share in respect of which a notice of repayment has been given until the date of repayment.

- 28. Any share withdrawn in accordance with these Rules shall be cancelled.
- 29. Members may withdraw from the Society by withdrawing all their shares in the Society in accordance with these Rules or, if the right to withdraw has been suspended, by surrendering all their shares to the Society. Upon such surrender the Board may at their discretion pay to the withdrawing Member the amount paid up or credited on the shares surrendered.
- 30. The Society may deduct such reasonable sum to cover any administrative costs of withdrawal from the monies payable to a Member on the withdrawal of shares in the Society.

Reduction in Share Values

31. If the Society's Auditors (or any independent qualified accountants appointed for this purpose by the Board) certify at any time that the aggregate of the Society's liabilities plus the amount of its issued share capital exceeds its assets, then (unless in the meantime the excess has been removed) the Board may determine that the amount of this excess, or part of it, shall be apportioned among the Members in proportion to (but not beyond) the amount of the nominal value of the shares paid up and held by each Member. This apportionment shall be based on the value of the shares paid up and held by each Member at the close of business on the date of such determination. The value of shares held by each Member shall be reduced accordingly for the purposes of withdrawal of shares, provided that the value of shares held by any Member shall not be reduced below the minimum shareholding as specified in these Rules.

Lien on Shares and Right of Offset

32. The Society shall have a lien on the shares of a Member for any debt due to it by the Member and may offset any sum standing to the Member's credit with the Society in or towards payment of such debt.

GENERAL MEETINGS

- 33. The Society shall, within six months of the end of the financial year, hold a general meeting of the Members as its annual general meeting and shall specify the meeting as such in the notice calling it.
- 34. The business of an annual general meeting shall comprise, where appropriate:
 - (a) The receipt of the accounts and balance sheet and of the reports of the Board and Auditor (if any);
 - (b) The appointment of an Auditor, if required;
 - (c) The election of the Board or the results of the election if held previously by ballot;
 - (d) The application of profits;
 - (e) The transaction of any other business included in the notice convening the meeting.

Calling a General Meeting

- 35. The Secretary, at the request of the Board of Directors may convene a general meeting of the Society. The purpose of the general meeting shall be stated in the notice of the meeting.
- 36. The Board of Directors upon an application signed by one-tenth of the total number of Members, or 100 Members, whichever is the lesser, delivered to the registered office of the Society, shall convene a general meeting. The purpose of the general meeting shall be stated in the application for and notice of the meeting. No business other than that stated in the notice of the meeting shall be conducted at the meeting.
- 37. If within one month from the date of the receipt of the application the Board have not convened a general meeting to be held within six weeks of the application, any three Members of the Society acting on behalf of the signatories to the application may convene a general meeting, and shall be reimbursed by the Society for any costs incurred in convening such a meeting.

Notices

- 38. The Directors shall call the annual general meeting giving 14 Clear Days' notice to all Members. All other general meetings shall be convened with at least 14 Clear Days' notice but may be held at shorter notice if so agreed in Writing by 90% of the Members.
- 39. Notices of meetings shall either be given to Members personally or sent to them at their Address or alternatively, if so agreed by the Society in general meeting, notices of general meetings may be displayed conspicuously at the registered office and in all other places of business of the Society to which Members have access. Notices shall specify the date, time and place at which the meeting is to be held, and the business which is to be transacted at that meeting. A general meeting shall not transact any business other than that specified in the notices calling the meeting.
- 40. A notice sent to a Member's Address shall be deemed to have been duly served 48 hours after its posting. The accidental omission to send any notice to or the non-receipt of any notice by any Person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at the meeting.
- 41. All notices shall specify the date, time and place of the meeting along with the general nature of business to be conducted and any proposed resolutions.
- 42. If the Society has appointed an Auditor in accordance with these Rules they shall be entitled to attend general meetings of the Society and to receive all notices of and communications relating to any general meeting which any Member of the Society is entitled to receive. The Auditor shall be entitled to be heard at any meeting on any part of the business of the meeting which is of proper concern to an Auditor.

Quorum

43. No business shall be transacted at a general meeting unless a quorum of Members is present which shall include those Members not present in Person. Unless amended

by Extraordinary Resolution, a quorum shall be 3 Members or 5% of the membership, whichever is the greater.

Chairing General Meetings

44. The chairperson of the Society shall facilitate general meetings. If s/he is absent or unwilling to act at the time any meeting proceeds to business then the Members present shall choose one of their number to be the chairperson for that meeting.

Attendance and Speaking at General Meetings

- 45. A Member is able to exercise the right to speak at a general meeting and is deemed to be in attendance when that Person is in a position to communicate to all those attending the meeting. The Directors may make whatever arrangements they consider appropriate to enable those attending a general meeting to exercise their rights to speak or vote at it including by Electronic Means. In determining attendance at a general meeting, it is immaterial whether any two or more Members attending are in the same place as each other, provided that they are able to communicate with each other.
- 46. The chairperson of the meeting may permit other persons who are not Members of the Society to attend and speak at general meetings, without granting any voting rights.

