

Community Fund

If the Fleeter Wood Wind Farm proposal is consented, Novera would provide an annual community trust fund, based on £2,000 per MW of installed capacity each year. This fund will be allocated by local people to benefit local projects and will result in up to £20,000 per year being invested locally, equivalent to over £500,000 during the life of the wind farm.

We would like to hear of any initiatives or projects which local people would like to see supported by the fund once the project is operational (see Contact Information).

The Community Funding Scheme that Novera runs at our operational Mynydd Clogau Wind Farm in mid Wales has led to, amongst other things, improvements to local roads and provision of football kit for a local youth team.

Other local benefits

The local economy is also set to benefit from the Fleeter Wood Wind Farm. It is estimated that local companies will be able to bid for about £3.6 million worth of construction contracts. Novera Energy has a policy to utilise, when practicable, local contractors for construction, operation and maintenance work.

A Business Forum will be held later in February in order to engage with local companies that would be able to tender for construction work, if the project were to be consented. For more information, please contact Novera (see below).

Take action on climate change

If you would like to support the Fleeter Wood Wind Farm proposal please contact us on any of the methods below, or write to Allerdale Borough Council directly to register your support; you can also register support online (see Page 1).

Project Timetable

Assuming planning permission is granted, an approximate timetable for the development is given below, although this is potentially subject to change as the project progresses.

- 26th and 27th September 2007
First public consultations
- June – October 2007
Environmental Impact Assessment completed
- December 2007
Planning application submitted
- 22nd and 23rd February 2008
Second public consultations
- 2008
Planning committee decision
- 2009
Construction begins
- Post 2010
Operational wind farm

FURTHER INFORMATION

The British Wind Energy Association:
www.bwea.com and www.embracewind.com

BWEA Fact sheets:
<http://www.bwea.com/energy/briefing-sheets.html>

The Government's independent advisory body on sustainable development:
www.sd-commission.org.uk

The Department for Business, Environment and Regulatory Reform (BERR, formerly the Department of Trade and Industry) renewables site:
www.dti.gov.uk/energy/sources/renewables/index.html

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds:
www.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/policy/windfarms/index.asp

BBC Weather Centre:
www.bbc.co.uk/climate/impact/

Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors:
www.rics.org

Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors report: Impact of wind farms on the value of residential property and agricultural land (RICS, November 2004).

Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors Research report: What is the impact of wind farms on house prices? (RICS Research and Dr Sally Sims and Peter Dent, Oxford Brookes University, March 2007).
<http://www.rics.org/EnvironmentalLandandConsultancy/Energy/RenewableEnergy/Wind+farms+FIBRE.html>

Report on the Impact of Wind Farms on Residential Property Prices – Crystal Rig Case Study (Edinburgh Solicitors' Property Centre, February 2007), available from ESPC:
www.espc.com

MORI survey on public attitudes to wind farms: Public Attitudes to Wind Farms, A survey of Local Residents in Scotland (MORI Scotland, 2003).

The Government Office North West's Submitted Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West of England (January 2006):
http://rpg.nwra.gov.uk/uploads/rpg_docs/rp_kMqZ_Submitted_Draft_Regional_Spati.pdf

CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information about Novera Energy visit
www.noveraenergy.com

Additional information, including the planning application documents for the project, is available on the website. In the meantime, if you require further information, have ideas for the community trust fund or would like to support the Fleeter Wood Wind Farm proposal please:

Email: Fleeterwoodwindfarm@noveraenergy.com
Write to: Fleeter Wood Wind Farm, FREEPOST (MR8689),
Manchester, M3 9JP, or
Call FREEPHONE: 0800 169 5290

Fleeter Wood Wind Farm proposal

(formerly called Townhead)

February 2008

Novera Energy has submitted a planning application to Allerdale Borough Council for the proposed Fleeter Wood Wind Farm on land southeast of Dearham, Maryport.

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to support the application was completed in 2007 and the planning application submitted on 14th December 2007.



