Garreg Lwyd Hill
Wind Farm, Powys

Engaging with communities during construction

December 2015
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About This Document

This document sets out how RES - one of the world’s leading independent renewable energy companies, with more than 10,000MW of renewable energy capacity developed and/or built worldwide - intends to keep local communities informed of progress during the construction of Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm, Powys.

The indicative Communications Plan (see Section 4) summarises RES’ approach by outlining the various communications methods the project team will use at significant stages of the construction programme, such as the transportation of turbine components and the highways upgrades which are required in order to facilitate this. The Communications Plan is presented against indicative dates for construction works, and will be tailored to suit the needs of the community and in consultation with elected representatives as construction progresses. Moreover, it may transpire that it would be beneficial to undertake targeted engagement with sections of the community which are yet to be identified. RES will therefore seek to take a flexible approach which complements the construction programme and enables any questions or concerns from community members to be fully addressed in a timely manner.

Whilst the community engagement described in this document is taking place, RES will simultaneously be working with statutory and technical stakeholders to ensure the wind farm is completed on schedule and to the highest specifications.
Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm is situated between Felindre and Llanbadarn Fynydd in Radnorshire, Powys. It is located in the Newtown South Strategic Search Area (SSA C) of the Welsh Assembly’s Technical Advice Note 8 (TAN8) - Renewable Energy, and as such is a site identified by the Welsh Government as suitable for large scale wind energy generation.

Location of the RES’ 17 turbine Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm

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The design of the wind farm has been informed from a number of surveys and investigations on and around the site and from consultations held with relevant bodies including the community. The principle criteria have been to design a wind farm with low impact on the surrounding communities and environment, high electricity production, and long-term community benefits.

As part of the necessary preparations RES has been making in order to begin the main construction works in January 2016, this document has been produced to outline different elements of the construction programme and how RES intends to keep the local community and elected representatives informed of progress, whilst keeping disruption to a minimum. When considering its Communications Plan in Section 4, RES has taken into account RenewableUK Cymru’s ‘Strategic Traffic Management Plan for Mid Wales Wind Farms’ ¹ which sets out how the delivery of wind turbine components to Welsh Government’s Strategic Search Areas in Mid Wales will be managed.

¹ The ‘Strategic Traffic Management Plan for Mid Wales Wind Farms’ can be downloaded from the RenewableUK Cymru website: http://www.renewableuk-cymru.com/publications/
2 Commitment to Communities

RES is committed to open and constructive dialogue with the local community. This means that:

1. Accurate information about the construction programme will be presented to the local community in a clear and timely way;

2. RES will undertake to ensure that the residents and businesses of communities likely to be affected by the construction of the wind farm and delivery of turbine components, are notified of the scale, nature and timing of these phases of the construction programme – and that contact information is widely advertised in order to keep lines of communication open;

3. Opportunities will be provided for the local community to meet the project team in person to discuss different elements of the construction programme;

4. Public information events will be well-publicised to the local community, maximising awareness of opportunities for personal interaction during the construction process;

5. The local community will be able to find out more information and ask RES questions about the wind farm and construction works at any stage (see Section 5);

6. RES will respond to enquiries from the public in a timely manner (usually within five working days, and same-day acknowledgement or within 24 hours for turbine delivery queries);

7. RES will respect all views expressed in relation to the planned construction work, and, where possible, take local knowledge into account, with the view to minimise any disruption caused by the wind farm construction traffic;

8. RES will ensure that approaches made by companies interested in offering their services (i.e. general labouring, material supplies, electrical work, and accommodation) during construction of the wind farm are acknowledged and passed to the relevant contractor to follow up should the services be of interest or suit requirements.

9. Information regarding the Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm community benefits package will become available once the full construction works have begun.
3 Key Stakeholders

RES is keen to ensure that the communities who are likely to be most impacted by the construction work are informed of upcoming activity - and any necessary mitigation strategies - in a timely manner. The location and number of stakeholders RES will directly engage with will differ depending on the nature and stage of the construction works and level of any anticipated disruption. RES will, wherever possible, ensure the elected representatives of the area in which work is being undertaken, and the relevant local authority, are apprised of the activity and its associated timescales in advance of informing members of the public.

RES recognises that there are essentially two types of stakeholder: those who live close to the site and transport route and therefore have a direct interest in how the construction of Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm may affect them (primary stakeholders), and those living in the wider region who may be interested in renewable energy or developments in the area (secondary stakeholders).

