

## **Media release 14/07/09**

# **Petition Recount – 3474 - it's still big**

It has been announced that the new Sustainable Shetland petition total is now 3474 signatures.

The petition, presented to Shetland Island councillors two weeks ago was originally announced as 3605 signatures. The petition called on Shetland councillors not to support the Viking Energy Project.

However following more detailed checking and analysis using computer software, the new total, removing duplicate signatures, was found to be 131 signatures less.

Speaking about the new petition numbers, campaign vice chair Kevin Learmonth said “we said we were going to recheck the petition, and we have now done so. Sustainable Shetland can confirm the petition total is now a very healthy 3474 signatures. This is still a very large petition for a community of less than 22,000 people” he said. He added that the petition, representing all parts of Shetland and all walks of life was “a very strong indicator that the community of Shetland is strongly opposed to the Viking Energy wind farm”.

“This was very much a Shetland petition to Shetland councillors” said Mr Learmonth. The signatures from outwith Shetland, just 183 in total, represented students, visitors to the isles, and those with strong island connections”. Mr Learmonth said that it was important to understand that “anyone, living anywhere, can formally object to the Viking Energy Wind farm, by writing or emailing the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit before 28 July”.

[Press release ends]