Wind Turbine Integration in a Country Park Environment

The Rushcliffe Country Park, Nottingham, UK

Rushcliffe Borough Council manage the local country park and educational visitor centre. As part of the environmental spatial policy the council invested in a carbon neutral project displacing existing carbon rich electricity in an environmentally sensitive country park. The objective was achieved using a biomass boiler, solar water heating, and two tree-sized Iskra Wind AT5-1 Iskra wind turbines. Set in the beautiful south Nottinghamshire countryside with a high bird population, the park is used for walking, jogging, cycling, environmental education, nature trails, and conservation. Iskra has also supplied an LED display panel showing turbine performance and information panels describing the turbine. The country park is built on the site of a former MOD storage depot and ammunition dump, and is an excellent example of regeneration and local sustainability.

Furthermore, the centre provides all visitors with an opportunity to learn more about how easy it is to make a significant contribution to the conservation of natural habitats, wildlife and our environment as a whole. With such activities as planting, hedge laying, willow sculpting, pond-dipping and conducting wildlife surveys, the harnessing of wind energy can be seen as part of a larger environmentally sensitive recreational development for the wider community.

Installation: February 2005

Purpose: Green energy source for the Education Centre.

Project Team: Rushcliffe Borough Council owners & operators, Iskra Wind Turbines Limited.

General System Description: Two tree-sized Iskra Wind AT5-1 wind turbines mounted on 12m guyed towers and grid connected.

Finance: Nottingham County Council.

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