Woolhope Dome Community Wood-Fuel Project

Information for Landowners who may host the Wood Chip Processing Operation

Introduction to the Wood-Fuel Project
The Woolhope Dome Community Wood-Fuel Project will make renewable heat a reality in the Woolhope Dome area centred around Fownhope, South of Hereford. This innovative renewable energy project will use sustainably harvested wood from local woodlands to fuel wood-chip boilers that will heat local business, residential and community premises. The project will be run by a community-owned cooperative Energy Supply Company (ESCO) which will:

- Own and operate woodchip-powered boilers in local premises
- Provide fuel for these boilers from local sustainable sources

The project is a collaboration between two not-for-profit organisations: Fownhope and District Carbon Reduction Action Group (CRAG) and Shareenergy, part of Energy4All, the UK’s foremost enabler of community owned renewable energy.

Developing a Wood Chip Processing Operation
The project is presently looking for a site to develop a wood-chip processing operation, which would supply the fuel to the local boilers. Having undertaken a detailed feasibility study of the site requirements for a wood-chip processing operation the following guidelines have been identified:

- The site needs to be centrally located, relative to both the deliveries of logs and the dispatch of wood-chip. Ideally, the site will be within or close to the Woolhope Dome area.

- The site needs to include a large open area suitable for timber storage and seasoning – somewhere in the region of one and a half acres.

- The site requires a shed or barn of sufficient volume to store a minimum of 400m³ of wood-chip, which will be typically stacked at 3 to 3.5 meters high.

- A shed for secure machinery storage (two trailers, a tractor and a front end loader) is also required, but this can be combined with the chip store if the facility is large enough.

- Ideally the site needs accommodation to enable wood-chip analysis, quality control and room for an office. Alternatively a site for a portacabin and/or container would be required.
**Flexibility**
It is important to highlight that it may be difficult to find a site with these exact requirements. The project will need to be flexible. So if you think that you may have a potential site that would need to be adapted or modified in some way, please contact us to assess the suitability of your site.

**Potential Opportunities for Landowners**
This project will allow a Landowner to diversify their operation and secure income via a long term lease.

**Identifying a site for the Wood Chip Processing Operation**
If you are interested in further details or have a site in mind, please contact the Woolhope Dome Community Wood-Fuel Development Manager who will be happy to discuss it with you.

For further information please visit: [http://www.sharenergy.coop/woolhope](http://www.sharenergy.coop/woolhope)

Downloadable information sheets are also available on other aspects of the project.

**Contact Details:**

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