

EVENT DESCRIPTION

RES-e Regions

Title: Planners Platform

Date & location: 16-17 March 2005, Wales

Organiser: Mid Wales Energy Agency/Dulas

Number of Participants: 17



Short description:

This two-day event was highly successful in bringing issues pertinent to the installation of renewable electricity plant to the attention of planners from across Wales. The tour and discussions included a visit and talk about the biggest wind farm in Wales, a visit to a community wind turbine and discussions of the community aspect and its planning implications, a trip to a micro-hydro turbine (pictured), and also visits to small hydro, domestic PV and large-scale PV.

Background:

Planners are an essential target group for RES-e as they often have a great deal of influence and responsibility for determining whether an installation will be performed. Often, planners are unaware of RES-e plant and this prevents them being considered as an option in circumstances where they might otherwise be the most cost-effective and environmentally-friendly method of producing electricity. This tour aimed at dispelling some myths, and giving 'hands-on' experience of RES-e plant, as well as discussing related issues at the sites and during a meeting.

Aim & programme:

To allow planners from across Wales to discuss issues related to planning and RES-e.

Day 1: 16th March

3.30 pm: Arrive Cefn Croes Wind Farm

5.30 pm: Depart Cefn Croes Wind Farm

6.00 pm: Arrive Park Lodge Hotel, Aberystwyth

7.00pm: Formal discussion on planning issues and RES-e, Park Lodge Hotel, Aberystwyth

Day 2: 17th March

9.00 am: Depart Park Lodge Hotel, Aberystwyth

10.00 am: Arrive Pantperthog (Community Wind Turbine)

10.30 am: Depart Pantperthog

11.00 am: Arrive Maes Glas micro Hydro powerhouse (4 miles from Mallwyd)

11.15pm: Depart Maes Glas

11.45 pm: Arrive Ty Cerig Small Hydro Scheme

12.45pm: Depart Ty Cerig

1.15 pm: Arrive Machynlleth, Wynnstay Hotel

2.15 pm: Machynlleth Domestic PV and Solar Water Heating

2.40 pm Dulas ltd (Commercial PV Installation)
3.00pm Depart Dulas Ltd

Results, follow-up:

Very positive reaction from all attendees. Many of them are 'champions' for RES-e within their areas, and the visits and discussions have helped them address local issues having learnt from what they have saw and heard on the planners platform tour.