

Press Release

Date: 25 June 2008

Subject: Information Evening for Romney Weir hydroelectric scheme

- **Wednesday 2 July, 5.30-8.00pm**
- **Eton Town Council Offices, 102 High Street, Eton, SL4 6AJ**

npower renewables is holding an Information Evening at Eton Town Council offices on Wednesday 2 July to provide more details about the revised Romney Weir hydroelectric scheme. Anyone interested in the project is welcome to come along between 5.30pm and 8.00pm.

The scheme would generate around 1.4 million kilowatt hours of clean electricity each year, enough to meet the average annual needs of around 300 households, and would contribute to the Government target of achieving 15% of UK electricity needs from renewable energy sources by 2015.

npower renewables received planning permission for a hydroelectric scheme at Romney Weir in 2005, however, due to rising costs the project was put on hold in late 2007. The project has recently received a fresh boost though in the form of a new and exciting technological design.

Project Delivery Manager, Thomas Chappell said: "The new design involves two hydrodynamic 'Archimedes' screw turbines, and by using this technology the installation would be capable of generating more clean power than the original scheme.

"We invite anyone who would like more information about the project to visit us at the Eton Town Council offices on 2 July, and talk to npower renewables and Southeast Power Engineering staff who will be on hand to answer any questions."

The planning application for the scheme was submitted to The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Council in May and is expected to be considered by the Windsor Development Control Panel at its meeting on 9 July. If planning permission is granted, construction of the scheme will take place in 2009, with commencement of operation the same year.

The scheme will be developed, and constructed by, npower renewables in association with Southeast Power Engineering.

Romney Weir, which is located adjacent to the bank of Romney Island, between Windsor and Eton, is owned and operated by the Environment Agency. Further information about the Romney Weir Hydro Project can be found at www.npower-renewables.com/romneyweir

Ends

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Editor's notes

1. npower renewables is one of the UK's leading renewable energy developers and operators, committed to developing and operating wind farms and hydro plants to produce sustainable and environmentally-friendly electricity. The company operates 16 hydroelectric power schemes and 19 wind farms in the UK, including the country's first major offshore wind farm, North Hoyle. npower renewables is also working with marine energy technology partners to deliver new wave and tidal stream power projects in the UK. Through our existing projects and those in development, we are working in close partnership with communities and companies throughout the UK. As Government policy drives the UK towards a target of supplying 10% of electricity from renewables by 2010, and 15% by 2015, we will be at the forefront of realising this aim.

npower renewables is a fully owned subsidiary of RWE Innogy, and sister company to RWE npower, a leading integrated UK energy company, whose activities include the co-firing of biomass and the implementation of a major energy efficiency programme.

For further information about npower renewables and RWE Innogy visit www.npower-renewables.com and www.rweinnogy.com For further information about RWE npower visit www.rwenpower.com

2. Southeast Power Engineering Ltd is a UK based hydropower development company in partnership with Summit Asset Management, who specialise in creative and cost effective solutions to difficult hydropower challenges. For further information about Southeast Power Engineering call 01932 883877. For further information about Summit Asset Management visit <http://www.summitasset.co.uk>

3. The Environment Agency is the leading public body for protecting and improving the environment in England and Wales. It is the Environment Agency's job to look after the environment and make it a better place - now, and for future generations. The Agency's remit includes protecting people from flood, working with industry to protect the environment and human health, looking after wildlife, helping people get the most out of their environment, including boaters and anglers, influencing and working with Government, industry and local authorities to make the environment a priority. For more information visit www.environment-agency.gov.uk