As a means to ensure all residences, businesses and elected representatives are fully considered before any construction activity relating to Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm begins, RES has categorised the primary stakeholders into a series of specific mailing lists for direct contact at key points in the construction programme. These include, but are not limited to, the following.

Identified Stakeholder Mailing Lists

Main Site
The closest communities located within a 9km radius from the centre of site (see Appendix A), and with whom RES has engaged during the development process. These communities will be regularly informed of progress on site and will be the main beneficiaries of RES’ community benefits package.

The Main Site Stakeholder Mailing List includes the following villages and also ensures the properties eligible for RES’ Local Electricity Discount Scheme (see below), are captured: Dolfon; Felindre; Beguildy; Llanbister; and Llanbadarn Fynydd.

Turbine Delivery Transport Route
Sections of the route from the delivery port to site, where residents and businesses may be affected by planned upgrade works or the transportation of the delivery vehicles; the identification of which will be in line with RenewableUK Cymru’s ‘Strategic Traffic Management Plan for Mid Wales Wind Farms’ (sTMP). Some examples are highlighted in RES’ Indicative Communications Plan in Section 4. A depiction of the full sTMP route can be found in Appendix B.

Grid Connection Route
Identified sections of the route the connection will follow to the substation in Knighton where residents and businesses may be affected by installation of the cable by the District Network Operator.
**Mochdre Estate Link**
The business units within the Industrial Estate likely to notice an increase in construction traffic on the road network whilst a link road is built to connect the end of the estate (Heol Ashley) to the A483 Dolfor Road. RES will also courteously inform a selection of properties located to the north of the new link road that may not have sight of the works but nonetheless be aware of the construction activity.

**Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) Eligible Properties**
Eligible properties of RES’ Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) at Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm will be written to directly with information on how to apply for the annual discount which will become available once the wind farm is fully operational.

As well as residents, local businesses, organisations and community groups located within the identified Stakeholder Mailing List(s), primary stakeholders also comprise elected representatives of the respective Stakeholder Mailing List(s), including but not limited to:

- Local Community Councils;
- County Councillors; and Portfolio Holders;
- Regional and Constituency Assembly Members;
- Welsh Government Ministers;
- Members of Parliament.

RES will actively engage with the relevant primary stakeholders directly to:

- Provide clear and accurate information on construction progress;
- Invite stakeholders to public information events;
- Offer briefings and presentations about the construction process/transport route to elected representatives of the respective Stakeholder Mailing List(s).

In addition to keeping the primary stakeholders up-to-date on progress, RES recognises that there are likely to be a range of secondary stakeholders who, although unaffected by construction works directly, may have vested interests in the construction of Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm. To ensure such secondary stakeholders are fully informed, RES will use a variety of communications methods which include, but are not limited to:

- Public information events (advertised in local newspapers);
- Public notices in local newspapers;
- Coverage of the wind farm construction in local media sources;
- Posters/signage displayed in key locations;
- A project website containing updates on progress ([www.garreglwydhill.co.uk](http://www.garreglwydhill.co.uk)) and ways to get in touch with the Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm project team (Section 5).
4  Indicative Communications Plan

The Communications Plan below provides an indicative overview of peak areas of activity during the anticipated 12-18 month construction programme for Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm and how RES intends to keep local people informed of progress and keep channels of communication open. Due consideration has been shown for the communities who may be affected at the different stages of work, illustrated by the communications issued to date whilst RES has been discharging the necessary planning conditions to prepare for construction.

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<tr>
<th>Nature of Work</th>
<th>Indicative Timeline</th>
<th>Information Available</th>
<th>Audiences</th>
<th>Communication Methods</th>
<th>RES to Consult / Notify</th>
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| Site Investigation            | August 2015 to October 2015 [COMPLETE] | • Introduction to project Community Relations Manager  
• Progress update  
• Notification of commencement of site investigation work  
• Clarification that this does not indicate the start of main construction works  
• RES contact details | The following primary stakeholders:  
• Elected representatives of identified Stakeholder Mailing List (i.e. MP, Regional and Constituency AMs, Powys County Councillor; host and neighbouring Community Council – those representing, in this case, properties only accessible via the route to site used for investigatory work undertaken during the condition discharge stage) | Direct mail:  
• Sent 10 days in advance of work starting (ahead of notifying constituents)  
• Welcomed input so RES can tailor its communications strategy ahead of the main works starting  
• Included commitment to write again when a construction programme has been confirmed with a request to meet | Powys County Council |

| Condition Discharge (pre-construction) | Direct mail:  
• Sent 7 days in advance of work starting  
• Included detail on the route, vehicular movements and anticipated duration | Powys County Council |

