

## Supply Chain Opportunities and Maximising Inward Investment

RES is committed to ensuring that, wherever reasonably practicable, local contractors and employees are used in all aspects of developing our renewable energy projects. The main opportunities arise during the construction phase when suitably qualified local firms are invited to bid for different aspects of construction, such as haulage, on-site welfare facilities, refuse and recycling facilities, transport and local accommodation for construction workers.

The case studies below help demonstrate RES' commitment to working with the local supply chain and maximising inward investment wherever possible on its renewable energy projects.

### RES partners with local Brora firm to support local jobs

In December 2020, RES announced that it had signed an agreement with a local firm Edward Mackay Contractors which gave them right of first refusal on the civil construction work for a proposed renewable energy scheme - helping to secure valuable local jobs and employment opportunities for local people should the project receive consent.

Liam Mackay, Director, Edward Mackays said: *"All credit to RES for engaging with local businesses and for giving us the opportunity to get stuck into a project on our doorstep, should it proceed. The work that we are looking at is significant and could be a real boost for not only our business but the whole area, so we're hoping that the community will get behind the project once it's been submitted into planning."*



RES has also committed to support a local apprentice at Edward Mackay, with a view to the apprenticeship being completed in time for site construction work starting.

### Local economy sees financial gain from 15-turbine development due to start operations in 2020



Companies in Dumfries and Galloway and Cumbria won contracts totalling more than £1.5million during construction of the Solwaybank Wind Farm, near Langholm. Companies such as Grange Quarry, Pro-Tect, Hansons and Oakbank were contracted providing aggregate, security, concrete and plant hire throughout the construction period.

David McKenzie, Construction Manager at RES, said: *"Maintaining good links with the local communities where our renewable energy projects are situated is of paramount importance. Local contractors have extensive knowledge of the local area and bring highly skilled staff and services to projects. We are very happy to be able to support local businesses and look forward to further engagement with local companies over the coming year."*

RES worked in close partnership with Jones Bros Civil Engineering UK who helped to engage several firms in the area including Pro-Tect for security and cleaning, LIP Construction for road surfacing and GT Contracting for fencing.

David Nicholson, project manager at Jones Bros Civil Engineering UK, said: *"As with all our projects, we aim to provide opportunities for the local community to benefit from employment and sub-contract work. Working in partnership with RES at Solwaybank Wind Farm, we have recruited two local people, and supported them obtaining their plant tickets and associated training."*

John Reid, Managing Director of Oakbank Plant Hire, said: *"With over 30 years' experience in Dumfries and Galloway, Oakbank has become a local name representing the first-class service we provide. RES has set a precedent for other large companies coming to the area through providing local contracts, which could potentially enhance future employment opportunities."*

### Business Rates

Business rates are a tax on property used for business purposes and are used to fund services in the local authority.

Torrige District Council retains 100% of all the business rates due from Renewable Energy businesses (Solar and Wind Farms) to fund vital local services for all local residents. If consented, we estimate the Derril Water Solar Farm would deliver £162,000 in business rates annually or in excess of £6 million over the project lifetime.