

9th May 2011

Ref: DSG(2011)C193

Sir Stuart Hampson Chairman The Crown Estate 6 Bell's Brae Edinburgh EH4 3BJ

Please respond to:

June Love DSG Secretariat Dounreay.com Traill House 7 Olrig Street Thurso, Caithness, KW14 7BJ

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Dear Sir Hampson

CROWN ESTATE WAVE AND TIDAL PROJECT MANAGER

I am writing on behalf of the Dounreay Stakeholder Group (DSG) which represents over 20 community organisations and provides a link between the Dounreay site and the community.

As part of its remit the DSG takes an active interest in the socio economic activities of the Caithness and North Sutherland area which is an important aspect of the site decommissioning programme. As the Dounreay site runs down it is imperative that future employment is identified for the highly skilled workforce and supply chain that lives and works in our community.

We are aware that you are about to lose the services of Duncan Mackay, Wave and Tidal Project Manager for the Crown Estates. Basing this post in Thurso has had significant value to the leasing of the Pentland Firth programme and this also has a potential significant impact on the area's economic activities.

We are writing to you to urge you to ensure that this post remains based in Caithness at what is a key time for the economic transition of our area and we, like the CNSRP, believe that it is vital that there is a continuing presence from the Crown Estates in Caithness.

We look forward to hearing from you and hope that your response is a positive one for our area.

Yours sincerely

P Derrick Milnes

DSG Socio Economic sub group chairman

cc. CNSRP Executive Board (via Eann Sinclair)
Alex Salmond, First Minister
John Thurso, MP
Rob Gibson, MSP