The following primary stakeholders:  
• All households and businesses within identified Stakeholder Mailing List (in this case, properties which are only accessible via the route to site for investigatory work undertaken during the condition discharge stage)
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| Site Investigation – Transport Route Condition Discharge (pre-construction) | September 2015 to October 2015 [COMPLETE] | • Introduction to project Community Relations Manager  
• Progress update  
• Notification of ground investigation and ecology protection works along certain parts of the turbine component delivery route  
• Highlight availability of sTMP factsheets  
• Clarification that this does not indicate the start of main construction works  
• RES contact details | The following primary stakeholders:  
• Elected representatives of identified Stakeholder Mailing List & Turbine Delivery Transport Route Stakeholder Mailing List (in this case, those south of Newtown) | Media engagement as required | Powys County Council |
| Stakeholder Engagement with elected representatives (pre-construction) | November 2015 to January 2016 (To continue regular, responsive and tailored engagement; peaking at key construction milestones) | • RES’ ‘Engaging with communities during construction’ document  
• Introduction to project team / contact details  
• Overview of construction work and provision of indicative construction programme  
• RES’ community benefits package | The following primary stakeholders:  
• Elected representatives of Main Site Stakeholder Mailing List | Direct mail:  
• Offer briefings to elected representatives | Relevant Authority |
<p>| | | | Circulation area of local papers / coverage of local broadcast media | Media engagement as required | |</p>
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</table>
| Notification of main construction work beginning | December 2015 to January 2016 | • Site location and project detail (including revision in no. of turbines from 23-17 and what this means for community benefits package)  
• Indicative construction programme  
• Overview of turbine delivery route and commitment to sTMP  
• Elements of work to be undertaken which will bring local benefits  
• RES contact details | The following primary stakeholders:  
• All households and businesses within Main Site Stakeholder Mailing List  
• Elected representatives of Main Site Stakeholder Mailing List  
• Welsh Government Minister(s) | Direct mail (Newsletter):  
• Send to elected representatives for information in advance of notifying the general public | Relevant Authority |
| Construction Newsletter 1 (pre-construction) | | Available to all | | | |
| Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) update | Early 2016 | • An update on LEDS as part of the community benefits package offered by Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm  
• Advised timescale for applications and receipt of discount payments  
• Details for who to contact in LEDS administration team with any queries  
• LEDS-specific website for more information | The following primary stakeholders:  
• Elected representatives of LEDS Eligible Properties Mailing List | Direct mail:  
• Notification that RES will be contacting eligible properties | |
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<tr>
<td><strong>Highways upgrades along sTMP route</strong></td>
<td>February 2016</td>
<td>Prior to commencement of work, RES will, where appropriate, disseminate the following information:</td>
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| **Including*, but not limited to, work in the following locations:**          | to July 2016 (Staggered in line with local authority programme and ordered dependent on Welsh Government coordination) | - Reason for the works  
- Location of route  
- Estimated commencement date  
- Duration of works  
- Working hours  
- Size and number of vehicles  
- Request to keep the highway clear of parked cars during the period of works (if appropriate)  
- RES contact details  
- sTMP factsheets  | - The following primary stakeholders:  
- All households and businesses within identified Stakeholder Mailing List(s)  
- Elected representatives of identified Stakeholder Mailing List(s)  
- Welsh Government Minister(s)  
- Emergency Services provision within the vicinity  
- Identified community groups potentially impacted by the works  | Press release:  
- To widen awareness and maximise take up of community benefit  | * | |
<p>| <strong>Abermule and Pool Quay</strong> – layover areas for off highway AIL (Abnormal Indivisible Load, i.e. turbine component) storage |                      |                                                                                       |                                                                 |                                                                                       |                        |                   |
| <strong>Mochdre Estate Link</strong> – new link road                                       |                      |                                                                                       |                                                                 |                                                                                       |                        |                   |
| <strong>Between Mochdre and site entrance</strong> – lane closure for ecology protection works |                      |                                                                                       |                                                                 |                                                                                       |                        |                   |
| <strong>Available to all</strong>                                                          |                      |                                                                                       |                                                                 |                                                                                       |                        |                   |
| <strong>Posters:</strong>                                                                 |                      |                                                                                       |                                                                 | Display in key locations where there is anticipated footfall either in close proximity to route and frequented most by road users (service stations) and in locations which serve to inform the community (local notice boards, tourist information centre, libraries) |                        |                   |
| <strong>Circulation area of local papers / coverage of local broadcast media</strong>     |                      |                                                                                       |                                                                 |                                                                                       |                        |                   |
