#### **WORKING WITH YOUR COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

RES continues to keep in regular dialogue with your community council to pass on information about the wind farm construction and to provide an opportunity for your representatives to ask questions, seek clarification and resolve issues throughout the construction phase.

We will also work with the community councils and the wider community over the coming months to establish Freasdail Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund.

To find out more about your local community council. Go to www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/community-councillors

### **WORK WITH RES**

RES is keen to work with local suppliers throughout construction and operation of Freasdail Wind Farm.

We have already started developing a local supply chain. Following a meet the buyer event in November 2014, we were able to award contracts to two Argyll based suppliers, A & L McCrae and AMAC Harvesting, to do preparatory works on site.

We are also looking to work with local suppliers on the upcoming work on the site access, tracks and drainage.

We would like to build on this further and, as we progresses towards construction, there will be even more opportunities to work with us.

These are not only confined to construction, they also include: telecommunications, welfare facilities and maintenance, cleaning, food provision, lodging, plant hire (small and operated), waste disposal, ecological monitoring, geotechnical assessments, fuel supply and delivery, drinking water supply and delivery, fencing, forestry works and vehicle maintenance.

If you have a product or service to offer us, please get in touch with us at kirsten.sweeney@res-ltd.com

RES operates to stringent environmental, safety and quality standards and these form an important part of our contractor selection procedure. We assess compliance with these standards through a pre-qualification questionnaire.



#### MEET THE TEAM



**(** 

## **Kirsten Sweeney**

Community Relations Manager

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kirsten.sweeney@res-ltd.com



Third Floor,

STV, Pacific Quay,

Glasgow, G51 1PQ

#### **ABOUT RES**

RES, a privately owned British company with a proud history in Scotland, is one of the world's leading renewable energy developers. RES has developed and/or built more than 9,000 MW of renewable energy capacity worldwide.

In the UK alone, RES currently has more than 1,000 MW of wind energy projects either constructed, under construction or consented.

Employing over 100 staff in Scotland, RES has over 30 years' experience of developing, constructing and operating projects of outstanding quality.

If you require information in Braille, large text or audio, please let us know.

For those receiving this newsletter by post, we obtained your address through a national postcode database. If you do not wish to receive more information from us about Freasdail Wind Farm, please tell us by writing to Freasdail Wind Farm, RES, Third Floor, STV, Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1PQ

# FREASDAIL WIND FARM



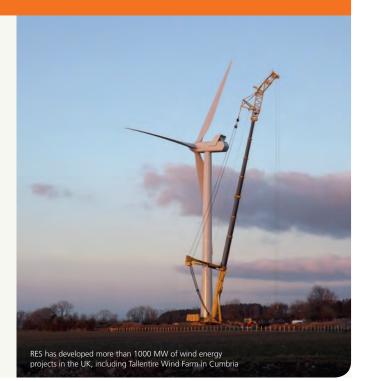
**Construction Newsletter 1 – September 2015** 

Welcome to the first in a series of newsletters from RES designed to keep the community informed throughout the construction of Freasdail Wind Farm.

#### **KEEPING YOU INFORMED**

RES is about to commence construction work at Freasdail Wind Farm. This work will be carried out safely and responsibly. We have developed a construction plan and central to this is the commitment to minimising any impact on our neighbours. Key to this is keeping you informed so that you know what to expect and when. This newsletter will provide an initial overview of works and we will continue to keep you informed through:

- the project website www.freasdail-windfarm.co.uk
- O your local community council representatives
- O updates in local media
- o writing to you directly
- o the dedicated Community Relations Manager please find contact details on the back page.



## GETTING READY FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY AT FREASDAIL

Work to construct Freasdail Wind Farm, which will be located in Freasdail Forest near Whitehouse, will commence in September 2015. Construction is expected to take around 20 months, with the wind farm due to be generating clean, green and sustainable energy from spring 2017. Once completed, the wind farm will produce enough renewable electricity to meet the average annual requirements of around 13,000 homes.\*



Freasdail Forest, Kintyre, Argyll



11 turbines

100m to tip of the blade



£2.8 million community benefit



Freasdail Wind Farm 4nn indd 25/08/2015 11:46

<sup>\*</sup> The homes equivalent has been calculated by taking the predicted annual electricity generation of the site (based on RES studies Freasdail has a predicted capacity factor of 30.1%) and dividing this by the annual average electricity consumption figures from the Department of Energy and Climate Change 2010 (4370kWh)

# **BUILDING FREASDAIL WIND FARM - KICKING OFF CONSTRUCTION**

In September 2015, RES will begin work to build Freasdail Wind Farm. The permitted hours of operation on the site are limited to 7am to 7pm, Monday to Saturday. No work will take place on outwith these times or on public holidays unless agreed by Argyll and Bute Council or it is required in urgent circumstances.

