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Contact: Rachel Anderson, Communications Officer, +44 (0) 1923 299 400 or +44 (0) 7795 680 803,
rachel.anderson@res-ltd.com

MINNYGAP WIND FARM APPLICATION SUBMITTED

Public can find out more at exhibitions on 5th and 6th August

RES¹ is pleased to announce it has submitted plans for Minnygap Wind Farm², located 8km southwest of Moffat, to Dumfries and Galloway Council. Minnygap Wind Farm will have an installed capacity of 20 MW; each turbine will be rated at 2MW and have a maximum blade tip height of 125m. This is a revised scheme and addresses the issues raised in our original proposal submitted in 2005.

Public exhibitions as part of the consultation process will be held next week to enable people to view the Environmental Statement (ES) and find out more about RES's plans.

Gilbert Stevenson, Minnygap Project Manager, said;

"Since submitting our original application we have listened to the local community and worked hard in the intervening period to redesign the scheme taking their views into account. We are confident that Minnygap is a low impact site with no visual impact or ecological issues. We have reduced the number of turbines from 15 to 10, and following the consent of the neighbouring Harestanes Wind Farm, redesigned Minnygap to sit in harmony with it."

The exhibitions will be held at Moffat Town Hall on Wednesday 5 August, from 2pm to 8pm and in Johnstone Parish Hall on Thursday 6 August, from 10am to 3pm. Everyone is welcome to come along to either day to find out more about the proposals for the 10 turbine wind farm, which will be able to provide enough clean green power for between 11,000 – 12,000 Scottish households, which is equivalent to 15% of the households in Dumfries and Galloway.

Gilbert added:

"Scotland has a very ambitious target of generating 50% of its electricity from renewables by 2020, demonstrating its commitment to renewable energy and the economy. Scotland is moving from large centralised conventional generation technologies – coal, gas and nuclear – to smaller more widely distributed diverse mix of renewable generation technologies such as wind. RES is excited to be part of this transition and feel Minnygap can play an important part of reaching renewable energy targets while minimising local impacts and maximising benefits to the local and regional economy"

RES SUBMITS PLANS FOR MINNYGAP WIND FARM

The planning application and Environmental Statement (ES) will be considered by Dumfries and Galloway Council, and a decision is expected in 2010.

The planning application and ES will be available to view at the public exhibitions and also at the following locations:

- Dumfries and Galloway Council Offices in Dumfries and Lockerbie
- Moffat and Lockerbie Libraries
- Johnstonebridge sub-Post Office.

Copies of the ES are also available from RES on request and we have created a dedicated website, which will go live on 1st August, with further information on the project: www.minnygap-windfarm.co.uk. Visitors to the website are also able to provide feedback on the proposal.

ENDS

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 five projects in Scotland. 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 Minnygap Wind Farm will consist of 10 turbines, each rated at 2MW capacity and up to 125 m in height (to the tip of the blade). In total installed capacity will be 20 MW and generate enough electricity over the course of the year to power between 11,000 – 12,000 homes (taking into account natural fluctuations in the wind and the efficiency of the generators).

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Rachel Anderson
Communications Officer, RES
+44 (0) 1923 299 400
+44 (0) 7795 680 803
rachel.anderson@res-ltd.com