

RENEWABLES SW – February 2007

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1. Den Brook 18 MW Wind Farm approved on Appeal

An 18 MW wind farm in Devon has been approved planning permission on appeal. The appeal was made by RES Developments Ltd against the decision of West Devon Borough Council to refuse permission for nine turbines on land to the south east of North Tawton and south west of Bow. The inspector stated that he had "little doubt that this location would rank highly among the landscapes (of Devon) most able to accommodate development of the type, scale and extent proposed." The inspector felt no reason to be bound by his colleagues decisions to refuse two other wind schemes in West Devon, explaining that these schemes were much closer to Dartmoor, with a far more significant impact, being located on the crest of a ridge and on a rising hillside, unlike Den Brook which is arranged along the sides of a valley. Work is expected to start on the wind farm in 2008. Copies of the appeal decision are available from Cheryl Hiles, Regen SW chiles@regensw.co.uk

2. Call for Bioheat projects

The first of The South West Bioheat Programme's demand creation activities are about to go live in March whereupon support will be available for projects which would like to investigate the viability of biomass at their site. Some of the support available includes site assessments, system specification, financial analysis, grant applications, fuel supply negotiation, planning liaison, stakeholder engagement and demonstration visits. Marketing is currently going out throughout the region to raise awareness of the programmes activities and to encourage schemes to come forward. For further information on the support available and to register projects please go to www.regensw.co.uk/bioheat

3. Cornish Company scoops Asda green energy contract

Renewable Energy consultancy Green Peninsula has won a major contract to help Asda generate renewable electricity on site at its stores. The company is developing a 2 MW wind turbine at an Asda depot in Falkirk, and is developing wind schemes at five other store sites around the UK. The deal highlights Cornwall's specialist knowledge in wind technology. Last month Cornwall Light and Power (CLP) announced a deal to create a large wind farm in Canada, on the back of a £100 million stock offering by Renewable Energy Generation, its parent company. To find out more about Green Peninsula go to:

<http://www.greenpeninsulaco.com/home.asp>

4. Government launches new carbon offsetting standards

DEFRA has launched a consultation on a new code for carbon offsetting that is likely to tighten standards significantly. The code rules out voluntary emissions reductions, and would not allow companies who use offsets to claim carbon neutrality. It encourages purchase of offset from overseas through the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), and Joint Implementation (JI) schemes. It may also allow offsets to be counted from the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EUETS). To see the Code go to:

www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/uk/carbonoffset/codeofpractice.htm

The Carbon Trust has recently produced guidance on carbon offsetting for companies in which it recommended offsetting as the third and last step in a programme of emissions reduction. To see the guidance go to

www.carbontrust.co.uk/carbon/briefing/offsets.htm

5. Plug in a wave

More wave device developers are being sought for the £20m Wave Hub project off Cornwall to join the three companies already selected. The South West RDA, which is developing the project, is seeking further expressions of interest by 2nd March from developers wanting to connect. Wave Hub will provide a leased, consented and grid connected area of sea within which arrays of wave energy converters can be tested over several years. For details contact Wave Hub project manager Nick Harrington at nick.harrington@southwestrda.org.uk and see www.wavehub.co.uk.

6. South West England goes to Ecobuild

Regen SW is taking six south west companies to this year's EcoBuild exhibition in London, under the South West England banner. The companies are: Kensa Engineering, White Design, Ecofirst, Treco, Ecovision Systems, and the Genesis Project. The exhibition takes place from 27th February – 1st March, and is being held at Earls Court 2. The exhibition is free to visitors, and there is a conference running alongside. Further details can be found at www.ecobuild.co.uk

Regen SW will be launching its new directory of South West Micro-renewable energy companies at the exhibition. To download a copy of the Directory go to:

<http://www.regensw.co.uk/press/docs-info.asp?id=247>

7. Rubbish or resource?

The four West of England local authorities ([Bath & North East Somerset](#), [Bristol](#), [North Somerset](#), [South Gloucestershire](#)) are working together to plan new ways of managing residual municipal waste. This is the waste left over in wheelie bins or bags after all possible recycling and composting has taken place. A consultation is underway for residents in the four local authority areas and closes on 23 March. More generally, the Issues and Options booklet gives a thorough and clear description of waste issues and seven technology options, all including energy recovery, that could be used. See www.rubbishorresource.co.uk

8. npower renewables Job Vacancies

Npower renewables is currently advertising for three positions at its Headquarters in Swindon. The positions are: Offshore Development Manager salary range: £35,000 to £45,000. This job involves co-ordinating wide-ranging offshore wind power development activities, managing workstreams for high profile projects and taking ownership of Environmental Impact Assessments and planning applications. This position requires someone with broad knowledge of development in the marine environment, familiarity with wind and renewable projects and impressive leadership ability. Also being advertised are two positions in the company's PR team: PR Officer (Wales), salary range: £24,000 to £34,000, and PR Assistant, salary range: £17,000 to £20,000. Further details can be found on the website at www.npower-renewables.com



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