

# KEIRS HILL WIND FARM



May 2013

Welcome to the Keirs Hill Wind Farm newsletter from RES – designed to keep the community informed about our plans.

## WHAT ARE WE PROPOSING

RES has been investigating the potential for a wind farm on land south of Patna. We originally submitted a scoping opinion to the Scottish Government for a larger scheme known as Scienteuch Wind Farm. Our designs evolved as a result of the site studies we have undertaken and feedback received. We have reduced the proposed number of turbines from 33 to 17 and this has seen the turbines consolidated in the eastern most part of the original site. The proposed project is called Keirs Hill Wind Farm and is located within East Ayrshire.

Scotland has one of the best wind climates in Europe. By utilising this abundant and free resource we can make a valuable contribution to Scotland's renewable energy targets and reduce our reliance on imported fuels. Depending on the final turbine selection, Keirs Hill Wind Farm could be capable of generating up to 57.8MW of clean electricity using the natural power of the wind. This is the renewable energy equivalent to the annual electricity demands of almost 33,000 homes – or approximately 61% of the households in East Ayrshire\*.

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

We want to share our proposals for Keirs Hill with as many people as possible, so we will be holding a series of public exhibition to present our plans at the following locations and times:

- **Tuesday 28th May, 2pm – 7pm: Patna Community Centre**
- **Wednesday 29th May, 2pm – 7pm: Straiton Village Hall**
- **Thursday 30th May, 2pm – 7pm: Dalmellington Community Centre**

We do hope you will be able to come and discuss the proposal with us. Members of the RES project team will be on hand to answer any questions you might have and there will also be the opportunity to register your views about the wind project, which in turn could inform our proposal.

Following this public consultation, as the application will be for a project over 50 megawatts, RES plans to submit an application for the project to the Scottish Government Energy Consents and Deployment Unit (ECDU) later this year.

\* The homes equivalent has been calculated by taking the predicted annual electricity generation of the site (based on RES studies, Keirs Hill Wind Farm has a predicted capacity factor of at least 28.5%) and dividing this by the annual average electricity consumption figures from the Department of Energy and Climate Change 2011 (4266kWh). The result has then been compared with National Records of Scotland Estimates of Households and Dwellings in Scotland, 2011



*For illustrative purposes only. RES' Pays de St Saine Wind Farm in France, height to tip 130m.*

## KEY FACTS

*Location: Between Patna and Straiton*

*Community Council Area: Dalmellington*

*Local Planning Authority: East Ayrshire Council*

*Proposed number of turbines: 17*

*Installed capacity: Up to 57.8MW*

*Height to tip: Up to 149m*

*Current land use: Commercial Conifer Forest*

*Homes equivalent: 33,000\**

*Community Benefits:*

**£5,000 per installed megawatt**

**[www.keirshill-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.keirshill-windfarm.co.uk)**

## BENEFITING THE COMMUNITY

RES believes that communities should benefit directly from hosting a wind farm. At Keirs Hill Wind Farm we are proposing a Community Benefit Fund of £2,000 per installed megawatt per year for the local community. It will be up to the local community as to how the fund is managed and spent.

In addition, RES is making a further £3,000 per installed megawatt available each year for a Local Electricity Discount Scheme. This scheme will see those residential, community and business properties closest to the wind farm receiving a direct discount off their electricity bill each year.

In total the community benefits for Keirs Hill Wind Farm will come to £5,000 per installed megawatt. Based on a total installed capacity of 57.8 MW, this would see the local community receiving £289,000 per year – over £7.2 million throughout the lifetime of the wind farm.

## 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. RES has developed and/or built more than 7.5 Gigawatts of wind capacity worldwide. From our Glasgow and East Kilbride offices RES has been developing, constructing and operating wind farms in Scotland since 1993. In Scotland, RES has built nine projects, including the recently completed Kelburn Wind Farm in North Ayrshire.

RES is committed to finding effective and appropriate ways of consulting with all its stakeholders, including local residents and businesses, and believes that the views of local people are an integral part of the development process. We want to be good neighbours and will listen to and address any questions or concerns you might have. Please contact Rachel Anderson (see details below) in the first instance.

## WANT TO VISIT A WIND FARM?

There is no better way to find out more about wind energy than visiting an operational wind farm. There, you can see for yourself how turbines work and their impact on the surrounding area. RES is always keen to support visits to wind farms and will be arranging a trip to its Kelburn Wind Farm in North Ayrshire: to register your interest please contact Rachel Anderson (see details below).



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.



## Any questions?

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