

# Press Release

**Date: 4 August 2008**

**Subject: Cotton Wind Farm planning application submitted**

npower renewables, one of the UK's leading renewable energy companies, has submitted a planning application to Huntingdonshire District Council for an eight turbine wind farm on land between Graveley, Toseland, Great Paxton and Offord D'Arcy.

The application follows a wide range of assessments of the site's suitability, and consultation with local people, including a two day public exhibition held in March where parish councillors and local residents were given the opportunity to discuss the plans with npower renewables staff.

The application is for up to eight wind turbines on the site known as Cotton Farm, with each turbine measuring up to 127 metres to blade tip. It is anticipated that the wind farm would produce enough clean, renewable electricity to supply the average annual needs of around 6,900 to 10,000 homes<sup>1</sup>. This takes into account the fluctuations in wind speed including periods when the wind is not blowing.

To keep local residents fully informed about the application, npower renewables has produced a third newsletter which is being delivered to all homes in the immediate vicinity of the proposed wind farm. In this newsletter npower renewables encourages residents to make their views on the proposal known to Huntingdonshire District Council.

Kim Gauld-Clark, project developer for the Cotton Wind Farm proposal, said: "The UK Government is committed to reaching a target of supplying 15% of the country's electricity from renewable sources

---

<sup>1</sup> Based on an annual electricity consumption per home of 4700 kWh, which is derived from a total UK domestic electricity consumption of 117.589 terawatt-hours (TWh) and 25.2 million UK households giving 4,666 kWh per year per household. The figure takes into account fluctuations in wind speeds, including when the wind speed is too low for the turbines to operate, and the period of time the turbines would be unlikely to operate due to routine maintenance.

by 2015, and to meeting the UK's share of the European Union (EU) target to source 20% of the EU's energy from renewable sources by 2020. Onshore wind farms such as Cotton Farm are vital in meeting these challenging targets, and helping the UK to make a full contribution to the European effort towards tackling climate change.”

The planning application for Cotton Wind Farm is accompanied by an Environmental Statement document, which details the various environmental studies undertaken for the project, covering all aspects of the proposal, from noise levels to wildlife.

Huntingdonshire District Council will be consulting with the local community about the application, including local residents, the local parish councils and South Cambridgeshire District Council, amongst others. Copies of the planning application and the Environmental Statement will be available for public viewing during normal opening times at the Council offices.

A non-technical summary of the Environmental Statement is also available, which is a shorter document containing the key findings of the various environmental reports. This summary document will be available on npower renewables' website at [www.npower-renewables.com/cottonfarm](http://www.npower-renewables.com/cottonfarm). Residents can also contact npower renewables for a free hard copy of the summary to be posted to them, or to request a copy of the full Environmental Statement on CD. Hard copies of the full Environmental Statement are available for a charge - please contact Claire Smith at npower renewables on 01793 894330 for further details.

## **Ends**

### **Contact:**

Annemarie Taylor, Public Relations, npower renewables  
T: 01793 892 053  
M: 07825 995 656  
E: [annemarie.taylor@rwe.com](mailto:annemarie.taylor@rwe.com)

Claire Smith, Public Relations, npower renewables  
T: 01793 894330  
M+44 (0) 7500 22 67 98  
E: [claire.smith@rwe.com](mailto:claire.smith@rwe.com)

## Editor's notes

npower renewables is one of the UK's leading renewable energy developers and operators, committed to developing and operating wind farms and hydro plant to produce sustainable and environmentally-friendly electricity. The company operates 17 hydroelectric power projects 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](http://www.npower-renewables.com) and [www.rweinnogy.com](http://www.rweinnogy.com) For further information about RWE npower visit [www.rwenpower.com](http://www.rwenpower.com)