| <strong>Press release:</strong>                                                            |                      |                                                                                       |                                                                 | To widen awareness of works, timescales and RES contact details                      |                        |                   |</p>
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</table>
| *The listed locations above are considered to have increased potential to impact on the communities within relative proximity of the works.* | | | Available to all | Update to project website:  
- Publish links to sTMP factsheets for download  
- Display maps of where roadworks are taking place | |
| **Pre-Turbine Delivery Public Information Event** | June - July 2016 | • Site location and project detail  
• Overview of works that have been undertaken on sTMP route to date  
• Overview of turbine delivery route and commitment to sTMP  
• Indicative delivery programme and what this means for road users  
• Anticipated timescales for turbine deliveries | The following primary stakeholders:  
- All households and businesses within identified Stakeholder Mailing List(s)  
- Elected representatives of identified Stakeholder Mailing List(s)  
- Welsh Government Minister(s) | Direct mail:  
- Invitation to Public Information Event held in key area(s) most impacted by deliveries  
- Send to elected representatives in advance of the general public | Relevant Authority |
| **Targeted engagement prior to commencement** | | Available to all | | Public Information Event:  
- Opportunity to meet with project team members to discuss works of specific interest / concern | |
| | | Available to all | | Posters:  
- Display in key locations to inform the likely affected communities of the opportunity to speak with RES and learn more about turbine deliveries (local notice boards, tourist information centre, libraries) | |
| | | | | Circulation area of local papers / coverage of local broadcast media | |
| | | | | Press release/advert:  
- To widen awareness and maximise attendance | |
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</table>
| **Grid Upgrade works**<br>Works to be undertaken by District Network Operator (WPD – Western Power Distribution) with communications support from RES | March 2016 - September 2016 | Prior to commencement of work, RES will disseminate the following information:  
- Reason for the works  
- Location of route  
- Estimated commencement date  
- Duration of works  
- Working hours  
- Request to keep the highway clear of parked cars during the period of works (if appropriate)  
- RES contact details  
- Emergency contact details for District Network Operator (WPD) carrying out the work | The following primary stakeholders:  
- All households and businesses within Grid Connection Route Stakeholder Mailing List(s)  
- Elected representatives of Grid Connection Route Stakeholder Mailing List(s)  
- Welsh Government Minister(s)  
- Emergency Services provision within the vicinity  
- Identified community groups potentially impacted by the works | Update to project website:  
- Details of Public Information Event and how to attend  
- Links to sTMP factsheets for download  
- Display map of delivery route | Relevant Authority |
| **Grid Cabling works**<br>Works to be undertaken by District Network Operator (WPD –) | October 2015 – December 2016 | Prior to commencement of work, RES will disseminate the following information:  
- Reason for the works  
- Location of route  
- Estimated commencement date | The following primary stakeholders:  
- All households and businesses within Grid Connection Route Stakeholder Mailing List(s)  
- Elected representatives of Grid Connection Route Stakeholder Mailing List(s) | Direct mail:  
- Send to elected representatives for information in advance of notifying the general public | Relevant Authority |
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</table>
| Western Power Distribution) with communications support from RES | | • Duration of works  
• Working hours  
• Request to keep the highway clear of parked cars during the period of works (if appropriate)  
• RES contact details  
• Emergency contact details for District Network Operator (WPD) carrying out the work | • Welsh Government Minister(s)  
• Emergency Services provision within the vicinity  
• Identified community groups potentially impacted by the works | Circulation area of local papers / coverage of local broadcast media | Press release |
| Public Rights of Way (ProW) management | January 2016 - March 2017 | Prior to commencement of temporary diversions, RES will, disseminate the following information:  
• Reason for the diversions (i.e. to keep users away from construction traffic)  
• Plans showing the routes of ProW and temporary diversions  
• Estimated commencement dates  
• Duration of diversions  
• Relevant safety measures  
• Detail of improvement works to the ProW and associated benefits  
• RES contact details | The following primary stakeholders:  
• Elected representatives of Main Site Stakeholder Mailing List  
• Local organisations and community groups (i.e. British Horse Society, ramblers association) | Available to all | Direct mail:  
• Send to elected representatives for information in advance of notifying the community groups |
| | | | Available to all | Signage:  
• Display in key locations along routes to divert ProW |
| | | | Available to all | Posters:  
• Display in key locations which serve to inform the community (local notice boards, tourist information centre, libraries) |
<p>| | | | Circulation area of local papers / coverage of local broadcast media | Press release |</p>
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<th>Communication Methods</th>
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| **Turbine Deliveries**  | August 2016 | • Site location and project detail  
• Overview of turbine delivery route and commitment to sTMP  
• Indicative delivery programme and what this means for road users  
• Request to keep the highway clear of parked cars during the delivery period (if appropriate)  
• Turbine erection process  
• Update on RES community benefits package  
• How to learn more  
• Where to watch deliveries from a safe vantage point  
• RES contact details | Available to all | Update to project website:  
• Display map of where diversions will affect PRoW users | Relevant Authority |
| **Construction Newsletter 2** | | The following primary stakeholders:  
• All households and businesses within Main Site Stakeholder Mailing List & Turbine Delivery Transport Route Stakeholder Mailing List(s)  
• Elected representatives of Main Site Stakeholder Mailing List & Turbine Delivery Transport Route Stakeholder Mailing List(s)  
• Welsh Government Minister(s)  
• Emergency Services provision within the vicinity  
• Identified community groups potentially impacted by the works | Available to all | Direct mail (Newsletter):  
• Send to elected representatives for information in advance of notifying the general public | |

