

**RWE** npower renewables

**HELLRIGG WIND FARM  
COMMUNITY BENEFIT PACKAGE**

An **RWE** Innogy company

# Hellrigg Wind Farm Community Benefit Package

## Introduction

RWE npower renewables offers a range of community benefit packages at our operating onshore and offshore wind farms, these usually benefit those communities living closest to the site.

We have been delivering community benefit funds for more than 15 years and during 2010 our funds invested £645,000 into communities across the UK. Community benefit funding provides a valuable long term, sustainable and reliable source of income for the local community. It is flexible funding that can address what is really important to communities. It has the potential to fund large and small projects, as well as capital and revenue activities and it enables us to build positive relationships with communities.

Where annual funds are offered they are index linked each year in line with the retail price index. The funding becomes available when the site starts generating electricity and is payable throughout the operational life of the site. RWE npower renewables prides itself on ensuring decisions about the allocation of funding are made by local people for the benefit of their own community, where ever possible.

These packages have been used to fund a wide variety of activities including community building refurbishments, environmental education programmes, energy efficiency schemes and supporting local groups and organisations.

To find out more about the Hellrigg Wind Farm project please visit:

<http://www.rwe.com/web/cms/en/305128/rwe-npower-renewables/sites/projects-in-construction/wind/hellrigg/the-proposal/>

## Environmental education activity

- An environmental education workshop to be offered to Silloth & Holm Cultrum Abbey C of E Primary Schools;
- Provided by our environmental education partner [www.rowanbank.org.uk](http://www.rowanbank.org.uk);
- Half day fun, interactive, curriculum linked workshop aimed at Key Stage 2 pupils;
- Workshop aims; to learn about climate change, renewables energy, what pupils can do to help the environment and to have lots of fun!
- In addition, we have developed a set of curriculum linked educational resources, which are available for all teachers to download from our website; [www.npower-renewables.com/educationresources](http://www.npower-renewables.com/educationresources)

## Local economic benefit

During the development and construction of Hellrigg contracts with local companies represent significant investment into the local economy. Contracts with local companies include:

Lowther Forestry Group, Lowther, Near Penrith (trees, hedges & fencing)

G & AM Lawson, Workington (plant & machinery)

Byers Bros Ltd, Carlisle (steel work)

Hanson Aggregates, Carlisle (concrete)

North Pennines Archaeology, Alston, Cumbria

Story Group, Carlisle (stone)

# Hellrigg Community Benefit Fund

## General principles

- A community benefits fund is being offered voluntarily by RWE npower renewables in association with Hellrigg Wind Farm;
- Worth a total of £15,000 per year, index linked in line with inflation;
- The first fund payment will be backdated to when the wind farm becomes fully operational (November/December 2011);
- Available throughout the operational life of the wind farm;
- Secured for the future through a legal agreement with the administering body;
- Administered by independent local charity the Cumbria Community Foundation
- A transparent administration process with local people making the final decision on grants awarded;
- Simple, straightforward application process;
- Supporting environmental, educational, community and charitable activities.

## Geographical boundaries of the fund

- When defining the geographical area of benefit of communities funds we usually consider: proximity of communities to the development, visual impact of the development, level of disruption during construction period, how the location is used for work or recreation by the wider community and the density of the population in an area.
- Taking all these factors into consideration, we propose the area of benefit for the Hellrigg Community Fund includes the following 4 Parish Council areas in North Allerdale: Holme Abbey, Holme Low, Holme St Cuthbert and Silloth-on-Solway.
- We would like to hear your views on whether you think this is an appropriate area of benefit for the fund.

## Introducing the Cumbria Community Foundation

- The Fund will be held and administered by independent third party Cumbria Community Foundation (CCF): [www.cumbriafoundation.org/](http://www.cumbriafoundation.org/)
- CCF is a properly constituted charity, registered with, and regulated by. the Charity Commission;
  - CCF will advertise the availability of funds and manage the administration of the whole application process including distributing funding;
  - CCF will be responsible for the monitoring process for individual grants and for reporting to RWE npower renewables;
  - All decisions about allocation of funding made by a grants panel of local representatives, recruited, trained and managed by CCF;
  - CCF's services attracts a management fee (typically 10% of the fund's value) which RWE npower renewables will pay.
- CCF also hold a number of other funds which groups in the North Allerdale area are able to apply for, therefore there may be opportunities for applicants to the Hellrigg Community Benefit Fund to apply for other funds using the same simple application form. For more information on the other grant schemes they manage please visit the CCF website.
- We are looking for representatives from each of the communities within the area of benefit to nominate themselves to join the grants panel. We hope the panel members will represent a good cross section of the community including young people. If you would be interested in nominating yourself to join the panel, and you live, work or volunteer in one of the communities within the area of benefit, please contact Deb Muscat at the Cumbria Community Foundation by email: [deb@cumbriafoundation.org](mailto:deb@cumbriafoundation.org) or call 01900 825760.

## RWE npower renewables: Making a difference to local communities:



Carno in mid Wales is forty minutes away from a Minor Injury Hospital and an hour from the District General Hospital so in the event of an incident it could take a long time for emergency help to arrive.

Elizabeth Jones, Chairperson of Carno First Responders, said “We have seventeen volunteers who give up their spare time to provide vital life saving treatment within the first minutes of an emergency. The time they give up really could mean the difference between life and death. The grant from the Carno Wind Farm Community Fund has been invaluable in helping us purchase the equipment we need to carry out our work, it will be with us whenever needed and could help us to save lives in our community”.

Carno Wind Farm is operated by RWE npower renewables

Lydd allotments beat fierce competition to be successful in the environmental grant scheme in association with our Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm. They have been able to purchase a rotovator, security fencing and some solar powered lighting and a pump for the pond to support the regeneration of the allotments. Not only have over 100 plot holders benefited, but also the juniors section and other groups who hold plots. The Allotments Association provide help and advice for new plot holders and is working really hard to promote the benefits of growing fresh produce locally to the whole community.



## Tell us what you think

To help us shape the structure of the Hellrigg Wind Farm Community Benefit package, and make sure it really meets the needs of the local communities we would welcome your feedback by **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November**, on the following topics:

- The proposed geographical boundaries of the fund;
- Any other representative persons or bodies we should consult with;
- Local issues that you think are important and that you think the fund criteria could address e.g. education, access to services, tourism, energy efficiency, employment etc;
- Activities or projects that you think the package could fund.
- Also, we would like to hear for you if you are interested in nominating yourself to join the grants panel.

### **General feedback and suggestions:**

Please forward these to:  
Kathryn Harries  
UK Community Investment Officer  
RWE npower renewables  
Baglan Bay Innovation Centre  
Central Avenue, Baglan Energy Park  
Port Talbot, SA12 7AX  
[kathryn.harries@rwe.com](mailto:kathryn.harries@rwe.com)

### **For nominations to join the grants panel please contact:**

Deb Muscat  
Grants Development Officer  
Cumbria Community Foundation  
Dovenby Hall  
Dovenby, Cockermouth  
Cumbria, CA13 0PN  
Tel: 01900 825760  
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