Adjournment

- 47. If a quorum is not present within half an hour of the time the general meeting was due to commence, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the chairperson must adjourn the meeting. If within half an hour of the time the adjourned meeting was due to commence a quorum is not present, the Members present shall constitute a quorum.
- 48. The chairperson of a general meeting may adjourn the meeting whilst a quorum is present if:
 - (a) The meeting consents to that adjournment; or
 - (b) It appears to the chairperson that an adjournment is necessary to protect the safety of any persons attending the meeting or to ensure that the business of the meeting is conducted in an orderly manner.
- 49. The chairperson must adjourn the meeting if directed to do so by the meeting.
- 50. When adjourning a meeting the chairperson must specify the date, time and place to which it will stand adjourned or that the meeting is to continue at a date, time and place to be fixed by the Directors.
- 51. If the meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more, at least 7 Clear Days' notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given in the same manner as the notice of the original meeting.
- 52. No business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which could properly have been transacted at the meeting if the adjournment had not taken place.

Voting

- 53. A resolution put to the vote at a general meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a paper ballot is demanded in accordance with these Rules. A declaration by the chairperson that a resolution has on a show of hands been carried or lost with an entry to that effect recorded in the minutes of the general meeting shall be conclusive evidence of the result. Proportions or numbers of votes in favour for or against need not be recorded.
- 54. In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or a poll, the chairperson shall not have a second or casting vote and the resolution shall be deemed to have been lost.

Paper Ballot

- 55. A paper ballot on a resolution may be demanded before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands by three Members at a general meeting.
- 56. If a paper ballot is duly demanded it shall be taken in such a manner as the chairperson directs, provided that no Member shall have more than one vote, and the result of the ballot shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the ballot was demanded.
- 57. The demand for a paper ballot shall not prevent the continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any other business than the question upon which a ballot has been demanded. The demand for a paper ballot may be withdrawn.

Resolutions

- 58. Decisions at general meetings shall be made by passing resolutions:
 - (a) The following decisions must be made by Extraordinary Resolution:
 - (i) Decisions to expel Members;
 - (ii) Any amendment to the Society's Rules;
 - (iii) The decision to wind up the Society.
 - (b) All other decisions shall be made by ordinary resolution.
- 59. An Extraordinary Resolution is one passed by a majority of not less than 75% of votes cast at a general meeting and an ordinary resolution is one passed by a simple majority (51%) of votes cast.
- 60. Resolutions may be passed at general meetings or by written resolution. A written resolution may consist of several identical Documents signed by one or more Members.

DIRECTORS

61. The Society shall have a Board of Directors comprising not less than three Directors.

- 62. The initial Directors of the Society from registration until the first annual general meeting shall be appointed by the Founder Members.
- 63. Only persons of the Society who are aged 18 years or more may serve on the Board of Directors.

Board Composition

- 64. The composition of the Board shall be as follows:
 - (a) Up to two Directors elected by and from the Society's Members;
 - (b) Up to two Directors as representatives appointed/nominated by Community Organisations (or any body that succeeds to their function),
 - (c) Up to three Directors, who must be Members, appointed to the Board by cooption. Co-opted Directors are to be selected by the Board of Directors for their particular skills and/or experience.

Retirement Cycle

65. At the first annual general meeting all elected Directors shall stand down. At every subsequent annual general meeting one-third of the elected Directors, or if their number is not a multiple of three then the number nearest to one-third, shall retire from office. The Directors to retire shall be the Directors who have been longest in office since their last election. Where Directors have held office for the same amount of time the Directors to retire shall be decided by lot. A retiring Director shall be eligible for reelection.

Co-option of Directors

- 66. In addition the Board of Directors may co-opt up to two external independent Directors who need not be Members and are selected for their particular skills and/or experience. Such external independent Directors shall serve a fixed period determined by the Board of Directors at the time of the co-option, subject to a review at least every 12 months. External independent Directors may be removed from office at any time by a resolution of the Board of Directors.
- 67. The Board of Directors may at any time fill a casual vacancy on the Board by co-option. Co-opted individuals must be Members of the Society and will hold office as a Director only until the next annual general meeting.

Powers and Duties of the Board of Directors

- 68. The business of the Society shall be managed by the Board who may exercise all such powers of the Society as may be exercised and done by the Society and as are not by statute or by these Rules required to be exercised or done by the Society in general meeting.
- 69. All decisions made by a meeting of the Board of Directors or by any person acting as a Director shall remain valid even if it is later discovered that there was some defect in the Director's appointment or that the individual had previously been disqualified from acting as a Director.

