Welcome to the September 2013 Langhope Rig Wind Farm Newsletter – delivering the latest information on the Langhope Rig project. If you have any questions or would like to be added to the Langhope Rig Mailing List for regular updates please contact:
Kirstanne McDowall
Community Liaison Manager
0141 224 7569
kirstanne.mcdowall@sse.com

Further information on the project can also be found at: www.sse.com/langhoperig or on our twitter page: @Langhope.

Project Overview
SSE Renewables achieved consent in 2008 to construct the 10 turbine Langhope Rig wind farm in the Scottish Borders. The site is located approximately 5km west of Ashkirk and 4km south east of Ettrickbridge. General Electric (GE) turbines have been selected for the site with a hub height of 82.5m and a blade length of 40.2m. The turbines will each have a maximum generating capacity of up to 1.6MW (16MW in total).

The wind farm will begin construction in Autumn 2013 and will take place over an estimated period of 12 months.

Expected Project Timeline

October 2013 ➔ Main Construction begins on site and initial grid construction begins.
Local Community Investment fund is open for applications to eligible community councils.

November 2013 ➔ Trial run is planned. Details will be confirmed in due course.

February 2014 ➔ Main grid construction expected to begin.
First Local Community Investment awards made.

June 2014 ➔ Turbine deliveries expected to begin.

September 2014 ➔ Site completion expected.
Langhope Rig Wind Farm

Project Update Newsletter September 2013

Langhope Rig Sponsors Selkirk MTB Marathon
Members of the Langhope Rig Wind Farm project team were all GEAR-ed up on Saturday 8th June for a day of cycling fun as competitors took to the streets of Selkirk for the MTB Marathon event in the Scottish Borders.

SSE Renewables provided sponsorship for the event which saw over 100 cyclists of all abilities and ages put their pedal to the metal along the valleys of the Rivers Tweed, Yarrow and Ettrick to complete the 25km, 50km and 80km courses.

Delivery Schedule Pushed Back Following Community Feedback
As a responsible developer, SSE Renewables has confirmed that the turbine delivery schedule for the Langhope Rig Wind Farm will be amended to avoid deliveries during the Hawick Common Riding Celebrations and Commonwealth Games Baton Relay in 2014. While this slightly delays our construction schedule we are keen to do whatever we can to avoid deliveries during days of local importance within our host communities. A detailed schedule is still to be confirmed for turbine deliveries but we have committed to pushing back our schedule until after 10th June 2014 following community feedback from local community councils.

The turbines are expected to travel from the A68, through Denholm and Hawick town centre before travelling along the B711 past Roberton to the site entrance. It is projected that a total of up to 35 escorted convoys over a three month period will be required to deliver the necessary turbine components to the site in Summer 2014.

The turbine route has been comprehensively assessed and agreed with Scottish Borders Council and a trial run of the route is expected to take place in November 2013 following BEAR Scotland’s completion of road works on the A7 and Scottish Borders Council’s works to the bridge at Knowesouth. Details on the date of the Trial Run and a detailed delivery schedule will be made publicly available once confirmed.

It is our key priority to minimise any disruption to local businesses, road users and residents and we will continue to work closely with communities that are impacted by deliveries during construction of the wind farm to ensure any concerns are addressed.

PICTURE: Component Delivery Vehicle on a trial run.
Community Council Liaison Group Formed
As part of the ongoing engagement process during the construction of the Langhope Rig Wind Farm, SSE Renewables has formed the Langhope Rig Community Council Liaison Group (CCLG) working with local community councils and councillors representing the communities impacted by the wind farm construction. The group aims to provide a forum for SSE Renewables to present information on plans throughout the construction of the Langhope Rig Wind Farm, including traffic management, deliveries and construction of the grid route, and allow local community councils to feedback their views and any issues encountered. Concerns will be documented and acted upon by SSER accordingly.

Meetings will not be open to the public however; local residents are welcome to pass on any concerns directly to SSE Renewables or via their community council for discussion at the next meeting. Each meeting will be minuted and minutes will be publicly available to view on the Langhope Rig website once approved by the group: http://www.sse.com/LanghopeRig.

Minutes from the first meeting of the CCLG in August 2013 will be available to download soon.

Community Investment Fund Launch
Langhope Rig’s Local Community Investment Fund worth £40,000 per annum will open for applications within Lilliesleaf, Ashkirk & Midlem, Upper Teviotdale & Borthwick Water, and Ettrick & Yarrow Community Council areas on Monday 28th October 2013.

In advance of this, a public information event will be held at Kirkhope Parish Hall, Ettrickbridge on Thursday 24th October at 7pm. Come along to find out how to apply and discuss potential project ideas with us.

For further information on the Langhope Community Funds please contact:

Ciara Wilson, Community Investment Manager
ciara.wilson@sse.com
0141 224 7191
Or visit: www.sse.com/community/funds

The Regional Community Investment fund, worth an additional £40,000 per annum and open to wider communities in the Scottish Borders, will launch in Spring 2014. Details will be confirmed in due course.

Martin’s Bridge Works Complete
The bridge was re-opened on Monday 22nd July, and temporary traffic lights were used to complete the masonry works. The temporary traffic lights have now been removed.

The removal of the access scaffold started during week commencing Monday 2nd September, and it is anticipated that the site will be completely cleared by Monday 23rd September 2013.
Our Community Engagement

SSE Renewables greatly values community feedback and we will continue to work closely with local residents and stakeholders to keep them informed as plans for the project progress.

In order to keep the local community updated on our plans regular updates are communicated via local press, via our mailing list, via our project website (www.sse.com/langhoperig) and project twitter page (@Langhope). In addition we have set up a Community Council Liaison Group (CCLG) to establish an open dialogue between ourselves and the communities impacted throughout construction.

Should you have any questions in relation to the project or if you would like to be added or removed from our project mailing list, please contact:

Kirstanne McDowall,
Community Liaison Manager,
0141 224 7569
kirstanne.mcdowall@sse.com

We would be delighted to hear from you.

Opportunities for Local Businesses – Especially Local Accommodation!

Over the past 12 months, SSE Renewables has been compiling a local business register for potential opportunities during the construction phase of the wind farm and has held two local business events to provide information on what skills we might need.

Local businesses who are interested can still register for opportunities by contacting Kirstanne McDowall on 0141 224 7569 or emailing; kirstanne.mcdowall@sse.com.

In particular we have a shortage of local accommodation providers on our list and would welcome further details from local B&Bs, self catering and holiday home owners for our construction workers on site. If you have any long term availability we would be keen to hear from you!