

Airvolution Energy

Case Study

Our commitment to local construction





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This contract has been invaluable to us. We have made more contacts and have secured more work because of it. We enjoyed working on the site.

All our workers lived just six miles away, which meant enjoying an extra cup of tea in the morning.

Hywel Pritchard, Pritchard Brothers.

Case Study: Local Economic Benefits - Ysgellog

Our intention was to use local suppliers and employ local people on site whenever possible, and our breakdown of the final figures from the construction spend reflected that.

Welsh companies that worked on the construction phase of our project provided goods and services to the value of £646,000. What's more, £316,000 of that was spent within Anglesey. Or put another way, 35% of the total construction spend went to suppliers based in Anglesey, and 71% to those based in Wales.

All too often the argument surrounding economic benefits is focused on where the turbines come from, in this case, Enercon, based in Germany. And whilst turbines do consist of a large portion of total spend, the preparation and ground works take around 75% of the total build time, and for the moment at least, is how we as developers can maximise the local benefits during the construction period (and let's not forget the massive investment potential from renewables as a whole, with £808 million in investment announced in Wales).

A wide range of companies contributed to the project build, including aggregates and concrete suppliers, building contractors, hotels and restaurants, and providers of fuel, fencing, tool hire and building materials.

Our two turbines at Ysgellog Farm show how using local suppliers brings an economic benefit directly to the region we are working in. But the figures also show that utilising local goods and services is a win-win situation – it makes good business sense too.

The positive economic benefits for Wales from onshore wind were highlighted by Regeneris Consulting and Cardiff Business School earlier this year. It found that £2.3 billion GVA, the gross value of goods and services, could be added to the Welsh economy between 2012 and 2050 if the Welsh Government's 2025 ambition of achieving 2,000 MW of onshore wind is realised.

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Two turbines at Ysgellog Farm:

The two turbines at Ysgellog Farm are **92.5 metres** to blade tip, and are estimated to generate enough electricity to power the equivalent of **3,100 homes*** each year. Construction started in **October 2012** and the turbines started generating electricity in **March 2013**.

*Using estimated wind speed data and average household electricity consumption of 4148 kWh/yr (DECC 2010).



Our commitment to the local economy was recognised at the **Wales Green Energy Awards**.

Thanks to a very committed team, construction went according to schedule despite the challenging winter conditions.

Contact Us:

Airvolution Energy Limited
Palladium House, 1-4 Argyll Street
London W1F 7TA

+44 (0)20 3030 5060
info@airvolutionenergy.com
www.airvolutionenergy.com