- 70. All cheques, promissory notes, drafts, bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments, and all receipts for monies paid to the Society shall be signed, drawn, accepted, endorsed, or otherwise executed in such manner as the Board shall from time to time direct.
- 71. Without prejudice to its general powers, the Board may exercise all the powers of the Society to borrow money and to mortgage or charge its undertaking and property or any part of it and to issue debentures and other securities whether outright or as security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Society or of any third party.
- 72. No Regulation made by the Society in general meeting shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid had that Regulation not been made.

Delegation

- 73. Subject to these Rules, the Directors may delegate any of the powers which are conferred on them under these Rules to any Person or committee consisting of Members of the Society, by such means, to such an extent, in relation to such matters and on such terms and conditions as they think fit.
- 74. The Directors may specify that any such delegation may authorise further delegation of the powers by any Person to whom they are delegated.
- 75. The Directors may revoke any delegation in whole or in part or alter any terms and conditions.

Sub-Committees

- 76. A sub-committee to which the Directors delegate any of their powers must follow procedures which are based as far as they are applicable on those provisions of these Rules which govern the taking of decisions by Directors.
- 77. The Directors may make Regulations for all or any sub-committees, provided that such Regulations are not inconsistent with these Rules.
- 78. All acts and proceedings of any sub-committee must be fully and promptly reported to the Directors.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Calling a Meeting of the Board of Directors

79. Any Director may, and the Secretary on the requisition of a Director shall, call a meeting of the Board of Directors by giving reasonable notice of the meeting to all Directors. Notice of any meeting of the Board of Directors must indicate the date, time and place of the meeting and, if the Directors participating in the meeting will not be in the same place, how they will communicate with each other.

Proceedings of a Meeting of the Board of Directors

80. The Board of Directors may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit.

- 81. A Director is able to exercise the right to speak at a meeting of the Board of Directors and is deemed to be in attendance when that person is in a position to communicate to all those attending the meeting. The Directors may make whatever arrangements they consider appropriate to enable those attending a meeting of the Board of Directors to exercise their rights to speak or vote at it including by Electronic Means. In determining attendance at a meeting of the Board of Directors, it is immaterial whether any two or more Directors attending are in the same place as each other.
- 82. Questions arising at any meetings of the Board shall be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes the status quo shall be maintained and the Board of Directors may choose to refer the matter to a general meeting of the Society.
- 83. A written resolution, circulated to all Directors and signed by a simple majority (51%) of Directors, shall be valid and effective as if it had been passed at a Board meeting duly convened and held. A written resolution may consist of several identical Documents signed by one or more Directors.
- 84. The Board of Directors may, at its discretion, invite other persons to attend its meetings with or without speaking rights and without voting rights. Such attendees will not count toward the quorum.

Quorum

- 85. The quorum necessary for the transaction of business at a meeting of the Board of Directors shall be 50% of the Directors or 3 Directors, whichever is the greater and shall include those Directors not present in person.
- 86. If at any time the total number of Directors in office is less than the quorum required, the Directors are unable to take any decisions other than to appoint further Directors or to call a general meeting so as to enable the Members to appoint further Directors.

Chairing Board Meetings

87. The chairperson shall facilitate meetings of the Board of Directors. If s/he is absent or unwilling to act at the time any meeting proceeds to business then the Directors present shall choose one of their number to be the chairperson for that meeting.

Declaration of Interest

88. A Director shall declare an interest in any contract or matter in which s/he has a personal, material or financial interest, whether directly or indirectly, and shall not vote in respect of such contract or matter, provided that nothing shall prevent a Director voting in respect of her/his terms and conditions of employment or any associated matter.

Expenses

- 89. The Society may pay (in good faith):
 - (a) (at a reasonable and proper rate) for services rendered to the society by any of its employees, officers or members, and reimbursement of their expenses; and

(b) (at a reasonable and proper rate) rent, for premises let to the society by any of its employees or officers.

Termination of a Director's Appointment

- 90. A person ceases to be a Director of the Society as soon as:
 - (a) That person is removed from office by a resolution of the Board of Directors, where the person is a co-opted Director appointed for their particular skills and/or experience;
 - (b) The organisation they are representing removes their endorsement of them;
 - (c) The organisation they are representing ceases to exist;
 - (d) That person resigns from office in Writing to the Secretary of the Society, and such resignation has taken effect in accordance with its terms;
 - (e) That person is removed from office by an ordinary resolution of the Society in general meeting, the notices for which specified that the question of the Director's removal was to be considered;
 - (f) That person is prohibited from being a Director by law;
 - (g) That person is disqualified from acting as a trustee by virtue of sections 178 and 179 of the Charities Act 2011 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of those provisions);
 - (h) A bankruptcy order is made against that person;
 - (i) in the written opinion, given to the Society, of a registered medical practitioner treating that person, has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a Director and may remain so for more than three months.

OFFICERS

91. The Board shall elect from among their own number a chairperson and Secretary and such other Officers as they may from time to time decide. These Officers shall have such duties and rights as may be bestowed on them by the Board or by law and any Officer appointed may be removed by the Board. A serving Officer who is not reelected to the Board at the annual general meeting shall nevertheless continue in office until the first Board meeting following the annual general meeting.

