

FREASDAIL WIND FARM



Newsletter 2 November 2012

Welcome to the second newsletter from RES – keeping the community informed about our plans for Freasdail Wind Farm.

What's been happening?

Since our last newsletter we have been busy preparing the Environmental Statement and continuing to consult with the local community on the project. We have now submitted a planning application (Reference: 12/02150/PP) to Argyll and Bute Council.

The Environmental Statement includes the findings from the environmental studies that were carried out during the development process. The council will take this in to account when deciding whether or not to grant planning permission. Accompanying the Environmental Statement is a Non-Technical Summary which summarises the key findings. The Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report documents the community consultation we have undertaken and details the comments you made to us during the process.

You can view all the documents we have submitted on our website, or during normal working hours at the following locations:

- Argyll and Bute Council, Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay Area Office, Ardrishaig
- Tarbert Post Office.

The documents are also available locally at Whitehouse Village Hall between the hours of 4pm-8pm, every Tuesday and Thursday for the duration of the 21 day consultation period.

What happens next?

Under the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) 2008 regulations, the application should be determined within four months by Argyll and Bute Council.

For the planning committee to make an informed decision on the wind farm it is important it is aware of the views of local people.

There is a 21 day consultation period following the registration of the planning application. You can express your views about the wind farm by writing to:

Richard Kerr, Major Applications Team -
Development Management, Planning & Regulatory Services,
Dalriada House, Lochnell Street
Lochgilphhead, PA31 8ST

Community Liaison Meetings

Every two to three months RES holds a community liaison meeting at Whitehouse Village Hall. The meetings are attended by community council representatives and local residents.

The meetings act as a forum to discuss any concerns related to the wind farm and for RES to provide an update on the project. The meeting is open to everyone.

All the meeting minutes are published on our website. We hope to continue the meetings as the project progresses through planning. The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 19th at 7:30pm.

Some key points about Freasdail Wind farm:

- Freasdail Wind Farm could be capable of generating up to 22MW of clean electricity using the natural power of the wind. This is renewable energy equivalent to the average annual needs of almost 13,000 homes – or approximately 31% of the households in Argyll and Bute.*
- We want local people to benefit from Freasdail Wind Farm. We therefore propose to establish a Community Benefit Fund for the lifetime of the wind farm. It will be up to the local community as to how the fund is managed and spent. We are keen to hear ideas from people what projects and organisations could be supported through the fund.
- If approved, the wind farm will be constructed over a period of around 12 to 18 months. We will work closely with Argyll and Bute Council and local residents to minimise any impacts during this stage.
- By generating power from a cleaner, greener resource it will reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, and help address climate change.
- The use of a 'home-grown' and unlimited source of energy helps reduce our reliance on imported fuels and makes our energy supply more secure.

*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). The result has then been compared with National Records of Scotland Estimates of Households and Dwellings in Scotland, 2011.

**KEEP AN EYE ON THE
PROJECT WEBSITE**

We have created a dedicated website where you can keep up to date with the wind farm plans as they progress. www.freasdail-windfarm.co.uk

Local consultation

RES has consulted widely with the local community during the development phase. This has included public exhibitions, community meetings and meetings with local residents and representatives from the community councils.

We appreciate the time people have taken to find out about our proposal and provide us with comments. As the project progresses we will be mindful of other comments made in relation to construction and operation if the project is consented.

We have documented the consultation process within the Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report. This report details the consultation we have undertaken, the comments received and our response.

We want to be good neighbours and listen to and address any questions or concerns you may have. Please contact Rachel Anderson in the first instance if you have any queries (contact details below).



RES in Scotland

RES is one of the world's leading independent renewable energy companies. We are a privately owned British company and grew out of Sir Robert McAlpine. We play a vital role in developing and constructing projects that contribute to Scotland's energy supply. RES has developed and/or built over 6.5GW of wind capacity worldwide. In the UK, we are responsible for the development of almost 10% of the current wind energy capacity. In Scotland, RES has built nine projects, including the recently completed Hill of Towie Wind Farm in Moray and Kelburn Wind Farm in North Ayrshire.

At RES we are proud of our reputation for designing projects that optimise power performance whilst minimising any effects on local people and the environment. We work closely with communities, local authorities and independent experts to ensure our wind farms are built to the highest standards.

Support for the local community – RES provides vital funding to the Kintyre Way

As a company wishing to develop in the area RES wants to make sure it is contributing to the future of Kintyre in as many ways as we can.

RES is aware that tourism is of vital importance to Kintyre and we have therefore committed to providing £30,000 of funding to the Kintyre Way – a financial lifeline for the organisation that runs the walking route.

The funding will be split into £10,000 each year, for the next three years.

Since 2006 it is believed that around 6000 people have walked down the Kintyre Way bringing almost £2.5 million into the Kintyre economy. However, none of this financial benefit returns to the Kintyre Way to help with maintenance and development. The funding from RES will allow the organisation to continue to build up and maintain the route as a world class walking destination and attract more tourists to the area.



For those receiving this newsletter by post, we obtained your address through a national post code database. If you do not wish to receive further information from us about this proposal, please write to us and let us know.



Rachel Anderson

Community Relations Manager
rachel.anderson@res-ltd.com
Tel: 0141 404 5531 Mob: 07795 680 803

If you require information in Braille, large text or Audio please let us know. We would be happy to cover any issues in more detail in forthcoming newsletters. If you would like to see anything discussed please let us know.

RES UK & Ireland
Third Floor, STV
Pacific Quay
Glasgow
G51 1PQ