

Date: 1 June 2009

Subject: **Saxby Wold Wind Farm planning application**

RWE npower renewables has submitted a planning application to North Lincolnshire Council for a wind farm near the villages of Saxby All Saints, Horkstow, and Bonby.

The application comes following a wide range of assessments of the site's suitability for a wind farm and engagement with local people.

The proposed wind farm comprises 18 wind turbines (up to 125 metres high to the tip) and it is anticipated that these would produce enough renewable electricity to meet the average annual electricity needs of between 17,400 and 21,800 homes¹.

To ensure local residents are fully informed about the application, RWE npower renewables has produced an information leaflet, which will be delivered to local homes close to the proposed wind farm site, providing more details about the planning application.

The application is supported by a range of environmental studies, covering all aspects of the proposal, from noise levels to wildlife.

Clare Wilson, Development Manager at RWE npower renewables said:

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“Meeting UK targets for renewable energy is a huge challenge and onshore wind farms, such as the one proposed at Saxby Wold, are a vital part of the ongoing effort to tackle climate change.

“Public exhibitions were organised by RWE npower renewables at Saxby All Saints and Barton-upon-Humber in November 2008 to inform local people about the proposal and to discuss their views and ideas about the project.”

“The response we had to the exhibitions was encouraging and we feel that we have designed a wind farm that is appropriate for the area in terms of the location, number and size of the turbines.”

“It is now up to North Lincolnshire Council, in partnership with the relevant consultees, to consider our application and make a decision about the wind farm.”

Copies of the planning application and the accompanying Environmental Statement, will be available for public viewing at North Lincolnshire Council planning offices. A non-technical summary of the Environmental Statement will also be available on RWE npower renewables’ website along with other information about Saxby Wold Wind Farm proposal at www.npower-renewables.com/saxbywold

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Editor's notes

1. The predicted annual generation at the site has been calculated using a capacity factor derived from performance data for wind farms already operating in England. Energy predicted to be generated by the proposal has been calculated using an assumed capacity factor of 26% (DTI Energy Trends UK regional capacity factors 1998-2004), and is based on an installed capacity of between 36-45 megawatts (MW). The energy capture predicted and hence derived homes equivalent or emissions savings figures may change as site specific information is gathered. Equivalent homes supplied is based on an annual electricity consumption per home of 4,700 kilowatt hours (kWh), which is derived from a total UK domestic electricity consumption of 117.589 terawatt-hours (TWh) (The Digest of UK Energy Statistics 2005) and 25.2 million UK households (Mid-year Household Estimates published in 2004 by the Office for National Statistics). Over the life of the wind farm this figure may change as average domestic electricity consumption changes.

2.. RWE npower renewables is the UK subsidiary of RWE Innogy and 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 electricity. The company operates 17 hydroelectric power projects and 22 wind farms in the UK, including the country's first major offshore wind farm, North Hoyle. RWE 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.

In England, RWE npower renewables operates six onshore wind farms and one hydroelectric power project and is currently completing construction of a new 26-turbine onshore wind farm in Kent. The company has numerous other projects at various stages of development throughout the country.

RWE npower renewables is a sister company to RWE npower, a leading integrated UK energy company with around 6.8 million customer accounts. RWE npower also owns and operates a flexible portfolio of conventional power stations as well as a portfolio of cogeneration plant producing more than 10% of the electricity used in England and Wales.

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