DISPUTES

92. In the event of a dispute between the Society or its Board and a Member of the Society or a former Member, such dispute shall be referred to an independent arbitrator whose appointment is acceptable to both parties to the dispute or in the absence of agreement to be nominated by the Secretary General of Co-operatives UK (or any role or body that succeeds to its function). The decision of such an arbitrator shall be binding. In the event that a dispute cannot, for whatever reason, be concluded by reference to an arbitrator, the matter may be referred to the county court (or in Scotland, to the sheriff). Any Person bringing a dispute must, if so required, deposit

with the Society a reasonable sum (not exceeding $\pounds100$) to be determined by the Board. The arbitrator will decide how the costs of the arbitration will be paid and what should be done with the deposit.

REGULATIONS

93. The Society in a general meeting, or the Board of Directors, may from time to time make, adopt and amend such Regulations in the form of bye-laws, standing orders, secondary rules or otherwise as they think fit for the management, conduct and regulation of the affairs of the Society and the proceedings and powers of the Board of Directors and sub-committees. Such Regulations (if any) shall be made available to Members. No Regulation shall be made which is inconsistent with these Rules or the Act. All Members of the Society and the Board of Directors shall be bound by such Regulations whether or not they have received a copy of them.

LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

94. The liability of a Member is limited to the amount of their shareholding.

PAYMENT OF INTEREST ON SHARE CAPITAL

95. The Society may pay interest on issued share capital at such rate or rates as determined by the Board from time to time, provided that such rate shall not exceed a reasonable rate necessary, in the opinion of the Board, to obtain and retain the capital required to carry out the objects of the Society, nor shall it risk the Society's status as a community benefit society.

APPLICATION OF PROFITS

- 96. Any profits of the Society shall be applied as follows in such proportions and in such manner as may be decided by the Society at the annual general meeting:
 - (a) To a general reserve for the continuation and development of the Society; or
 - (b) To making payment for social or community purposes within the community served by the Society.
 - (c) To making grants and/or payments to Community Organisations.

AMALGAMATION, TRANSFER OF ENGAGEMENTS AND CONVERSION

- 97. The Society may, by special resolution passed in the way required by section 111 of the Act, amalgamate with, or transfer its engagements to another registered society subject to at least the same degree of restriction on the distribution of profits and assets as imposed on this Society by virtue of these Rules. The Society may also accept a transfer of engagements and assets by a resolution of the Board or by general meeting.

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general meeting for the purpose of such resolution, the following provisions shall apply:

- (a) The Society shall give to Members not less than two months' notice of the meeting;
- (b) Notice of the meeting shall be posted in a prominent place at the registered office and at all trading premises of the Society to which Members have access;
- (c) The notice shall be accompanied by a separate statement setting out for Members:
 - (i) the reasons for the proposal;
 - (ii) whether the proposal has the support of the Board of the Society;
 - (iii) what alternative proposals have been considered, and whether they are viable;
 - (iv) details of the number of shares in the Society held by Members of the Board, and Persons connected with them;
 - a recommendation by reputable independent financial advisors that the Members should support the proposal rather than any alternative proposal.
- (d) Where the separate statement is contained in another Document, information shall be provided in the notice specifying where Members can obtain a copy of the Document.

DISSOLUTION

- 99. The Society may be dissolved:
 - (a) in accordance with section 119 of the Act by an instrument of dissolution;
 - (b) in accordance with section 123 of the Act in pursuance of a winding up order or by a resolution made or passed as directed in regard to companies by the insolvency Act 1986; or
 - (c) in accordance with section 125 of the Act, after administration and administrator issues a notice to dissolve the society without prior winding-up.
- 100. If on the winding up or dissolution of the Society any of its assets remain to be disposed of after its liabilities are satisfied, these assets shall not be distributed among the members, but shall be transferred instead to some other non-profit body or bodies subject to at least the same degree of restriction on the distribution of profits and assets as is imposed on this Society by virtue of these Rules, as may be decided by the members at the time of or prior to the dissolution.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

Means of Communication

- 101. A Member may provide their consent to receive communications from the Society by Electronic Means.
- 102. A notice sent to a Director's Address shall be deemed to have been duly served 48 hours after its posting. A Director may agree with the Society that notices or Documents sent to her/him in a particular way are to be deemed to have been received within a specified time of their being sent, and for the specified time to be less than 48 hours.

Seal

103. If the Society has a seal, it shall only be used by the authority of the Board of Directors acting on behalf of the Society. Every instrument to which the seal shall be attached shall be signed by a Director and countersigned by a second Director or the Secretary.

Registers

104. The Board of Directors shall ensure accurate registers are maintained which shall include a register of Members, a register of Directors and a register of Officers.

