

CASE STUDY – LARGE SCALE WIND

KEY DATA

- Location: Udney, Aberdeenshire
- Single E48 (800Kw)
- Conceptual work started 2006
- Constructed Mar-Aug 2011
- First 100% community owned turbine project on the UK mainland

UDNY COMMUNITY WIND TURBINE

CLIENT: UDNY COMMUNITY TRUST COMPANY LTD

Green Cat Renewables provided development support ranging from initial technical assessments to delivery of planning consent and were on hand to assist the Udney team with community 'Buy in' exercises and financial analysis.

The key development issues associated with this project are:

- Delivery of planning consent and grid connection;
- Community Engagement;
- Financing;

As this was a community project, great care has been taken to manage risks in such a way that all of the potential showstoppers were dealt with before committing significant expenditure. Planning consent was delivered through considerate design in collaboration with the landowner's requirements in terms of land use, and hands on consultation with the Council and Statutory Consultees. In parallel to the planning process, Green Cat managed the grid connection aspect which was a key issue in the feasibility of this project.

Regular and pro active Community 'buy in' and Public Relation exercises were undertaken by the Udney team which was an essential part of the

success of this project. Green Cat provided the support required to organise public exhibitions and site visits at various stages of the development phase, including an open day when the turbine was running.

Green Cat has been involved speaking to funders and ultimately provided all the information required to satisfy Triodos Bank who financed the project. We also provided assistance on the financial analysis of various models, assessing FITs/ROCs subsidies scenarios considering the implication of the various grants that were available.

Since the Udney Community Wind Turbine began generating in summer 2011, it has generated more than £120,000 in income. So far £40,000 has been distributed to local good causes, from purchasing iPads for a playgroup and floodlights for a tennis club to helping respond to medical emergencies. The Udney Community Wind Turbine is expected to provide much more significant benefits to hundreds of residents of the two villages behind the project over the next 20 years.

