



WJM HELP UK TO MEET GREEN ENERGY TARGETS

The UK is on track to meet its renewable energy target of 10% of electricity supplied from green generation by 2010, according to a report from Parliament's independent financial watchdog, the National Audit Office. This was based on a study by Oxera of the latest projections of green energy schemes and the future wholesale price of electricity.

Scotland has set itself the more ambitious task of generating 40% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2020. Hydro schemes which have been in place for a considerable time still contribute most of this at present but wind power is fast catching up. Figures from the British Wind Energy Association show that there are currently 22 wind farms commissioned in Scotland totalling 353 turbines and producing 349.51 megawatts of electricity, enough to power 212,478 homes based on a 30% capacity factor and an average household consumption of 4,700k/wh per annum.

WJM's contribution to these figures has been considerable. The wind farms which we have worked on, either for the owner or operator, total 158 turbines, producing 191.2mw, enough to power 115,298 homes, more than half the Scottish total.

And we are not stopping there! The industry received a further boost with the news that Fred. Olsen Renewables wind farm at Rothes is to be formally opened on 10 May 2005. The wind farm comprises 22 turbines, producing 50.6mws of electricity, enough to power approximately another 43,000 homes.

David Bone and his team carried out all the legal work for Fred. Olsen over a period of 4 years. It involved leases with 2 landowners, a connection agreement with a third, arrangements with an agricultural tenant and financing from a major Japanese bank. David commented "Although the work was hard and intensive over a long period, it's great to see the final result and the contribution which we and our clients are contributing to make to Scotland's energy targets. The figures show that our dedicated Renewable Energy team is the market leader in Scotland and with the projects on which we are currently working (including some biomass and hydro work) we intend keeping it that way".

Further details from David Bone: djbone@wjm.co.uk

This article was originally published in Contact, Wright Johnston & Mackenzie LLP's regular newsletter. To subscribe email your details to marketing@wjm.co.uk

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