Register of Members

105. The Board shall ensure that the register is maintained in accordance with the Act and that the particulars required by the Act are available for inspection and accessible without the need to disclose other particulars contained in the register.

Register of Directors and Officers

- 106. The Society shall maintain a register of Directors and Officers which shall include the following particulars:
 - (a) Name of the Director;
 - (b) Address of the Director;
 - (c) The date on which they assumed office;
 - (d) The date on which they vacated office; and
 - (e) The position held by a Director if s/he is also an Officer and the date on which the Director assumed and vacated his/her Officer position.

Amendments to Rules

107. Any of these Rules may be rescinded or amended or a new rule made by Extraordinary Resolution at a general meeting of which 14 Clear Days' notice has been given, such notice to include details of the change(s) to be proposed at that meeting. No amendment of Rules is valid until registered by the Registrar. When submitting the rule amendments for registration, the Secretary may at their sole discretion accept any alterations required or suggested by the Registrar without reference back to a further general meeting of the Society.

Copies of the Society's Rules

108. A copy of these Rules and any amendments made to them shall be given free of charge to every Member upon admission to membership and shall be provided to any other Person on demand and on payment of the statutory fee chargeable for the time being in force.

Minutes

- 109. The Society shall ensure that minutes are kept of all:
 - (a) Proceedings at general meetings of the Society; and
 - (b) Proceedings at meetings of the Board of Directors and its sub-committees which include names of the Directors present, decisions made and the reasons for those decisions.

Annual Return

- 110. Every year and within the period prescribed by the Act, the Secretary shall send the annual return in the prescribed form to the Registrar. The annual return shall be accompanied by:
 - (a) A copy of the Auditor's report on the Society's accounts for the period covered by the annual return or a copy of such other report (if any) as is required by statute for such a period; and
 - (b) A copy of each balance sheet made during that period and report of the Auditor or other appropriate person as required by statute on that balance sheet.
- 111. The Society shall on demand supply free of charge to any Member or any person with an interest in the funds of the Society a copy of the latest annual return together with a copy of the Auditor's report on the accounts and balance sheet contained in the annual return and the Auditor's Report (if any).
- 112. The Society shall at all times keep a copy of the latest balance sheet of the Society together with a copy of the corresponding Auditor's report (if any) hung up in a conspicuous place at the registered office and displayed on the Society's website (if any).

Audit

- 113. Unless the Society meets the criteria set out in section 83(2) of the Act or may disapply the audit requirement in accordance with section 84 of the Act, the Board shall in each financial year appoint an Auditor as required by section 83(1) of the Act, to audit the Society's accounts and balance sheet for the year. This provision also applies if the Society is in its first financial year.
- 114. The following persons shall not be appointed as Auditor of the Society:
 - (a) An Officer or Employee of the Society;
 - (b) A person who is a partner or employee of, or who employs an, Officer of the Society.

- 115. The Board may appoint an Auditor to fill a casual vacancy occurring between general meetings.
- 116. An Auditor for the preceding financial year shall be re-appointed as Auditor of the Society for the current financial year unless:
 - (a) A decision has been made by the Board to appoint a different Auditor or expressly decided that s/he shall not be re-appointed; or
 - (b) S/he has given notice in writing to the Secretary of her/his unwillingness to be re-appointed; or
 - (c) S/he is ineligible for appointment as Auditor of the Society for the current financial year; or
 - (d) S/he has ceased to act as Auditor of the Society by reason of incapacity.
- 117. Any ordinary resolution of a general meeting of the Society either to remove an Auditor from office or to appoint another person as Auditor shall not be effective unless notice of the proposed resolution has been given to the Society at least 28 days prior to the meeting at which the resolution is to be considered. At least 14 days' notice of such resolution must then be given to Members of the Society in the manner prescribed in these Rules and in Writing to the Auditor(s).

Social Accounting and Reporting

118. In addition to any financial accounts required by the Act, the Members may resolve to undertake an account of the activities of the Society which will endeavour to measure its social and environmental performance using whatever methodology the Members deem appropriate. Following the completion of such an account the Society shall report any findings to its Members and other stakeholders.

Indemnity and Insurance

- 119. Subject to the following rule, any Director or former Director of the Society may be indemnified out of the Society's assets against:
 - (a) Any liability incurred by that Director in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the Society;
 - (b) Any liability incurred by that Director in connection with the activities of the Society in its capacity as a trustee of an occupational pension scheme;
 - (c) Any other liability incurred by that Director as an Officer of the Society.
- 120. The above rule does not authorise any indemnity which would be prohibited or rendered void by any provision of law.
- 121. The Directors may decide to purchase and maintain insurance, at the expense of the Society, for the benefit of any Director or former Director of the Society in respect of any loss or liability which has been or may be incurred by such a Director in connection with their duties or powers in relation to the Society or any pension fund or employees' share scheme of the Society.

