



**For immediate release: Monday 12 February 2007**  
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## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **RES WELCOMES APPROVAL OF DEN BROOK WIND FARM**

Renewable Energy Systems (RES)<sup>1</sup> has welcomed the Planning Inspectorate's decision today to approve the nine turbine wind farm at Den Brook in Devon following a public inquiry in November last year<sup>2</sup>.

The project will generate electricity equivalent to the annual needs of over 10,000 homes – or half of West Devon - and reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas. It will also bring local benefits including a £27,000 a year community fund to be spent on local projects, a sustainable income for farmers who own the land, local sourcing of labour and materials and wildlife enhancements measures at the site.

Rachel Ruffle, Project Manager for Renewable Energy Systems, said:

*"We are very pleased with the Inspector's decision. It allows the Den Brook wind farm to make a contribution to important national and regional efforts to meet renewable energy targets, cut greenhouse gas emissions and avoid the serious impacts of climate change. We are also looking forward to bringing economic and environmental benefits to the area."*

In his decision, the Inspector noted the need to tackle climate change and the benefits of the project. In discussing the potential visual effect of the wind farm he concluded; *'I have little doubt that this location would (because of, rather than in spite of, its inherent topographical characteristics) rank highly among the landscapes most able to accommodate development of the type, scale and extent proposed.'*

Rachel Ruffle added:

*"We took the project to appeal because there was local public support for the project and because we were confident that we had designed a low impact wind farm that would bring benefits on a national, regional and local scale. We are delighted that this has been confirmed by the Inspector's decision."*

***/more follows***

Rachel Ruffle concluded;

*“At this stage it is too early to give any indication of when we might start work on the Den Brook wind farm. We shall be examining that, in the context of our existing programme, over the coming weeks.”*

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editors:**

1. The Renewable Energy Systems Group (RES) is one of the world's leading wind energy companies, involved in the development, construction and operation of wind farms across the UK, the rest of Europe, North America and Australia. Part of the Sir Robert McAlpine group of construction and engineering companies, RES has to date completed over 1300MW of wind energy capacity. For more information, visit [www.res-group.com](http://www.res-group.com)
2. The Den Brook project was originally submitted to West Devon Borough Council in December 2005 after two years of survey work, design and consultation with independent experts and the local community. It was turned down by West Devon Borough Council's planning committee in January 2006. A public inquiry was held in November 2006 in Okehampton.

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