Project Update

Novera Energy believes it is important to continue to keep local people informed about our wind farm development projects. This third newsletter, sent to more than 1,800 residents in the area, local councillors and consultees, provides an update on the Fleeter Wood Wind Farm proposal.

A second public consultation will be held in Dovenby and Dearham on the 22nd and 23rd February (details over-leaf). The Environmental Statement accompanying the planning application will be displayed for reference, and Novera staff and consultants will be available to answer questions.

The Fleeter Wood Wind Farm proposal is for five wind turbines and associated infrastructure. The submitted design took account of the results of the EIA, technical consultations and public consultations (held in September 2007) and minimises any potential impacts of the project on the local environment. Further details are shown inside.



Planning Application Details

Copies of the full Environmental Statement supporting the planning application can be consulted at:

Allerdale Borough Council
Allerdale House
Workington
Cumbria CA14 3YJ

Hard copies of the full Environmental Statement can be purchased for £200.00 per copy or electronic copies can be provided free of charge on CD from Novera Energy. The stand-alone Non-technical Summary document can be downloaded free of charge from Novera's website (see Contact Details on Page 4).

To comment formally on the planning application, please write to: Planning Services, Allerdale Borough Council, at the address above, marked for the attention of Ric Outhwaite and quoting reference number 2/2007/1271.

Alternatively, you can comment online at:
<http://planning.allerdale.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=58758>.

Further details on how to contact Novera Energy about the proposal are shown on Page 4.



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Novera Energy plc – who we are

Novera Energy plc is a leading independent UK renewable energy company. We develop, own and operate a diverse portfolio of wind, landfill gas, hydro and energy from waste projects. We are listed on the London Stock Exchange: Alternative Investment Market (AIM) and currently operate 122 megawatts (MW) of renewable generation assets across 58 sites in England, Scotland and Wales. For further information please visit our website: www.noveraenergy.com.

As a responsible developer and operator of renewable energy schemes across the UK, including wind farms, Novera Energy's approach to development involves consulting widely with local communities and those with an interest in the proposed development.

Global agreement on climate change

Across the world climate change is now regarded as scientific fact with very real and potentially devastating implications for the entire globe.

One of the most striking examples of this new consensus is the recent report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The IPCC is an international body composed of hundreds of scientists from all over the world which was created to provide governments with an objective view on the science of climate change.

The IPCC 'Fourth Assessment Report' states that it is now 'very likely' that global warming is a direct result of human activity. This has acted as a wake up call to the international community and caused leading countries which have previously been considered a barrier to change, such as the US, to alter their positions on the issue of climate change.

At the end of last year Bali played host to an international conference on climate change which was attended by 15000 decision-makers from 191 countries.

The conference marked the first time that both developed and developing countries have agreed to address the issue of carbon emissions.

The Bali conference has created a roadmap for addressing climate change and will hopefully form the basis of an agreement that will replace the Kyoto Protocol first agreed in 1997.

In his closing speech, the President of the UN Climate Change Conference, Rachmat Witoelar, summed up by saying:

"The decisions we have taken in Bali together create the world's roadmap to a secure climate future. The governments assembled here have responded decisively in the face of new scientific evidence and significant advances in our thinking to collectively envision, and chart, a new climate-secure course for humanity."

Now more than ever climate change is being seen as a widespread and far-reaching problem that requires a global solution.

Public consultations

A second set of public consultations will be held in Dovenby and Dearham in February:

Friday 22nd February

Dovenby Hall
Dovenby, 2pm – 8pm

Saturday 23rd February

Dearham Methodist Church Hall
10am – 4pm

Please come along to see details of the proposals and to give your views. The Environmental Statement accompanying the planning application will be available along with visualisations of what the wind farm would look like. Novera Energy and its consultant team will be available to answer your questions.



A visualisation of what Fleeter Wood Wind Farm would look like from 2km away at the edge of Dearham.

