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CAITHNESS GROUPS WELCOME SUPPORT FROM RES

Two Caithness groups have welcomed support for their activities from one of the world's leading renewable energy companies, RES.

The 2nd Thurso Scout Group has received £1000 and new polo shirts have been provided for the Forss Young Farmers. Both groups are active near the RES six-turbine wind farm at Forss.

The money presented to the Scouts will go towards the group's summer programme where members take part in an exchange with a Scout Group in Brilon, Germany.

Keith Moncur, District Explorer Scout Commissioner, Caithness District Scout Council, said: *"Cultural exchanges and friendships made every time our two Scout groups meet are life-changing for all involved, but events like this are very expensive. We are very grateful to RES for their considerable donation to our summer programme, it means that we can show our German visitors true Scottish hospitality and provide our own young people with an experience that they will remember for many years to come."*

Jamie Spargo, Chairman of Forss Young Farmers, said: *"On behalf of the Forss Young Farmers Club I would like to thank RES for the very kind donation of polo shirts for our club members. The tops will be worn at events and competitions that we attend throughout the Highlands and our members appreciate that they will now be easily recognised by other Young Farmers."*

Graeme Kerr, RES Development Project Manager, said: *"RES is committed to supporting the communities near our wind farms and this is no different at Forss. The community has been involved in the wind farm since the beginning and we are proud to support local groups such as the Scouts and the Young Farmers."*

Forss Wind Farm currently brings significant benefits through a community fund, which has received over £64,300 since the fund started to go to local groups and good causes. The fund has supported the erection of Christmas lights, a swimming training camp, sports equipment for the local Beaver Group and educational trips for students. Application forms are available to download from www.forss-windfarm.co.uk.

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Notes to editors:

1. RES is one of the world's leading independent renewable energy project developers with operations across Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific. At the forefront of wind energy development for over 30 years, RES has developed and/or built more than 6.5GW of wind energy capacity worldwide. In the UK alone, RES currently has more than 1GW of onshore wind energy either constructed, under construction or consented. The RES Group is active in a range of renewable energy technologies including large-scale biomass, solar, wave and tidal and on-site renewable installations. For more information, visit www.res-group.com
2. In 2011, RES submitted an application for an extension to Forss Wind Farm. The application was refused by a planning officer using delegated decision making powers. RES submitted an appeal to the Local Review Body in January this year and is currently waiting for the appeal to be reviewed. For more information, please visit www.forss-windfarm.co.uk.

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