

REAL Headlines

REAL is rapidly expanding. The development of a number of new services has been in direct response to the policy developments in renewable energy. REAL continues to manage medium scale installations of renewable energy technology and has now completed 16 installations at high profile beacon sites, supported over 150 clients, and is working towards another 21 installations across London. The REAL initiative, however, now incorporates a sustainable energy support for planning departments, part funded by the EST's Innovation Programme, and a developer support service that provides advice and support with understanding and implementing planning policy.

Biomass Grows

Hi-tech biomass boilers are now commonplace across much of Europe, burning wood pellets as well as logs and wood chip at an efficiency rivalling the newest gas technologies. In the UK however, we are still behind our continental neighbours in the uptake of this clean, renewable energy source. CEN's dedicated biomass team is working across London to support developments in accessing grants and loans to reduce capital cost, facilitating installations and maintenance, and guaranteeing low cost heat.

REAL is currently working with BioRegional, the organisation responsible for setting up a wood chip production plant in Croydon. This major woodfuel source for London will accept up to 100 tonnes of waste wood each week from public and private tree surgeons. The wood is chipped and stored ready for distribution to biomass heating plants in the surrounding area. The site not only turns a problematic waste stream into a very valuable renewable fuel, but also helps boroughs to meet their carbon saving targets.

Biomass Seminar and REAL Support Services

BioRegional is holding a series of seminars on 6th September 2005 to examine all aspects of wood fuel. REAL will be presenting on the support available to developers who, according to changing planning policy requirements, must integrate higher standards of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies into new developments.

REAL can assist developers at every stage, providing initial renewable energy options appraisals, including biomass heating, to managing the installation process and engaging the local community.



At the Treestation,
Croydon, June 2005





Spa Hill Wind Turbine Foundations, July 2005

Wind Turbine Installation Gathers Momentum

The Spa Hill Allotment wind turbine project is now entering the final stages. The trenching and ducting work to enable grid connection is now complete, and the grass has already started growing again. The foundation for the turbine has also been prepared in readiness for the delivery of the 11m mast and 2.5kW turbine. Once operational, it is expected that over 5000 units of green electricity will be produced on site each year.

Developing Renewable Communities

In the last 3 months, a number of community renewable installations have progressed. Gunnersbury School in Hounslow, St. James' Catholic High School in Barnet and Burdette Couetts School in Westminster have all had photovoltaics installed.

There has also been a growing interest in small scale wind turbines, with applications for funding and planning submitted for Wellgate Community Farm in Barking, the Low Hall Depot in Waltham Forest, and St James' Catholic High School, which aims to complement their photovoltaic panels with a 2.5kW Proven wind turbine.

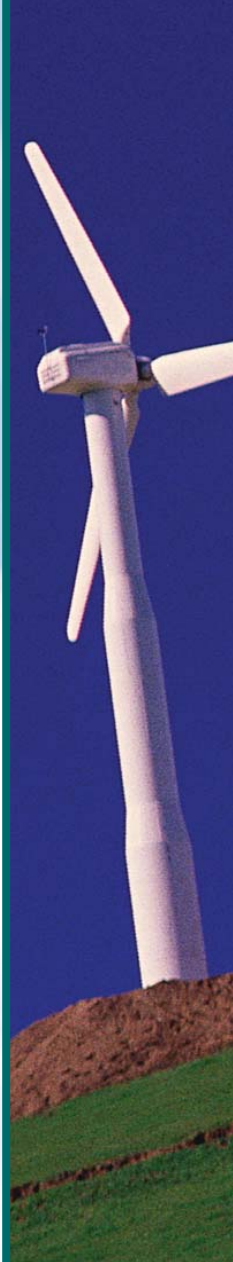
The Second Annual Review

In November the REAL team will be hosting its second annual review. We shall be covering aspects of the community installations programme, planner and developer support services and looking at the future of building integrated renewables in the capital. There will also be numerous opportunities to talk to manufacturers and others involved in the renewables field, as well as opportunities to ensure that REAL is working in a way that best suits you. The event will take place at the Royal Horticultural Halls in Westminster on the 23rd of November. If you wish to attend this free event, please contact the team as soon as possible for more information as there are limited places available.

Want to know more?

Could you, or a community you know, benefit from the installation of renewable energy measures? Would you simply like to find out more about REAL?

Call the REAL team on 020 8683 6683!



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