Westmill Wind Farm (WWF)

Key facts and figures (Jnr) Exercise



Using the correct words and numbers, fill in the gaps below.

130 tonnes	
Five	
61 metres	
twice	
South-west	

Wales zero Denmark 50 metres lightning 30metres Generator 2,500 5,200

feather three

150 metres 2.5 to 25 metres Sub Station Control Room 1%

The Site

Turbines spaced linearly (almost East-West) approximately _____ apart maximising the prevailing wind.

of the farm total area is taken up by the turbines and associated works. Mean annual wind speed predicted on site is 6.3 metres per second (14 mph) Suggests an annual output exceeding 12 million kilowatt hour (kWh), sufficient for over homes. (Note 1 kWh is the amount of electricity used in 1 hour by a 1 bar electric fire or used in 1 hour by 17 light bulbs rated at 60Watts).

Planning Permission

It took over 10 years to obtain planning permission to develop the wind farm Many arguments were made against the Wind Farm – see page 3.

Turbines

The turbi	nes were manufactured by Siemens in, each	
with blades	- i	
They are capable of ge	nerating 1,300 MW when the wind speeds are sufficient.	
The blades are made f	rom fibre-glass reinforced epoxy with receptors	
protection fitted close t	o the tip.	
Height to hub		
Two tower sections		
Rotor diameter	(each blade is long)	
Tower weight	54 tonnes	
Nacelle weighs	46 tonnes (for gearbox and electricity generator).	
Rotor weighs	30 tonnes.	
Total weight of turbine	(your calculation)	
Each foundations has ~ 330 cubic metres of concrete and		
	 ~ 36 tonnes of steel reinforcement. 	
Delivered in sections b	y road from the port of	
Erection: once the foundations were laid, the 5 turbines took only 8 days to erect.		
Operate at wind speeds between 5.5 and 56 mph (per second or		
from Beaufort scale 2 (light breeze) to scale 9 (severe gale)).	
If the wind goes abov	e 56mph, the turbines automatically shut down. When this	
happens, the blades _	so that they present the least resistance to	
the wind.		
Max wind speed until 1	5.08.09 = 17m/s	
The first electricity was	generated on 19 th February 2008.	

Maintenance

Siemens will monitor and maintain during the 5 year warranty period for WWF.

Scheduled maintenance takes place ______ a year.

Turbines are monitored at a unit in Newtown, _____. They will call out a maintenance engineer if necessary.

The electricity generated by Turbines 1, 2, & 3 is currently purchased by Good Energy and 3 & 4 by Co-operative Energy.

Sending the wind power to the electricity distribution system

At the top of the turbine, in the nacelle, is a ______ which is turned by the force of the wind on the blades of the turbine.

The meters to measure our exported electricity generation are in the ______. The electricity is carried by underground cable to Longcot where it joins the distribution grid to reach our homes, schools, shops and factories.

Environment

The wind farm output should reduce carbon dioxide emissions by about ______ tonnes per year.

In order to manufacture and construct the wind farm, considerable energy was used. It was recovered by electricity generation from the wind during the first year of operation.

Thereafter, we are generating ______ carbon energy for the rest of the expected 25 year life of WWF.

Generation Income

We expect to generate sufficient electricity to earn around £ 1 million per year. In our first financial year (the first 8 months of actual operation), we made a profit of \pounds 148,000 and paid a dividend of 2.3 pence per £1 share.