

SCDI PRESS RELEASE

*06 October 2008*

## **SCDI RESPONSE TO RENEWABLE ENERGY FRAMEWORK**

**Responding to the publication of the Scottish Government's Renewable Energy Framework, Gareth Williams, spokesperson for SCDI said:**

"We support the Government's ambition, but ministers have to make sure that the planning system actively encourages these kinds of development instead of putting a brake on them as at the moment.

"Until now the political debate on energy has focused absolutely on electricity production. If we are going to hit European targets for renewable energy, we need to look at how Scotland produces heat and renewable transport solutions.

"The scale of the challenge means that there will be opportunities for Scottish manufacturers and researchers. The strategy shows just how far we have got to go to hit renewable electricity targets, with less than 5 per cent of electricity production coming from wind, and well short of our target of 31 per cent renewable target by 2011."

**Gareth also highlighted the importance of cutting energy use, in addition to using more renewable forms of heat and power:**

"Cutting energy use is the cheapest and quickest way to cut our impact on the environment and we urge the Government to bring forward proposals to achieve reduced energy use."

**ENDS**