

Micro Hydro Association Prospectus

Aim

To assist with the creation and operation of small¹ hydro-electric schemes driven from watercourses and impoundments, principally in Britain.

Activities

Publication (on a website and by email) of details about small hydro schemes and related suppliers of equipment and services, in particular those provided by members of the association, and sharing knowledge and experience.

Lobbying of government, statutory bodies and other organisations involved in or subject to legislation concerning small hydro-electric schemes on behalf of members of the association where the creation and operation of small hydro-electric schemes is believed to be jeopardised.

[possibly in the future seeking MCS accreditation as an umbrella organisation for **supply** of equipment and/or installation services involved in the creation and operation of small hydro schemes – initially services of suitable members may be offered by the association as specialists who are involved in moving the association towards accreditation. This would involve amendment to the constitution in respect of responsibilities of the administrator and others.]

Records

The administrator will maintain on the website records of:

1. Micro hydro schemes
 - identified or planned
 - under development
 - operational
2. Equipment suppliers
3. Installers
4. Advisers

Constitution

The association is a group of individuals and organisations with an interest in the creation and operation of small hydro-electric schemes. It is open to any British citizen or resident or a representative of a supplier of hydro equipment or hydro installation services to become a member.

The association is administered by one member with the role of administrator who is responsible for all communications from the organisation and for maintaining records of membership and links to information provided by members concerning their skills, equipment, services and contact details. This data will be open to the public at large on the association's website www.microhydroassociation.co.uk.

The association will have control over no assets other than the above data. The association is exempt from registration under the Data Protection Act and the administrator act as the data controller.

¹ The term small in respect of a hydro scheme is not intended to define a particular lower or upper limit of power capacity but will normally apply to schemes in the range 1kW to 50kW rated capacity.

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The administrator may appoint an acting administrator to undertake the administrator's duties in case of absence, illness, etc.

The administrator will not be entitled to any remuneration and will be responsible for paying personally such costs as he/she incurs on behalf of the association incurs (for example fees for web site services) but not including indemnity for equipment or services provided by members. This condition will be reviewed upon any change of administrator.

The administrator may at any time give notice to all members of his/her resignation, whereupon it will be up to the members to confer amongst themselves to find a replacement by a majority vote.

Any member is entitled to suggest changes to the constitution by email to any or all of the members. The administrator will consider proposed changes to the constitution and will have the authority to accept, modify or reject them. Any accepted or amended changes will be circulated to all members. The administrator will give reasons to the proposer(s) for modification or rejection of the change.

Any member or group of members may at any time seek the removal of the administrator and the appointment of a replacement by obtaining a majority vote. The outgoing administrator will cease to be liable for any further expenditure incurred by the association.

Any member may at any time resign from the association and the administrator will remove all records concerning that member unless specifically authorised by the resigning member to retain them.

Membership

Membership will be by invitation from members to known individuals, representatives of organisations, and to the public at large. The administrator will have the authority to accept a membership application providing the applicant meets the membership criteria below. The administrator will have the authority to reject an application for membership if he/she believes this would be detrimental to the aims of the association, but in this instance the applicant will be notified of the reason.

Membership will be free of any charge until and unless circumstances make it necessary to ask for a subscription.

Membership criteria

Members will:

be either a member of the voting public or a representative of an organisation

be able to communicate by email and access the association website

give the association permission to publish their names and, optionally, other details: email address(es); telephone number(s); documents describing, or access to web location(s) containing, details of hydro schemes planned under development or operational, equipment or services offered

give some evidence of interest in the generation of energy from renewable resources.