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RES TO APPEAL ROOS WIND FARM DECISION

9 turbine wind farm could power 11,000 homes

RES, the company proposing the 9-turbine Roos wind farm in South Holderness, has submitted an appeal against East Riding of Yorkshire Council's decision to turn down the planning application.

RES submitted plans for a nine-turbine wind farm on land at Sunderland Farm between Burton Pidsea and Roos in December 2008. On July 30th, despite a positive report from the planning officer recommending that permission should be granted subject to a planning agreement, the Council's planning committee voted to refuse the wind farm.

Each turbine would have had an indicative capacity of 2.3MW, with a maximum height to the tip of the blade of 126.5m and would take advantage of the excellent wind speeds in the area to produce enough clean, green electricity to power more than 11,000 homes, equivalent to 9% of the homes in East Riding. The wind farm would also generate a community fund of approximately £36,000 per year.

Annette Deveson, Head of Development, commented, *"We feel we have a strong case for an appeal. In her report recommending approval for the project, the Council's Planning Officer confirmed that the Roos wind farm, together with other wind farms in the area, would be acceptable within the landscape. She argued that any local impacts would be limited and not sufficiently large as to outweigh the benefits from the generation of clean, green renewable energy. However the Planning Committee then went on to refuse the wind farm on the grounds of landscape and visual impacts. If the UK is to meet ambitious targets for producing energy from renewable sources to cut CO₂ emissions, increase the security of our energy supply and ensure that our landscapes are protected from climate change, we need more wind farms to be approved."*

An appeal has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for England and Wales, and the outcome will be determined by an independent Planning Inspector.

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Notes to editors:

1. RES is a leading UK renewable energy company and is part of the Sir Robert McAlpine group of construction and engineering companies. RES built its first wind farm in Cornwall in 1992 and has developed and/or owns three projects in Wales. The RES Group has to date completed over 4,300MW of wind power capacity worldwide and is active in a range of renewable energy technologies (biomass, solar, ground source, wind), as well as sustainable building design. RES is a holder of the Queen's Award for Enterprise for its commitment to renewable energy. For more information, visit www.res-group.com
2. The proposed Roos wind farm consists of 9 turbines, each rated at an indicative 2.3MW capacity and up to 126.5m in height (to the tip of the blade). It would have had an indicative overall capacity of 20.7MW and generated enough electricity over the course of a year to power more than 11,000 homes (taking into account natural fluctuations in the wind and the efficiency of the generators).

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