Wind Power to the People  
Duncan Kerridge  
BDCR Ltd

Aims
- To contribute to and benefit from sustainable energy sources
- To develop renewable energy sources which reduce dependence on fossil fuels and nuclear power.
- To develop commercially viable wind energy installations for local co-operative ownership
- To provide an ethical, environmental investment opportunity

BDCR activities
- Operate 75kW wind turbine
- Developing 500kW project
- ~200 shareholders, about 60% local - receive annual interest payment
- Elected management committee

BDCR 1 - the story
- 1999 Pantperthog residents and CAT conceive idea of a community-owned wind turbine
- Dulas Valley Community Wind Partnership formed
- Applies through Dyfi Eco Valley Partnership for ERDF grant for 30% of capital costs
- 2000 Initial Lease and PPA discussions held with CAT and landowner
- First public meeting
- 2001 grant from Scottish Power Eco Trust
- Planning application submitted for 50kW machine
- Received planning consent for the wind turbine
- Turbine changed to a 75kW Vestas wind turbine due to planning conditions and exchange rate
- Grant from Energy Savings Trust

BDCR 1, continued
- Signing up of land owners concerned in the new site
- Negotiation of terms for electricity sales
- 2002 Order wind turbine and issue contracts for construction and commissioning
- Build community local group membership
- Register group as Industrial & Provident Society
- Attract sufficient share finance
- Installation of road access, foundations, cabling, switch gear etc., followed by the turbine and grid link
- Commissioning the turbine
- 2003 Holding of a public launch event
- Establishment of management board for the Community Energy Fund
- Administration of Bro Dyfi Community Renewables Ltd.

BDCR 1 : Vestas V17
- Second hand turbine from Denmark
- Project cost £81,000
- 59 local share holders invested £23,000
- Grants from EU and Scottish Power
- Power originally sold to CAT
- ~120 MWh/yr. 45 homes
- Community energy fund: 30%
BDCR 1 Shareholders

Bro Dyfi Community Renewables Ltd

BDCR 2: NTK37 Repowering Mynydd Glandulas

MS4

NTK37

BDCR 2: 500kW Nordtank

- 6 year NFFO3 fixed contract index-linked
- Average production 1,000,000 kWh/yr
- Equivalent to 1/3 Machynlleth households
- 430 tonnes CO₂ saved
- Projected power sales £ 70,000 /yr
- Independent funding for ecodyfi

BDCR2 : 500kW Nordtank

Capital costs

Total £328,000

Finance - raising the capital

Equity
Investors, REIC

Loan
Finance Wales, 5 years

Grant
MWEA, WDA to ecodyfi for shares
WDA to BDCR

Share offer

- Through REIC - investment club
- June - Sept 05
- £207,000 pledged
- Over-subscribed £32,000
Progress so far

2005
- funding raised
- turbine procured

2006
- legal issues finalised
- gearbox refurbished
- foundation/tower adaptor fabricated
- MS4 removed and Nordtank erected
- commissioning started

Challenges

• “Fixed” costs are high for small schemes
• Capital grants often required - deadlines can conflict for multiple funding sources
• Voluntary labour is frequently essential and project may take much longer than expected
• Local solicitors rarely have suitable experience
• DNO (grid operator) may ignore or obstruct efforts to connect
• Banks may not understand funding requirements

Benefits

• Investing in a better environment for future generations
• Taking responsibility for producing energy from a local resource - people are no longer just consumers
• Maximising local economic benefits through contacts and reinvestment of profits
• Local people working together

www.bdcr.org.uk
www.ecodyfi.org.uk/bdcr