



Amended plan for 9 turbines - magnified view from Troeau Fferm



Project Supports Education Trips

Interest is clearly growing from the education sector for organised trips to the site to pursue issues such as the weather, environmental and technical achievements. Pictured here is a group of school children from Ysgol Y Plas, Llanellian who visited the site in early November. They were given a tour of the wind farm and an instructional talk on the history of the project and the benefits that

wind turbines generate. Geraint Davies who welcomed the school comments "They were all clearly excited about being so close to the turbines and their enthusiasm for green issues and zest for knowledge is very heartening. Many schools, colleges and universities are now booking trips to the site."



Tourist Chiefs Visit

Considerable interest in the project has been shown by the tourist sector. As part of the annual conference of the British Resorts Association held in Llandudno, a visit by the tourism chiefs was organised and held on site. They were greeted by Tim Prichard of the European Unit at Conwy Council. They were all visibly impressed by the project and all said the scheme would leave a lasting and positive impression on them in the future. Speaking about the visit Rheinallt Williams from Cwmni Gwynt Teg comments "This delegation was representative of the UK tourist sector and we are delighted that our project captured their imagination as a sustainable example of local enterprise that gives our beautiful valley a responsible and green image."

Media Interest

The unique nature of the Moel Moelogan project has generated enormous interest in local and national press. Already featuring in the trade and community press, the co-operative has been interviewed by many media teams for TV and radio. Rheinallt Williams recently featured on BBC Radio's "Wales at Work" programme that examined the success of the project, and Geraint Davies gave a presentation on the project's unique sustainability to the Welsh Assembly's North Wales regional committee.

Not to be missed!... "Changing Places" is a 30 minute top priority investigative programme by Sandra Sykes, to be transmitted on BBC Radio 4 on Friday 13th of February at 3.00pm. The programme explores the innovative nature of the Moel Moelogan scheme, asking whether it has the potential to be a blueprint for other communities in Wales or even beyond, as well as airing the views of those living in the area, both for and against. Make a date in the diary and decide for yourself by listening to the programme.

Turbine Numbers Reduced

The farming co-operative behind Cwmni Gwynt Teg and Ail Wynt has strived at all times to show sensitivity towards the views of the local community and organisations with an interest in the area. Because of this, the application to extend the wind farm has been amended and the revised proposals now provide for only 9 turbines in a more clustered layout.

for only 9 additional turbines within a more compact area and at a reduced height. More recent discussions with the Council has resulted in further revisions to the scheme to reduce the visual effects and amended proposals were submitted in December. The amended proposals have been the subject of revised environmental assessment and community consultation and the County Council is expected to consider the application early in the New Year.

The planning application for the extension to the wind farm was originally submitted in June 2003. The original scheme provided for 11 additional turbines but following consultations with Conwy County Council and public bodies such as the Countryside Council for Wales, the scheme was revised in September to provide

The computer-generated visuals above give an impression of how different the proposed 11 turbines would appear, compared with the revised plans for 9 turbines shown below, from Troeau Fferm, which looks at the sight from the North. Other viewpoints together with a revised site plan can be seen online at www.ailwynt.co.uk

Other Farmers Benefit

Inspired by the success of the Cwmni Gwynt Teg project, a new farming co-operative, Amegni - based in Carno, Mid Wales has applied for the relevant approvals for a 14 turbine scheme. Amegni have followed closely the developments of Cwmni Gwynt Teg and now Ail Wynt, and have recently met with the architects of the Moel Moelogan projects to discuss their aspirations and ask for guidance. Ail Wynt has recently won the Ashden Awards and this was one of the categories for success - that the scheme could be transferable and replicated as best practice. This has clearly been the case for the new co-operative from Carno and we wish them every success!



The lady is for turning!

Amongst numerous politicians to pledge their support for the project, the latest encouraging addition is that of North Wales Assembly Member Janet Ryder who had initially objected to the 11 turbine proposal. Commenting on her decision she said, "Since the co-operative have demonstrated their sensitivity to local concerns and amended their plans accordingly, I am now happy to support the application."



Launch of new Energy Agency for Conwy

The Conwy Energy Agency was launched recently at a lively event which incorporated a variety of speakers at the Conwy Business Centre. The aim of the new agency, which is sponsored and supported by Leader +, a programme funded by the European Union, Welsh Assembly Government, Welsh Development Agency and Conwy County Borough Council, is to encourage and co-ordinate the development of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency within the Conwy valley and surrounding rural

areas. The Agency will work with the local communities in rural Conwy to explore, test and develop renewable energy sources and support individuals to become more energy efficient in their homes. There will be four key benefits: new jobs, lower energy costs for the local communities, community involvement, and less pollution. A major part of their future work will be implementing Ail Wynt's package of benefits to the community.