

## BWEA Wales Renewable Energy Bulletin Issue 03 - March 2007

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This is the third issue of the Wales Renewable Energy Bulletin that aims to keep key stakeholders and supporters of renewable technologies in Wales informed on progress. This and the previous two editions have appeared in paper and electronic format but in the interest of being kinder to the environment, this issue will be the last published on paper. If you have not yet done so, please ensure that you subscribe to future electronic issues by visiting [www.bwea.com/mail](http://www.bwea.com/mail).

### New Survey Shows Strong Public Support for Renewable Energy

A new survey conducted by Allegra Strategies again demonstrates strong support towards renewable energy in Wales. The study shows that a majority would be prepared to pay more to ensure that their electricity supply comes from renewable sources. In respect of wind energy, only 5% of respondents with wind farms in their local area expressed negative feedback towards having a wind turbine near their homes. This survey again undermines many of the erroneous claims made by opponents of wind energy who are very much in the minority (see [www.allegra.co.uk/project-renew.html](http://www.allegra.co.uk/project-renew.html)).

### Support for Wind Project in the Valleys

Gamesa Energy UK has just finished the first stage of its public consultation programme for the Llynfi Renewable Energy Park proposal, in TAN8 SSA "F" and some 3-4 km north-east of Maesteg. Feedback to this proposal was eagerly awaited as it proposes the use of ultra-modern 4.5 MW wind turbines. This means that the 14 wind turbine project could make a significant contribution to TAN8 targets, as the proposal would have more than twice the capacity of the 103 wind turbine project near Llandinam, mid-Wales, for example.

During the consultation programme, over 13,000 people were invited to attend events in local communities around the proposal including three public exhibitions held before Christmas, and three "drop-in" public consultation surgeries in the New Year. At these the public were given a first-hand opportunity to see details of the proposal and how this can help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The increased capacity of the proposed wind turbines comes as a result of their larger physical size. This meant that the visual material for the public assumed tip-heights of 184 m. Despite this, of those people who completed questionnaires at the 3 public exhibitions, more supported the proposal than opposed it. One local resident commented *"I strongly support all renewable energy projects and view the proposed plan positively even though they will be seen from my home."*

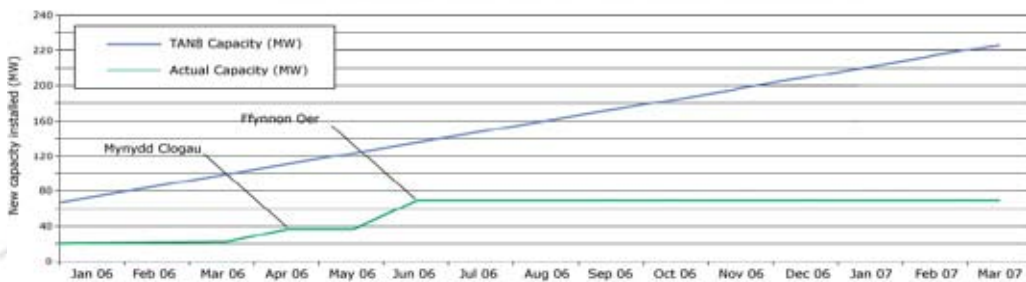
Photomontage of the proposed view at Llynfi © Gamesa Energy UK



### Progress towards TAN8 targets

The Welsh Assembly Government has set clear targets for renewable energy generation in Wales by the year 2010 and the Welsh Energy Bulletin monitors progress. No additional MW has been generated by onshore wind power since June 2006, meaning that we are 72% behind schedule.

### Onshore Wind Energy – progress towards the TAN8 target adopted in July 2005



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