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Contact: Rachel Anderson, Community Relations Manager, +44 (0)141 404 5531 or +44 (0) 7795 680 803

RES SUBMITS PLANNING APPLICATION FOR FORSS WIND FARM EXTENSION

RES has submitted a planning application for the Forss Wind Farm Extension, located at the former US Naval Radio Station near Thurso in Caithness. The proposal is for five turbines, each with a maximum height of 81m to the tip of the blade. The wind farm will have an indicative capacity of between 4.3 - 6.5 MW depending on the type of turbine chosen. The planning application along with an Environmental Statement (ES) has been submitted to The Highland Council.

The existing 7.2 MW wind farm consists of six turbines and currently generates a significant amount of clean, green renewable energy equivalent to the needs of over 3,700 households in the Highland region. The wind farm extension, if approved, will provide the equivalent to the annual consumption of an additional 3,000-5,000 households.

Alan Macintyre, Project Manager for Forss Wind Farm Extension commented:

“This extension to Forss Wind Farm will provide a contribution to Scotland’s energy security and carbon reduction targets. As well as the environmental benefits from the existing Forss Wind Farm, the project has provided economic and community benefits. Through a community fund linked to the wind farm, RES is committed to providing financial benefit to the local community. Throughout the construction of the wind farm RES used local subcontractors and suppliers from the Highlands, ensuring that the local region reaped the economic benefits. It is RES’s intention that the extension project will also provide significant local benefits.”

There will be opportunities for local contractors during the construction period as RES has a policy of sourcing goods and services locally to wind farm sites wherever practicable.

The planning application along with the ES and Non-Technical Summary will be available to view at the following locations:

- Highland Council Service Point, Thurso
- Planning and Building Standards, Wick
- Thurso Library

Copies of the ES are also available from RES on request and we have created a dedicated project website with further information on the project: www.forss-windfarm.co.uk



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ENDS

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 since the 1970s, RES has developed and/or built more than 5GW of wind energy capacity worldwide, including around 10% of the UK's wind energy. In Scotland, RES has developed and/or owns seven wind farm projects. The RES Group is active in a range of renewable energy technologies (biomass, solar, onshore and offshore wind, wave and tidal), as well as sustainable building design. For more information, visit www.res-group.com .

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Rachel Anderson
Community Relations Manager, RES
+44 (0)141 404 5531
+44 (0) 7795 680 803
rachel.anderson@res-ltd.com