Work will start with the creation of a site entrance and tracks and drainage measures within the site.

The site will be accessed directly from the A83 with the entrance located approximately 1.2km south of Whitehouse.

The work to create a site access will take just over one month and will commence in early September 2015. This will include some limited work directly adjacent to the A83 carriageway. When there is work on the carriageway, short term traffic lights will be in place to protect workers and the travelling public. There will be signage displayed a minimum of seven days ahead of any temporary changes to traffic movements on the A83. There will also be advance signage when the traffic management measures – such as temporary traffic lights - are active.

The new wind farm site entrance is expected to be complete and in use for all wind farm construction traffic from the end of November 2015.

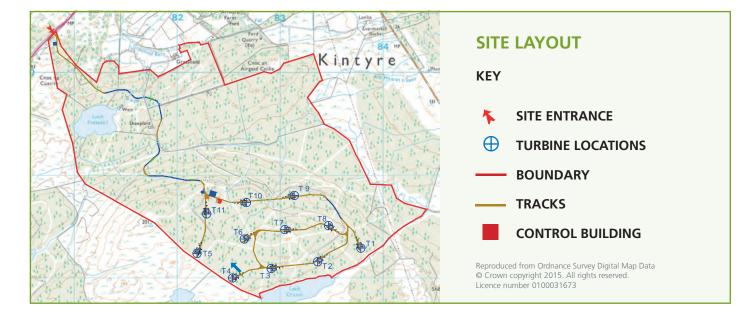
To create the site tracks, additional stone will need to be brought on to site. This will require up to 250 vehicle movements per week at peak periods of work - so approximately 125 vehicles entering and exiting the site each week (between 20 and 25 vehicles arriving at the site each day). There will also be vehicle movements with staff entering and exiting the site and other smaller scale deliveries.

RES has developed a detailed traffic management plan, taking into consideration the current use and the capacity of the A83, and will avoid movements during sensitive periods (such as at the start and end of the school day).

The newly created site entrance will be used for these deliveries and staff movements and, once in use, signage will be put in place to advise motorists of slow moving vehicles and heavy goods vehicles turning. There will also be signage in place for the heavy goods vehicle drivers, reminding them to be cautious and take their time – this will help to reduce noise and protect the road surface.

In addition to the works on access and tracks, RES will be putting drainage measures in place within the wind farm site. To ensure that this does not have an impact on the existing watercourses, RES has conducted a baseline study of the water quality on site using an approach agreed with SEPA. This will be monitored throughout construction to ensure that there are no significant changes. If a change is identified, RES will investigate and take appropriate action to sustain the pre-construction water quality baseline.

The work on access tracks and drainage is expected to take up until February 2016. There is also some forestry felling due to take place on site from December 2015. Further detail on this will be communicated nearer the time.



#### **COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

RES believes that local communities should benefit directly from hosting wind farms in their area.

RES offers a community benefit package totalling £5,000 per installed MW. This is broken down to a £3,000 per installed MW funding for a Local Electricity Discount Scheme and £2,000 per MW put towards a Community Benefit Fund.

#### **COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND**

The Community Benefit Fund will be £45,100 per annum for the 25 years that the wind farm will be operational.

It is for the community to decide how this fund is managed and spent. We will be working with your community council over the coming months to establish this fund.



Bridekirk Friendship Group Lunch Club received



Children at the opening of RES' Kelbur

# LOCAL ELECTRICITY DISCOUNT SCHEME (LEDS)

In addition to the Community Benefit Fund, RES also provides £3,000 per MW of installed capacity for a Local Electricity Discount Scheme.



RES launched Freasdail Wind Farm Local Electricity Discount

Scheme in April 2013. The scheme offers an annual discount to the electricity bills of those properties closest to the wind farm. The scheme is open to all residential, business and community buildings (including schools, places of worship and village halls) within five kilometres of the turbines.

Eligible properties were written to on launch to advise them that they are entitled to an annual discount of £235 off their electricity bill for the operational lifetime of the wind farm, with the discount being paid directly to the electricity supplier.

For more information on LEDS visit www.res-ltd.com or to check if you are eligible to apply for the Freasdail Wind Farm LEDS discount call our dedicated freephone number 0800 011 3341.

September

Work on site entrance, tracks and drainage begins

February

Control building and substation construction starts

Mav

Electric works begin

October

Turbine installation and commissioning underway

2015

2016

Forestry felling takes place

March

Start of turbine foundations work

September

Turbines delivered to site

2017

Spring

Generation of renewable energy