**Available to all**  
Update to project website:  
• Make newsletter available for download  

Posters:  
• Display in key locations which serve to inform the likely affected community (local notice boards, tourist information centre, libraries)  

Circulation area of local papers / coverage of local broadcast media  
Press release  
Media Engagement as required
## Indicative Timeline

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<tr>
<th>STAGE</th>
<th>Aug 15</th>
<th>Sep 15</th>
<th>Oct 15</th>
<th>Nov 15</th>
<th>Dec 15</th>
<th>Jan 16</th>
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<th>Mar 16</th>
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<td>Site Investigation (Condition Discharge)</td>
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<td>Site Investigation – Transport Route (Condition Discharge)</td>
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<td>Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) update</td>
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<td><strong>STAGE</strong></td>
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**Post-energisation**

Once construction is complete, the turbines will undergo a period of testing and commissioning before the wind farm can become fully operational and this will be communicated accordingly. Within a month of this milestone, Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm will pay the first annual instalment of the Community Benefit Fund. Individual payments from the Local Electricity Discount Scheme will follow shortly after and will continue annually for the 25-year operational lifetime of the wind farm.
6 How to Contact RES and the Project Team

RES has a dedicated project team who will undertake the activities outlined in the Indicative Communications Plan described in this document. The team can be contacted via the following contact details at any stage during the construction process:

**Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm Project Team**
**RES**
**A:** RES, Cedar House, Greenwood Close, Cardiff Gate Business Park, Cardiff, CF23 8RD
**T:** 02920 721 070
**E:** garreg.lwyd@res-ltd.com

The project email address above has been set up to enable people to send enquiries to the RES project team who will aim to respond within five working days.

The first point of contact for enquiries about community engagement and benefits, and also for press enquiries, is:

![Samantha Mayes](image)

**Samantha Mayes**
**Community Relations Manager, England and Wales**
**T:** 02921 780010
**E:** samantha.mayes@res-ltd.com

The above contact information can be found on the Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm project website which has been running since 2008:

**W:** [www.garreglwydhill.co.uk](http://www.garreglwydhill.co.uk)

As mentioned in the body of this document, the website content will continually evolve with progress of the construction works, and people will be encouraged to visit the website for updates and further information at key points in the construction programme.
Appendices

Appendix A

Extent of Main Site Stakeholder Mailing List

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9km radius from turbine locations

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