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cretary in BLOCK CAPITALS (no initials)
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BANK OF ENGLAND PRUDENTIAL REGULATION AUTHORITY



Mutual Societies Application Form

New registrations and conversions: co-operative societies and community benefit societies

Full proposed name of society:

Gower Power Solar Limited

Important information you should read before completing this form

You must use this form if you are:

- applying to register a new co-operative society
- applying to register a new community benefit society
- converting a particular type of friendly society into a co-operative society or community benefit society (please see notes for details); or
- converting a registered company into a co-operative society or community benefit society.

Please note:

- we have an information note that may assist you in completing this application.
- any personal details you give on the form will be placed on the society's file.
- it is important you give accurate and complete information and disclose all relevant information. If you
 do not, it may take us longer to assess your application and possibly lead to the application being
 rejected.

Please keep a copy of the form and the supporting documents for future reference.

Terms in this form

'FCA', 'PRA', 'us' and 'we' refer to the Financial Conduct Authority or Prudential Regulation Authority.

'You' refers to the person signing the form on behalf of the society.

'The 2014 Act' is the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014

'The 1974 Act' is the Friendly Societies Act 1974



BANK OF ENGLAND PRUDENTIAL REGULATION AUTHORITY



Mutual Societies Application Form

New registrations and conversions: co-operative societies and community benefit societies

Filling in the form

1 If you are using your computer to complete the form:

- use the TAB key to move from question to question and press SHIFT TAB to move back to the previous question; and
- print out the completed form and arrange for it to be signed by all relevant individuals.
- 2 If you are filling in the form by hand:
 - use black ink;
 - write clearly; and
 - arrange for it to be signed and dated by all relevant individuals.
- 3 If you make a mistake, cross it out and initial the changes; do not use correction fluid.
- 4 If you:
 - leave a question blank;
 - do not get the form signed; or
 - do not attach the required supporting information

without telling us why, we will treat the application as incomplete. This will increase the time taken to assess your application.

5 If there is not enough space on the form, you may use separate sheets of paper. Clearly mark each separate sheet of paper with the relevant question number. Any separate sheets should be signed by the signatories to the form.

6 Email a scanned copy of the signed form and supporting documents to

mutual.societies@fca.org.uk

or

send it by post to:

Mutuals Team Financial Conduct Authority 25 The North Colonnade Canary Wharf LONDON E14 5HS

FCA
Mutuals Registration of co-operative and community benefit societies (F)
Release 2
July 2014

Details of Registration

1 What are you applying to do?

Register a new cooperative society

Register a new community benefit society

Convert a registered company into a co-operative

society or community

benefit society

Convert a friendly society into a co-operative society or community benefit society Complete this form from question 3 Complete this form from question 3 Complete this form from question 2 Complete Appendix 2

Complete this form from question 3 Complete Appendix 3

Completed

Completed and Attached

Completed

Completed and Attached

2 Details of the society that is currently registered under the Friendly Societies Act 1974

Name of current society (if converting)	
Register number of society	

3 Contact details for communications about this application

Name	Leanne Cank	
Position	Support Advisor	
Full Address	Holyoake House, Hanover Street, Manchester, M60 0AS	
Contact Telephone	0161 2141750	
Email Address	advice@uk.coop	

4 Does the society have any timing factors that it would like us to consider?

If the society wishes to be registered by a specific date, we will try to meet it. Please bear in mind we usually take 15 working days to examine each application.

ASAP

5 You must attach the following:

Two copies of the proposed society's rules (or one copy if submitted electronically), signed at the end by 3 members and by the society Secretary.

X Attached

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6 What is the full proposed name of the society?

Gower Power Solar Limited

7 What business, industry or trade does the society intend to carry out?

Developing community-owned renewable energy generation projects and promoting renewable and sustainable approaches including energy efficiency and conservation by educating the general public. Our aspiration is to combat fuel poverty and create a fair and clean, sustainable environment for future generations and to carry on any business for the benefit of the community.

8 How will the society fund is activities?

If the society proposes to issue withdrawable share capital please state whether the society intends to pay interest on the share capital and, if so, how the society will determine the rate of interest to be offered.

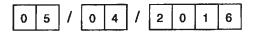
The society intends to issue withdrawable share capital.

The rate of interest on share capital, shall not exceed a reasonable rate necessary (see Rules), in the opinion of the Board, to obtain and retain the capital required to carry out the objects of the society, nor shall it risk the society's status as a community benefit society

The Society may also apply for grants and consider loans as in-keeping with its Rules

9 What date does the society want to end its financial year on?

If you want a specific financial year end date please specify below. If left blank the society will be registered with a financial year ending on the last day of the month it was registered.



To register a co-operative society go to question 10

To register a community benefit society go to question 15

Co-operative society

10 How will members benefit from the business industry or trade of the society?

- 11 Is membership of the society required to obtain the benefits offered by it?
 - No
- 12 In what way will members participate in an ongoing basis in the society's primary business?

