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For Immediate Release	Friday, 20 th February, 2009

Next week is Scottish Environment Week 2009

Scottish Environment Week brings together politicians, businesses, officials, environmentalists and people from all walks of life to celebrate Scotland's environment. Since its inception in 2003, the week has become a popular fixture in the parliamentary calendar, and MSPs from all parties will be attending events celebrating the many facets of Scotland's environment.

The Week creates an opportunity to focus on the importance of our environment and its value to the society and economy of Scotland. All of the Week's events take place in the Scottish Parliament.

Tuesday, 24th February

Smart Meter Briefing - OnStream, a National Grid company, will be hosting a briefing event to explain how Smart meters work and the benefits that they can provide. Hosted by Sarah Boyack MSP

Healthy Seas: Priceless! - The Scottish Marine Bill is due to be introduced to Parliament in 2009. How can this Bill make a difference for our marine environment and all the activities that depend on it? Hosted by Maureen Watt MSP

Wednesday 25th February

Climate Change and the Environment - As the Climate Change (Scotland) Bill is examined by the Parliament, Scottish Environment LINK invites you to go back to nature. Hosted by Malcolm Chisholm MSP

Scottish Environment Week Reception - Helen Zealley OBE, LINK President: Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Minister for the Environment: hosted by Sarah Boyack MSP.

Thursday 26th February 2009

Delivering the Goods - This informal drop-in session will explore how SRDP can deliver for biodiversity and how LINK members are already contributing. Hosted by Nanette Milne MSP

Physical Activity for Life - NHS Health Scotland is presenting a cross-Scotland networking session in partnership with Ramblers Scotland, the Mountaineering Council of Scotland and Sustrans. Hosted by Liam McArthur MSP

Throughout the Week - LINK Exhibition - Interactive Smart Metering Exhibition

Full programme details are available at http://www.scotlink.org/LINK action/SEW/SEW09Programme.php

Ends

Notes for editors

- 1. For more information please contact Andy Myles, Scottish Environment LINK Parliamentary Officer on 0131 225 4345 / 07834 485 760. Press are welcome at the events throughout the week, please let us know if you plan to attend. To obtain a media pass contact the Scottish Parliament media office: Tel: 0131 348 5000.
- 2. John Mayhew (Chair of Scottish Environment LINK) is available for comment.
- 3. Scottish Environment Week 2009 is sponsored by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage and NHS Health Scotland. Additional support comes from OnStream - a National Grid Company.
- 4. Scottish Environment LINK is the network for Scotland's voluntary sector environmental organisations. LINK has 32 member organisations spanning interests across the natural environment and associated cultural heritage and supported by around 500,000 people. Further information on LINK is available at www.scotlink.org



