



To: IECRE System Members

From: Alistair Mackinnon

Chairman's Message

Friends,

As many of us look forward to the festive period and the end of 2020, few of us could have contemplated how devastating the end of the second decade and beginning of the third in the new millennium would be.

For some this year has seen the premature loss of loved ones and for others they themselves have suffered the ravages of the coronavirus.

My hope for us all is that our world becomes a safe place in 2021, where better health returns to us all and our fragile global economy sees the early green shoots of renewal. Despite the news in the written media, and on our mobile devices, we have perhaps an opportunity to accelerate the development and deployment of our various renewable technologies to help make our world a kinder, friendlier and more environmentally acceptable place.

May I wish you and your families and friends the season's greetings and a healthy and happy and prosperous new year whenever it comes to you.

2020 has been a year of change in so many different ways and our System has been no different in that regard and has also seen many changes, especially as we conclude the first year of our new structure with one decision making forum of the REMC. As we know our REMC was of necessity held remotely this year and I'm especially grateful to you all for the way in which you participated during the meeting and for your support in dealing with items by exception. My earnest hope is that we will be able to meet face to face in 2021 and renew those important business and professional relationships which are essential to the efficient operation of all that we seek to do. I know for some that we were not able to have as full and frank discussions on some matters as we have in the past so again my thanks for your understanding.

No doubt 2021 will be another year of change as the world of renewables is thankfully a fast moving and dynamic sector. I am excited about the new opportunities we have in the PV Sector and look forward to discussions on the Rating concept. For Marine we have our first Test Laboratory – the first of many I hope and I know extensive discussions are ongoing as to what form Marine conformity assessment will take in the coming years. In Wind we still have a very healthy number of organisations wishing to participate and develop their scope and in 2021 we start the first cycle of reassessments.

We have much to look forward to – we have all learned much in 2020 on how to work more efficiently and effectively which can only be a positive as we look forward to new challenges in 2021.

As Chair, I look forward to further engagement with CAB – our Conformity Assessment Board and the exciting changes in IEC governance.

I would urge you all to reach out to each other and support our new endeavours as we seek to develop the System and for you to reach out to me – whether you believe we are doing the right thing or would like to see a different or new agenda, please let us know. Without your feedback we live in a vacuum and do not reach our own or the Systems full potential.

In closing my best wishes to you all and my thanks for all your comments, responses and discussions which I sincerely hope to continue in the New Year and beyond.

For many of us 2020 has seen us move beyond what we are comfortable with and I've been struck by this quote from Neale Donald Walsch:

'Life begins at the end of your comfort zone'

Take care

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