13 How will members democratically control the society?

14 How will the society use any surplus/profit?

If the society intends to distribute the surplus/profit to members please explain how this is to be done.

Continue to question 20

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Community benefit society

10 Who are the community the society intends to benefit?

The society intends to operate for the benefit of communities in Gower and surrounding areas, and deliver projects in furtherance of the objects of the society.

16 How will the society benefit that community?

The Society will develop community owned renewable energy projects. Once the development phase is complete the Society will manage the renewable energy projects and facilitate the production and sale of the energy produced.

The Society will be owned and run by the community. Participation in the Society will be part of the day-to-day activity.

Any income generated through the sale of the renewable energy will be collected by the Society into a community fund. The Society will utilise the community fund to undertake local and community activity designed to build a more sustainable society including:

Insulate people's home and other Install other energy efficiency measures (in the community of benefit);

Educate the public about energy efficiency through for example, their website, social media, newsletters, workshops etc.;

Through educating them about energy efficiency less energy will be used, bills will be reduced and there will be less fuel poverty.

The Society are also intending to develop ecologically sensitive land-based livelihoods that engage the membership, for example, setting up community supported agriculture schemes that give people better access to affordable organic produce and teach people how to look after local natural habitats properly and avoid food that travels across the world damaging the wider environment. Activity will also improve people's understanding of what constitutes a heathy dlet, workshops on how to cook with seasonal produce, and the provision of information (verbal and written) why it is worth supporting local producers. The community as a result of these activities will become healthier, more resilient, less people will be in fuel poverty and it will improve their local economy and environment with better consumer choices.

The Society will work closely with other community organisations (probably not on a day-to-day basis) through the provision of grants to enable them to undertake their community activity.

17 How will the society use any surplus/profit?

To a general reserve for the continuation and development of the Society; or To making payment for social or community purposes within the community served by the Society;

To making grants and/or payments to Community Organisation.

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18 Are the society's objects charitable?

No > Continue to question 20

☐ Yes ▶ Complete Appendix 1

Completed and Attached

19 Does the society intend to have a statutory asset lock?

- 🗌 No
- 🛛 Yes

Continue to question 20

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20 Please complete the table below

Matters to be provided for	Rule number(s)
The society's name	1
The objects of the society	4
The place of the society's registered office, to which all communications and notices may be addressed	2
The terms of admission of the members, including any society or company investing funds in the society under the provision of the 2014 Act.	13-15
The method of holding meetings, the scale and right of voting, and the method of making, altering or rescinding rules.	33-60, 107
The appointment and removal of a committee, (by the name of * The Board of Directors) and of managers or other officers, and their respective powers and remuneration.	61-78, 89-91
The maximum amount of interest in the shares of the society which may be held by any member otherwise than by virtue of section 24(2) 2014 Act.	22
Whether the society may contract loans or receive moneys on deposit subject to the provisions of the 2014 Act from members or others; and, if so, under what conditions, under what security, and to what limits of amount.	7-10
Whether any or all shares are transferable, and provision for the form of transfer and registration of the shares, and for the consent of the committee to transfer or registration. Whether any or all shares are withdrawable, and provision for the method of withdrawal, and the payment of the balance due thereon on withdrawing from the society.	26-30
Provision for the audit of accounts in accordance with Part 7 of the 2014 Act.	113-117
Whether members may withdraw from the society, and if so, how, and provision for the claims of the representatives of deceased members or the trustees of the property of bankrupt members)or, in Scotland, members whose estate has been sequestrated) and for the payment of nominees.	17-21
The way in which the society's profits are to be applied.	96
If the society is to have a common seal, provision for its custody and use.	103
Whether any part of the society's funds may be invested, and if so by what authority and in what way.	12

*please add the name of the Committee of Management - e.g. 'The Board'

Continue to 21

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- 21 Please provide details of any close links which the society or any member of its committee has, or intends to have, with any society, company or authority The following are regarded as evidence of a close link with another society, company or other entity:
 - any material contract or arrangement which it is anticipated that the society will enter into in order to undertake its business; and
 - any other directorships or senior positions held by members of the committee.

If there are no close links to report write 'None' in the box below. Do not just leave the box blank.

Gower Power Co-op CIC will receive a fixed fee for setting up and establishing the society. Two of the founding directors are directors of Gower Power. Gower Power Co-op CIC has assisted the founder members to develop the new Society and help them during the set up period up until the first AGM. The Society has considered using the services of another organisation however, Gower Power Co-op CIC were the best value for money and are the closest to the Society's trading area. The Society can cease their relationship with Gower Power Co-op CIC at any time and complete the work themselves or choose to contract with another organisation and follow an appropriate tender process at this stage to ensure that the community benefit is paramount.

The founder members believe that the payment that Gower Power will receive Is justified in consideration of the time involved in creating this project 100% at risk.