The Proposal

The Fleeter Wood site is:

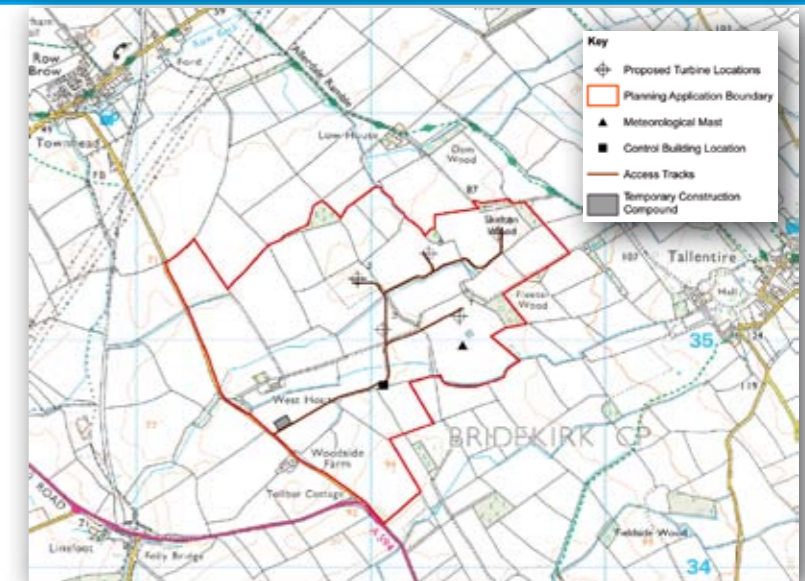
- subject to no international or national designations
- an exposed location with good wind speeds
- in proximity to a grid connection point
- large enough to accommodate an economic generating capacity

and could be developed with minimal environmental impact.

The final design takes account of an extensive environmental assessment and consultation process.

The proposal is located 5.5km east-southeast of Maryport and consists of five wind turbine generators and associated infrastructure. Each wind turbine will have a blade tip height of up to 105m and the generation capacity of approximately 2MW.

Fleeter Wood Wind Farm Layout



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The wind farm would provide sufficient clean renewable energy to supply the average annual domestic electricity demand of approximately 5,500* homes

*This calculation is based on the BERR's (previously known as the DTI) current figure for average annual household electricity demand of 4,700 kWh; Digest of UK Energy Statistics, 2005.

Environmental Impact Assessment

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been carried out to assess the likely environmental impacts of the proposed Fleeter Wood Wind Farm, in consultation with various statutory and non-statutory bodies. The scope of the EIA covered a wide range of issues, including:

- Landscape and visual
- Ecology
- Recreation and tourism
- Ornithology
- Aircraft safety and radar
- Traffic, access and highways
- Cultural heritage
- Telecommunications
- Socio-economics
- Hydrogeology
- Noise

The landscape and visual effects of the wind farm were assessed using 43 different viewpoints within 35km of the site, chosen in consultation with Allerdale Borough Council's landscape consultant. Significant effects were found to be limited to only those viewpoints located within 2.5km of the proposed turbines.

The ornithology and ecology assessments conclude that with appropriate habitat management, there will be no significant effects on the more sensitive species and habitats identified on the site or its surroundings: red squirrel, bats, otters, lapwing, curlew, hedgerows and calcareous grassland.

An assessment of the predicted noise levels of the proposed wind farm was carried out, in accordance with recognised Government guidelines. The predicted noise levels at nearby properties are within the guideline limits and noise from the wind farm will not give rise to nuisance at these properties.

Shadow flicker can occur in specific atmospheric conditions where the shadow of a moving turbine blade passes over a small opening in a building, such as window. A computer model has predicted that there will be no significant shadow flicker effects on the closest properties.

Abnormal load vehicles will be used to transport turbine components to the site. The vehicles will access the site via the A595, then A594 and will enter the site off the unclassified road leading to Dearham.

More information on each of these and other areas of the EIA is contained in the Environmental Statement (see Page 1) and will be available at the public consultations (see Page 2).

A Frequently Asked Questions leaflet covering further topics relating to the proposal was circulated with the previous newsletter. Copies of the leaflet can be downloaded from our website or hard copies obtained from Novera (see Contact Details). There are additional links to information sources on Page 4.