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Contact: Anna Stanford, Head of Communications, RES. Tel: +44(0)1923 299203 or +44(0)7761 103465

LOCAL SHARE OWNERSHIP BEING EXPLORED FOR DEN BROOK WIND FARM

RES has announced today that it is in discussions with Energy4All, the UK's leading expert in community-owned renewable energy schemes, about the opportunities for local people to buy shares in its Den Brook Wind Farm once it is built and operating.

The 18MW Den Brook wind farm proposed for North Tawton in Devon is currently being examined at public inquiry and it is hoped that, once consented, construction will begin next year. Throughout the development process, RES has been exploring ways in which the local community can benefit directly from the wind farm once it is operating and has so far proposed a number of initiatives:

- An annual community fund for the lifetime of the project, to be spent by local people on local community projects. It will be in the region of £27,000 per annum.
- Significant improvements to the line owned by Dartmoor Railways to create a new commuter link between Exeter and Okehampton
- Employment opportunities during the construction phase, when RES will seek to use local and regional businesses for services such as haulage, civil engineering, electrical works, security, etc.

However, to further increase the opportunities for local residents to receive direct and tangible benefits from the wind farm, RES is considering offering local people the option to buy shares in the wind farm and Energy4All, which is a not-for-profit organisation, would facilitate this.

Rachel Ruffle, Project Manager for Den Brook Wind Farm, said;

“Energy 4All has 13 years of experience in setting up and running successful wind farm co-operatives. It is dedicated to helping communities to own a stake in renewable energy schemes. We are very keen to explore how residents local to Den Brook could be offered a stake in the wind farm as a way to reap some direct benefit from the project once it is up and running. Energy4All is the ideal organisation to facilitate this



for us and we look forward to exploring this further. We are also interested in hearing how much interest from local people there is in the idea.”

John Malone of Energy4All said;

“We are excited about the potential for community ownership at Den Brook. We have already helped to establish seven successful wind co-operatives across the country, with many more in development, and are finding that with rising concerns about climate change and the need to tackle this at the local as well as the national level, there is greater public support for renewable energy than ever before. But communities also want direct involvement in the generation of renewable energy in their region. Local share ownership allows people to have a say in the operation of the project and to benefit from the sale of the electricity produced by the turbines. It also maximises the regional economic benefits by keeping investment in the community.”

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Notes to Editors:

1. RES is one of the world's leading renewable energy developers with offices across Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific. Part of the British Sir Robert McAlpine Group of engineering and construction companies, RES has been at the forefront of wind energy development since the 1970s and has completed more than 4,300MW of wind energy capacity worldwide, including projects in the UK, Ireland, France, Scandinavia, and the United States. The Group has a large portfolio under construction and in development, both onshore and offshore. RES also delivers on-site and building-integrated renewables for low-carbon heating, power and cooling, offering biomass, ground source, solar PV and solar thermal to the industrial, public and commercial sectors. Through our independent subsidiary Inbuilt, we provide design and consulting excellence associated with the delivery of sustainable built environments. Drawing on decades of experience in the renewable energy and construction industries, RES has the expertise to develop, construct and operate projects of outstanding quality. For more information, visit www.res-group.com
2. **Energy4All Ltd** is the UK's leading expert in community-owned renewable energy schemes. Energy4All was established in 2002 and is a not-for-profit organisation owned by the co-operatives it creates and is dedicated to helping communities around the UK to own a stake in renewable energy schemes. Energy4All has formed 7 co-ops to date successfully raising the required finance through public share issues, over 13 million has been raised through the co-ops. **Baywind Co-op** operated two share offers, the first of which raised £1.2m in 1996 to purchase two turbines at an existing wind farm. The second share offer paid for a turbine at a neighbouring site. The community interest generated by these projects provided the impetus for the creation of Energy4All. **Fens Co-op**: Two out of five wind turbines on an existing wind farm. Purchased by the Fens Co-op after successfully raising £2.66 million in the share offer, which closed in 2007. **Westmill Co-op**: Five wind turbines became operational in Oxfordshire in 2008. The project is 100% community owned and built with the assistance of Energy4All.
3. The planning application for Den Brook Wind Farm was originally submitted in November 2005 and a public inquiry is being held in Okehampton this week.

CONTACTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Anna Stanford
Head of Communications, RES Group
+44 (0)1923 299203
+44 (0)7761 103465
anna.stanford@res-ltd.com

Helen Jackson
Energy4All Limited
+44 (0)1229 821028
helen@energy4all.co.uk