

25<sup>th</sup> September 2009 Ref: DSG(2009)C076

Mr Bob Churchill c/o Anna MacConnell Socio economics Manager NDA Forss By Thurso

Dear Mr Churchill

## Please respond direct to:

June Love DSG Secretariat D2003/Zone 11 Dounreay Thurso Caithness KW14 7TZ

Submission to NDA for application for funding for STEM initiative

Donna Chisholm has approached the Dounreay Stakeholder Group asking for support to the funding application for the STEM initiative which will be submitted to you for NDA consideration.

The socio economic sub group of the DSG has, unfortunately not met since that request, but correspondence has circulated asking members whether they feel this is a worthwhile project to support.

We believe, since this is an integral part of the Caithness & North Sutherland Regeneration Partnership (skills agenda) it is worthwhile supporting and has a long term sustainable argument in its favour. For school pupils/leavers the STEM opportunities available would be invaluable, especially in the marine renewable sector which is so high on the local agenda at this time.

We have requested a presentation at the next socio economic sub group meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> October and certainly one of the questions which will arise is the Highland Council support as DSG members believe that the Highland Council has a very important part to play in this initiative.

However, in principle the DSG socio economic sub group have no hesitation in offering its' support to the application for funding submitted to you.

Yours sincerely

Sent electronically without signature

Derrick Milnes
DSG Socio economic sub group chairman