



PRESS RELEASE

9 June 2010

Herefordshire NFU get the first sighting of a Gaia wind turbine being raised to its feet.

Over 50 members of Herefordshire NFU members gathered this week (Tues 8) to witness the raising of the 18 metre Gaia wind turbine, one of the first in the county to appear.

7Y chief executive Julian Morgan was delighted to see his turbine, at Leadon Court, Fromes Hill installed by his partners in this project, Greenerth Energy from Ewyas Harold, Herefordshire.

After over 12 months of hard work including wind monitoring, obtaining planning permission, the day had come to see the unveiling of the project.

This Gaia turbine is in the 'small wind turbine category' and has a peak rated output of 11kW producing an energy yield that is well placed for supplying electricity to farms, large residences, offices, small businesses and public buildings. "Given reasonable wind, the Gaia turbine should produce upwards of 25,000 kW hours in a year," says Mr Morgan, who points out that a key benefit of this 'Danish design' turbine is the slow rotational speed (50RPM) which remains constant regardless of the wind speed and incorporates many of the control and safety features found in larger utility-scale turbines.

Configured to give an optimal yield in moderate wind speed sites i.e. those with an annual average wind speed in the range of 4.5 - 6 metres/second, it also requires a three phase electrical connection.

Mr Morgan reminded the group of the significance of the Feed-in Tariff (FIT) recently introduced in April which had now replaced the grant schemes. "The incentives of the FITs now available make perfect sense in taking up a renewable energy project," he says. He pointed out that the wind project would be paid back in a little over seven years providing a realistic return on

investment over the next 20 years, which he said was far better than money in the bank.

Mr Morgan already has solar photovoltaic electricity generation, a solar thermal hot water system and a biomass boiler on the farm. These systems supply heat and electricity to commercial units, two farm houses and workshops. His aim is to source 100% of the energy needed for the business from renewables over the next five years.

For further information on this press release please contact Catherine Hughes on 07815 103 855 or email her on catherine.hughes@7y.co.uk