Community Energy Fund

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Get 'fund-ready' to access £10m pot

WHAT IS THE COMMUNITY ENERGY FUND?

£10m of funds provided by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero to empower local communities to develop clean energy projects to benefit their local areas. The fund opens in autumn 2023. Get in touch to find out how your community can benefit.

It aims to help communities benefit from clean, affordable, locally sourced energy, whilst also kick-starting private investment to scale up projects.

It helps stakeholders to finance the upfront feasibility studies, planning support and design – crucial steps, but often the hidden costs in making an investment in clean energy happen.

WHO CAN APPLY?

To apply, you must be a legal entity that provides benefit to the community.

The Community Energy Fund is a great opportunity for bodies that include:

- » Parish/town council
- » Registered social landlord
- » Registered charity
- » Community Interest Company
- » Development trust
- » Co-operative
- » Community benefit society

Local authorities are likely to be able to support any community group making an application, as long as the latter owns at least 51% of the project.

WHAT TYPE OF ENERGY PROJECTS QUALIFY?

Anything that benefits local people, supports local jobs and is clean.

Examples include one or more of the following:

- » Rooftop solar partnerships
 » EV charging points (including vehicle to grid)
- » Battery storage (front-of-meter and behind-the-meter across a range of technologies)
- » Rural heat networks
- » Small-scale wind farms
- » Hydropower
- » Heat pumps
- Anaerobic digestion facilities
- » Microgrids
- » Thermal storage
- » Emerging storage technologies
 - (eg compressed air)

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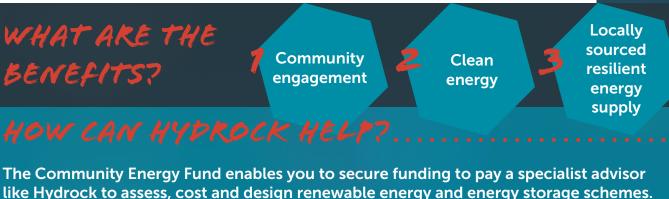
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HOW CAN YOU BE 'FUND-READY?

To be ready to apply, your project will need to meet certain key criteria:

- » It must demonstrate local community benefit
- » It must not be for a speculative site
- » Pre-planning work and planning permission should still be required
- Existing projects and concepts will be considered if it can be demonstrated that the funds will help a project to proceed

Funding will be available for feasibility studies and more detailed design work.



As a leading consultancy in this field, we have the expertise and the engineering skills to take clean energy schemes forward and deliver a successful outcome for your community.

We can:

- » Identify project risks and opportunities from a technical, financial, social and environmental perspective
- » Prioritise projects based on viability and set a roadmap for delivery
- » Develop a smart energy strategy for a site to meet your needs, for example to reduce costs and emissions, generate revenue, increase resilience, manage peak loads
- » Model future demand growth of EV charging using our StratEV® software
- » Model and optimise the design of renewable generation and storage technologies
- » Take the proposed scheme from feasibility to detailed design
- » Model the investment costs and the predicted long-term return on investment
- Manage the planning submission and deliver the supporting studies noise, fire risk, access, ground conditions, structural design
- Manage the legal agreements for land and site access
- » Manage the grid connection agreement and minimise connection costs
- » Support the procurement phase for construction
- » Oversee the construction stage

CONTACT US

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