



## Orkney turbine MCS certified

**A** WIND TURBINE built to cope with the worst of Scotland's weather has been awarded the highest level of accreditation for the UK Government's green energy payments scheme after months of testing in Orkney, Scotland.

The *Eoltec Scirocco*, co-developed by Orkney company **Bryan J Rendall Electrical (BJRE)**, is the first wind generator of its kind to meet *Class 1* standards under the *Microgeneration Certification Scheme*, claims BJRE.

This means it is rated to withstand the extreme wind speeds experienced

in exposed areas such as the north and west of Scotland.

The Scirocco is now the only *Class 1* turbine eligible for UK Feed-in Tariff (FiTs) payments. It is also "officially recognised as Britain's top performing small-scale wind turbine, after achieving the best performance results in its class", according to a BJRE claim. The 6 KW Scirocco has reportedly been certified as generating more than 10% more electricity than its nearest rival.

"This is according to a true and independent measure of how much energy the turbine will produce each

year," said BJRE's founder, Bryan Rendall.

"The Scirocco could produce up to 2,500 more units of electricity in 12 months than other similar sized turbines in a high wind speed area like Orkney. Over the turbine's 20-year projected life span, that could amount to £14,000 in additional revenue," he said.

Rendall said that the system is designed to be "island proof" - capable of performing well in severe weather conditions. He also described the certification process as "extremely challenging" - and at times very frustrating.

"We have achieved a *Class 1* rating on what is effectively a shoestring budget," he said. "Other manufacturers have had multi millions of pounds in financial help and investment to carry out this testing. We have done it virtually all in house, with only £14,000 of much appreciated funding from Highlands and Islands Enterprise."

The company had to stop marketing and selling the turbine until the certification was in place - just when the new FiTs payments created a big demand for small scale wind technology.

BJRE's marketing manager Tracey Jackson said: "This left us and our customers very frustrated. However, that logjam is now unblocked, and all the customers who have been very patient in this process will be able to take advantage of technology that will produce at least 10% more energy."