Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing with regard to the inquiry into the Scottish Government's renewable energy targets.

Firstly I think it is vital to do all that is possible to reduce demand: this includes not only the 'usual' advice on changing life style, insulating houses etc but also and most importantly, managing the population of Scotland which is increasing year on year (4000 more births than deaths last year) It is estimated 2 cities the equivalent of the size of Birmingham will need to be built in Scotland by 2030. Whilst 40% of pregnancies in Scotland are unplanned, and 30% unwanted, there is a great need to encourage contraceptive usage and encouraging smaller family size: by having fewer children this is by far the most effective way of reducing energy demand.

I am concerned about the global impacts of climate change on people and wildlife, and I am proud to live in a country which has shown great leadership by setting the strongest legislation to reduce carbon emissions of any country of the world, through the Scottish Climate Change Act.

To ensure that we can achieve the targets within our Act, it's crucial that we accelerate our efforts to develop a strong and flourishing renewable energy industry, providing much-needed jobs and a secure supply of clean, green energy in the long term. Alongside energy saving measures, renewables will have a critical role to play in helping Scotland reduce climate emissions as we phase out polluting fossil fuels.

There is evidence that it's more than possible for all of Scotland's electricity needs to come from renewable sources by 2020. The vital ingredient needed to drive the delivery of these targets is political ambition. This inquiry must strive to strengthen the current commitment to renewables and not weaken it.

I urge you to use this opportunity to support Scotland's renewables ambitions so that we can continue to drive forward this agenda and help us successfully deliver the targets of the Scottish Climate Change Act.

I am replying as an individual and I am happy for my response and name to be made public, but not my address.

Mrs Penelope Ann McKee
18 February 2012