

Case Study - Great Dunkilns Wind Turbine



The Need

The community of St Briavels in Gloucestershire was looking to re-localise their energy generation whilst maximising the local economic benefits.

The Solution

A joint venture was formed between the Landowner Antony Cooke and The Resilience Centre. Together with the support of the community of St Briavels they gained planning permission for a 500kW wind turbine. The community crowd funded the capital to construct the wind turbine raising £1.4m in five months. This important act of seeking finance from the community ensured the economic benefit remains in the community with investors receiving 7-9% return on their investment.

In addition 4% of the wind turbine revenue is returned to the community each year, this equates to on average £15,000 - £20,000 per year over its 25 year operation. The community also have the option to purchase the energy produced by the wind turbine through Co-operative Energy.

The key advantage of this new community model is that it is capable of retaining 80% of project returns within the local community; significantly more than any other approach.

The Results and Benefits

- ✓ Working in partnership with the Landowner and Community.
- ✓ 7-9% return on investment for community investors.
- ✓ £15,000 - £20,000 per year for the community fund.
- ✓ Maximum economic benefit to the community.
- ✓ Clean, green, renewable energy for over 300 homes in St Briavels.

This pioneering community model is now being rolled out across the south west under the name of Resilient Energy.

Key Facts:

- Planning permission granted March 2011
- Wind Turbine Operational January 2013
- Energy Generated - 1,315 MWh per year
- CO2 saved - 565 tonnes per year
- Over 400 community investors