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RES WELCOMES APPROVAL ON JACK'S LANE WIND FARM

Planning Inspector says yes to renewable electricity for up to 8,000 homes

RES today welcomed the decision by an independent Planning Inspector to give planning consent for a 6-turbine wind farm at Jack's Lane, between North Creake, Syderstone and Stanhoe, near Fakenham in North West Norfolk.

The Jack's Lane Wind Farm proposal was reviewed at a Public Inquiry in February this year, after RES appealed against the original decision. Despite receiving more than 700 letters in support of the proposal, compared to 635 against, King's Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council rejected the planning application in July 2011. The Public Inquiry lasted four weeks, during which RES's project was considered alongside another proposed wind farm at nearby Chiplow.

Helen Wilson, RES Development Project Manager, commented, *"We are very pleased about the Planning Inspector's decision. We felt that the evidence we had presented to the Inquiry clearly demonstrated that the wind farm would have no significant effects on local people or the local environment."*

"We have also developed a sympathetic habitat management plan to ensure that any potential effects on protected birds could be overcome. The Inspector obviously agrees that on balance the likely impacts are far outweighed by the benefits that Jack's Lane Wind Farm will bring on a national and a local level."

Once operational, Jack's Lane Wind Farm will be capable of generating sufficient renewable electricity to meet the average needs of approximately 8,000 homes. This is roughly equivalent to the number of households in the wards of Rudham, Docking, Burnham, Snettisham, Brancaster and Hunstanton.

As well as providing a safe, secure and low-carbon source of electricity, the wind farm will also bring benefits to the community, such as a community fund of around £24,000 per year, and wildlife enhancement measures at the site, including the creation of new feeding areas for pink-footed geese.

Helen Wilson concludes: *“The vast majority of people now accept that fossil fuels are running out and energy prices are rocketing as a result. The UK already imports more than 50% of its gas from other countries, leaving us increasingly vulnerable to global political and financial fluctuations. Given these circumstances, it is clear that the UK needs many more environmentally friendly and beneficial energy-generating schemes like Jack’s Lane.*

“I am absolutely confident that the wind farm will be a positive asset to people living around it. RES will be a good neighbour and we now look forward to working with the Council and the local community to finalise the project.”

RES has promised to keep the local community fully informed throughout the period leading up to and during construction. Construction is expected to begin in late 2013/early 2014 and will take approximately 12 months. Further consultation will also take place with local communities and their representatives over the coming months regarding management of the community fund.

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Notes to editors:

1. RES is one of the world’s leading independent renewable energy project developers with operations across Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific. At the forefront of wind energy development for over 30 years, RES has developed and/or built more than 6.5GW of wind energy capacity worldwide. In the UK alone, RES currently has more than 1GW of onshore wind energy either constructed, under construction or consented. The RES Group is active in a range of renewable energy technologies including large-scale biomass, solar, wave and tidal and on-site renewable installations. For more information, visit www.res-group.com



2. For more information on Jack's Lane Wind Farm and the community fund please visit www.jackslanewindfarm.co.uk.

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