



Photomontage of the proposed East Heslerton Wind Farm from Yedingham*

East Heslerton Wind Farm Update

RWE npower renewables, one of the UK's most experienced wind developers and operators, has submitted a planning application to Ryedale District Council for a wind farm near East Heslerton, to the east of Malton.

The site lies approximately 12km east of Malton in Ryedale District, North Yorkshire.

Based on results from a wide range of studies and feedback from public consultation, the design for the site

comprises 10 turbines, each with a maximum height to blade tip of 126m.

The installed capacity of the development will be approximately 20 to 30 megawatts (MW), producing enough green electricity to meet the average annual electricity consumption of approximately 9,700 homes and 14,500 homes¹. This takes account the times when the wind farm will not be generating, such as periods of low or no wind speeds.

Consultation with members of the public, parish councils and organisations including Ryedale District Council, Natural England, RSPB, English Heritage, the Ministry of Defence and the Environment Agency, has helped to shape the design and development of the proposed wind farm.

View the planning application

A copy of the planning application and Environmental Statement are available to view at the following locations:

West Heslerton Village Hall
West Heslerton, Malton,
YO17 8RA

Sherburn Post Office
2 High St, Sherburn, Malton

Rillington Post Office
1 High St, Rillington, Malton

Ryedale District Council Offices
Ryedale House, Malton
North Yorkshire, YO17 7HH

Copies of the ES may be obtained from RWE npower renewables (telephone 0191 3504222) at a charge of £300 for a hard copy of £10 for a CD ROM.

Copies of a short non-technical summary are available free or charge at our website www.npower-renewables.com

Comment on the planning application

We have considered the views of statutory and community stakeholders through consultation and the many studies undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment.

Once the local planning authority, Ryedale District Council, has registered

the planning application, a consultation period will begin during which anyone who would like to formally comment on the planning application can do so by writing to the Planning Office at Ryedale District Council. Further information on how to submit your comments can be found on the back page.

Why Wind Power?

Using clean, renewable energy sources like the wind to generate electricity is a key component of the UK Climate Change Programme. The generation process does not produce greenhouse gases which contribute to global warming and climate change. For example, wind energy is clean and does not produce harmful polluting carbon dioxide like coal, oil and gas.

Facts and Figures

Location: Approximately 12km east of Malton in Ryedale District
 Site area: 3.94km²
 No. of turbines: Ten

Tip height: up to 126m to blade tip
 Maximum capacity: 3MW per turbine (maximum total capacity 30MW)
 Homes supplied¹: 14,500

The technology also enables the UK to meet global and domestic targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and helps improve the security of UK energy supplies. Investing in renewable technology is a long term commitment and is part of the solution to securing our future energy needs.

Key milestones

Step 1: Scoping April 2010

Step 2: Environmental Impact Assessment 2010 – 2011

Step 3: Submission of Planning Application March 2011

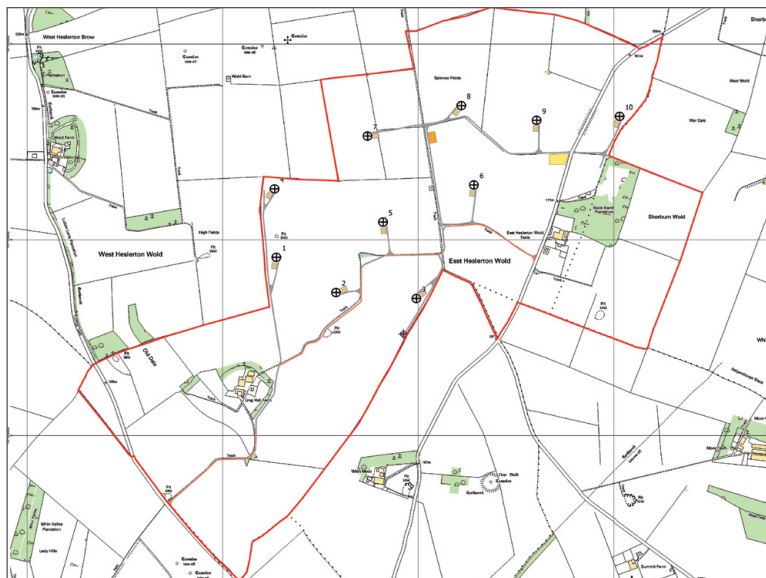
Step 4: Planning Decision (Expected) 2011

Step 5: Construction Period (if approved) 2012 – 2013

Step 6: Wind Farm Operational 2013



East Heselton Wind Farm location map²



- Key**
- ⊕ Proposed turbine location
 - ▭ Site boundary
 - ⊕ Meteorological mast
 - ⊕ Substation
 - ~ New track
 - ~ Existing track to be upgraded
 - ⊕ Crane hardstanding
 - ⊕ Construction compound

Future dates are subject to change

Site layout



Keeping you informed

RWE npower renewables is committed to keeping local people informed about the East Heselton Wind Farm proposal.

We wanted to give you the opportunity to have questions answered and ideas and suggestions addressed before we completed the design of the wind farm and submitted the planning application to Ryedale District Council. We did this by:

- distributing an informative newsletter to local households within a 10km radius of the site
- hosting a public exhibition at Rillington Village Hall
- keeping our website updated with the latest East Heselton Wind Farm proposal news
- ensuring you have the correct information to contact us directly
- site visit arranged to Knabs Ridge Wind Farm, near Harrogate, for Ward and Parish Councillors and local residents who expressed an interest, so that they could experience wind turbines at close proximity.

