

BWEA Wales Renewable Energy Bulletin Issue 01 - November 2006

Welcome to the first edition of "Wales Renewable Energy Bulletin", a new, regular information resource for those involved with Wales' thriving renewable energy industry. The bulletin will be focused primarily on onshore wind energy but will also cover other renewable energy projects in Wales. The bulletin will be produced and distributed by BWEA's Wales Steering Committee. If you would like to receive future copies, please email info@bwea.com, alternatively, download this and future editions at www.bwea.com/wales.

Wind of change for Wales

Climate change, rising power prices and fears over security of supply have put the issue of energy high in everyone's mind. More and more people are becoming aware of the need to embrace renewable energy for a sustainable future. Wales is home to some of the best winds in Europe, and wind energy will play a major part in helping Wales meet its renewable energy goal.

The continuing support for wind energy in Wales has been re-confirmed by the results of a new opinion poll with 72% of people agreeing that wind farms are necessary so that we can produce renewable energy to help us meet current and future energy needs.

An event over the August Bank Holiday – Wind Weekend – allowed visitors to experience the power of the wind, when flagship wind farms opened their gates to members of the public, giving people the opportunity to see wind energy in action. Rheidol Wind Farm, near Aberystwyth in Ceredigion and Hafoty Ucha Wind Farm near Corwen in Conwy offered free entertainment for all the family, from wind turbine tours, interactive activities and energy efficiency advice, and long time renewables exponents, the Centre for Alternative Technology in Machynlleth in Powys, also opened over the weekend.



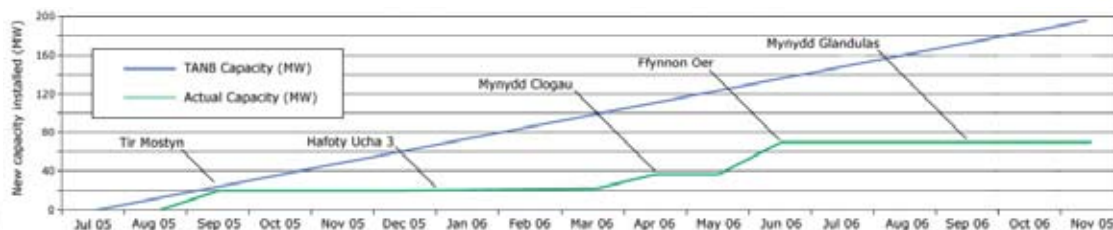
Wind Weekend visitors to Hafoty Ucha taking a turbine tour. More at www.embracewind.com

Progress towards TAN8 targets

The Welsh Assembly Government, through its renewable energy policy guidance (TAN8) has set clear targets for renewable energy generation in Wales. Each issue of the Wales Renewable Energy Bulletin will monitor progress towards the specific target of 800 MW of additional onshore wind energy capacity by 2010, using statistics from the UKWED database (www.bwea.com/ukwed/). In order to achieve the TAN8 onshore wind energy target, an average of 12.3 MW needs to be installed each month up to December 2010; by November 2006, progress was over 60% behind schedule.

New project: npower-renewables has officially opened Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm in the Neath Valley. This 32 MW wind farm, generating electricity equivalent to the demands of over 17,000 homes, was officially opened by Secretary of State for Wales, Peter Hain.

Onshore Wind Energy – progress towards the TAN8 target adopted in July 2005



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