Without this initial resource, the project would not get off the ground. In their view, the fixed payment is on line with the management fee rates other organisations charge for establishing similar projects, the founder members are incentivised to ensure that the societies are established and operated efficiently in order to effectively benefit the communities the societies are set up to achieve. Gower Power Co-op CIC will receive a fee for the work they undertake for the Society. The fee payable is to cover the carrying out of due diligence on renewable energy assets, identifying and securing institutional lenders, managing a community share issue and draftling social impact plans. Obviously it and the founder members are keen to ensure the best outcomes for the community and that are best value for money and carried out effectively and efficiently. Hence the founder members believe that this payment will further the community interest in respect of the society. At any point the Society feels that the services that are being received are not value for money they can break ties with Gower Power Co-op CIC with immediate effect.

Although not under contract, the society will also hare the "Gower Power" brand in order to facilitate accessing the same community members and engage them in the society's new initiatives.

The Society confirms that all conflicts of interest are managed in accordance with the rules.

Other directorships and senior positions are reported on a separate sheet.

Please use separate sheets of paper if you need more space and indicated below how many separate sheets you have used:

	1			
ł		 _	 	

22 Are any members of the society's committee disqualified as directors under the Company Director Disqualification Act 1986?

\boxtimes	No
	Yes

23 Does the society intend to carry out any regulated activity?

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By 'regulated' we refer to activities regulated by the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

- 🛛 No
- 🗌 Yes

24 Have you used model rules provided by a sponsoring body?

- □ No ▶ Continue to question 25
- Yes > The sponsoring body must complete the boxes below.

Name of the model being used	Community Finance Model Rules
Name of sponsoring body	Co-operatives UK
Signature on behalf of sponsoring body	ALLA
Date	123 October 2015.

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Registration fee

25 Please tick the relevant box below to confirm the fee submitted with your application

- The society is using model rules with no changes 🗌 £40
- ∑ £120 → The society is using model rules with 1-6 changes
- ☐ £350 → The society is using model rules with 7-10 changes
- ☐ £950 → The society is not using model rules

□ No fee ▶ This only applies to a friendly society converting to a co-operative or community benefit society.

You must pay the registration fee by cheque. It is not refundable (even if the society decides to withdraw its application).

How to pay

- a. Make the cheque payable to the Financial Conduct Authority. We cannot accept post-dated cheques.
- b. Write the name of the society on the back of the cheque.
- c. Send the cheque with the application form.

Continue to 26

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Member and secretary details

26 You must arrange for three members and the Secretary of the society to complete the table below

Member 1

Name	Roy Kenneth Church
Address	Mill Buildings EADICMILL SWANSEA
Contact Number	07974243748
Signature	Marin
Date	4615

Member 2	
Name	JOHN WHITEN
Address	CADIZ HALL REYLODSTON SWANSER SAZ HW
Contact Number	01792 390219
Signature	to later
Date	7/SEAT/20.5

Member 3	
Name	ANTHONY FUTHAGAN
Address	SUNNYSIOE PHILLIPS FIELD, PHERMILL SWANSER SA32EP
Contact Number	0782 4860803
Signature	Mall
Date	14/9/15

Secretary	
Name	ANTHONY FUTURAGED
Address	AS AGOUE
Contact Number	14-11
Signature	Mall 11-
Date	14/9/15
	//

Date of application

27 Date the application was submitted

- 23 October 2015. Date +6 201

End of form

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Directorships and senior positions

• • •

Ant Flanagan - Director of: Gower Power Co-op CIC; Cae Tan Community Supported Agriculture Ltd; Babs Community Energy CIC; Cleopatra Community Energy CIC; Hermione Community Energy CIC; Peasblossom Community Energy CIC; Cleopatra Community Energy CIC; Pantymoch Community Energy CIC; Shuffles Community Energy CIC; Willowcroft W Community Energy CIC; Cordelia Community Energy CIC; Hermia Community Energy CIC; Marble Community Energy CIC; Mariana Community Energy CIC; Miranda Community Energy CIC; Wolfie Community Energy CIC; Moorings Community Energy Ltd; Swansea Bay Community Energy Ltd; Swansea Bay Community Energy Two Ltd (currently being incorporated)

John Whiten - Director of: Gower Power Co-op CIC; Community Power Ltd; Moorings Community Energy Ltd; DJ Boxing Ltd; Ethical Energy Ltd; Swansea Bay Community Energy Ltd; Babs Community Energy CIC; Cleopatra Community Energy CIC; Hermione Community Energy CIC; Peasblossom Community Energy CIC; Pantymoch Community Energy CIC; Shuffles Community Energy CIC; Swansea Bay Community Energy Two Ltd (currently being incorporated)

Roy Church – Director of: Dunvant SBG Ltd; Coteglade Limited; GHC (Management) Limited; Gower Heritage Ltd; Tourism Swansea Bay Limited; Also, Trustee of following Charities: Y Felin Ddwr Charitable Trust; Calon Lan Centre; Barham Centre

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