What you have told us so far

At the public exhibition held in August 2010, over 200 local residents attended. The feedback from the public exhibition questionnaire highlighted that 65 per cent of the 75 respondees supported the proposal for East Heselton Wind Farm.

Our application and supporting Environmental Impact Assessment document covers in detail many of the questions and comments made at the public exhibition. The constraints identified through consultations have been taken into consideration to ensure that the wind farm will have minimal environmental and social impacts and will be sympathetic to the surrounding area.

Landscape and visual

We have taken care to design the wind farm in a way that means that its visual impact from key viewpoints is minimised. Following consultation with stakeholders we reduced the number of proposed turbines from 13 to 10. Furthermore, at the public exhibition held locally comments were raised regarding the proximity of turbines to the escarpment edge to the north of the site. The most northerly wind turbines were moved south, away from the escarpment edge, reducing visibility of the wind turbines from the A64 and the villages of East and West Heselton.

Noise

The potential noise impact of wind farms is a common concern amongst local communities. The proposed East Heselton Wind Farm has been designed to stringent, industry and standard noise guidelines (ETSU-R-97). Assessments carried out by an independent noise specialist, with

consultation from Ryedale District Council's Environmental Health Officer, show that the predicted noise levels from East Heselton will meet noise limits set in line with the industry standard guidelines.

Traffic and Access

Prior to construction, a traffic management plan will be agreed with the Local Planning Authority for East Heselton Wind Farm to minimise the impact of construction traffic on local communities. The traffic management plan will be designed to keep residents and contractors safe during the construction period and minimise inconvenience to the local community. When the wind farm is operational, the only traffic generated will be by a small operations and maintenance crew who will carry out regular visits to the site.

Community benefits

As reported in our previous newsletter, if we are successful in gaining consent, RWE npower renewables intends to offer a community benefit package in association with East Heslerton Wind Farm.

The total value of the package is dependent on the installed capacity of the wind farm. Normally it takes the form of an annual fund, which is available when the wind farm is

operational and throughout its operational lifetime – in East Heslerton’s case this could be approximately 25 years. We would consult with a wide cross section of community representatives before finalising the details of the package. Community benefit packages are a voluntary benefit that RWE npower renewables chooses to offer and are not a material consideration of any planning decision.

Wind Myths

There is a lot of misinformation regarding wind technology, here we have tried to answer some of the most common misconceptions. For further details please visit www.bwea.com/pdf/briefings/top7myths.pdf

1. Myth: Wind Farms are noisy

Fact: A 2007 Salford University survey commissioned by the Government showed that the occurrence of complaints about wind turbine noise is very low. Advances in wind technology means noise levels are difficult to detect or inaudible at distances to houses prescribed by planning guidelines.

2. Myth: Wind farm developments rely on Government subsidies

Fact: The planning and construction of UK wind farms is financed entirely with private capital, no matter what the costs are. Only when the wind farm is fully operational and starts delivering electricity to the grid, does it qualify for renewable

Energy Certificates (ROCs) for each megawatt unit of electricity it produces. The ROC payments are fixed by the electricity market, not by the Government, and are a necessary incentive, protecting and encouraging investment in low carbon energy technologies. All sources of renewable electricity qualify for ROCs.

3. Myth: Wind speeds vary, so wind farms need 'back up capacity' from traditional energy sources

Fact: In 2009 three reports published by the National Grid, energy company Poyry and a coalition of non-governmental organisations, produced the same conclusion: large amounts of wind energy capacity on the system need relatively small amounts of back up.

4. Myth: Wind power development uses more energy than it generates

Fact: Modern wind turbines pay back the energy used in manufacture within 2-10 months depending on the wind speed of the site and the type of turbine used.

5. Myth: Wind farms reduce nearby house prices

Fact: A 2007 survey by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors showed no clear relationship between the proximity of wind farms and property prices. A Scottish Executive survey found those living nearest to operating wind farms are their strongest advocates.

Comment formally

In order to formally submit your comments about the East Heslerton Wind Farm planning application, you should write, quoting planning application number 11/00270/MFULE and your name and address to:

Planning Officer: Alan Hunter
Planning Department, Ryedale
District Council Offices, Ryedale
House, Malton, North Yorkshire,
YO17 7HH.

Contact us

For further information about the project you can contact RWE npower renewables by:

Post

RWE npower renewables
27A/B Harmire Enterprise Park
Barnard Castle, Co Durham, DL12 8BN

Email

eastheslerton@npower-renewables.com

Telephone

0191 350 4222

You can visit our website at:
www.npower-renewables.com

If you would like this newsletter in larger print please contact us on 0191 350 4222

Footnotes:

¹Homes Equivalent. Equivalent homes supplied is based on an annual electricity consumption per home of 4,700 kWh. This figure is supported by recent domestic electricity consumption data available from The Digest of UK Energy Statistics and household estimates and projections from the UK Statistics Authority. 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). The energy capture predicted and hence derived homes equivalent or emissions savings figures may change as site specific

information is gathered and is based on an installed capacity of between 20-30 MW.

²Ordnance Survey Crown Copyright 2009. All rights reserved licence number 100001776.

*Photomontages are computer generated illustrations that aim to represent an accurate image of the proposed site. These are not intended to replace photomontages within the Environmental Statement and are for illustrative purposes only.

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