

To all local representatives and interested groups.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Kelda Water Services (the sister company of Yorkshire Water) is proposing to submit a planning application in the next few months for a new wind farm on land next to Scargill Reservoir.

This email is intended to set out a few early details of the proposal and in particular how we plan to consult with the local community about the plans, before we submit the application.

Kelda Group, the parent of Kelda Water Services and Yorkshire Water, is committed to creating sustainable sources of energy and reducing carbon emissions. The company uses a lot of energy to collect, treat and pump water and waste water for its 4.5 million customers across the region and is heavily dependent on unsustainable fossil fuels.

We have also seen enormous increases in energy costs in recent years and Yorkshire Water's annual electricity bill now stands at nearly £45m. Generating electricity from renewable sources such as wind power will help protect customer bills from the impact of unpredictable fluctuations in the future. Kelda Group is committed to reduce this dependency and currently produces 10% of its energy from renewable sources such as wind power, anaerobic digestion and hydro power and we have an aspiration to reach 18% by 2015.

Our commitment is in line with the Government's national target of generating 15% of all energy from renewable sources by 2020.

As part of our commitment, Kelda Water Services is assessing the potential for wind energy adjacent to Yorkshire Water's reservoir at Scargill, near Harrogate. We have not at this stage submitted a planning application but are exploring the options and considering all the environmental aspects of the proposals with Harrogate Council planning officers and their consultees.

We intend to submit a full planning application within a few months and prior to that, will be undertaking an extensive consultation programme with local people between February and May.

Our investigations have shown that Scargill is an ideal location for generating wind power based on the climate and environmental qualities of the site. The consultation, which will involve newsletters to local residents, a project website, public exhibition events held in Washburn Heritage Centre and meetings with key local interested groups, will inform our proposals and allow us to adapt them where appropriate in a way that we hope will reflect the views of local people.

As a key interested party in the area, we would like to invite you to the public exhibition being held between 2.30pm and 7pm in Washburn Heritage Centre on Wednesday 22nd February. We are also very happy to meet with you prior to the event to give you any information you may need for discussions with your constituents.

If you would like to meet or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01274 692817 or email dafydd.williams@yorkshirewater.co.uk

Best wishes,

Dafydd

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