

Financial Risks of (Community-Owned) Wind Farms



Wave and Wind Energy Day,

Malin Head Community Hall, Co Donegal

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Wind Value Project

- What is the value of a wind farm?
- How does this value change as the wind farm approaches its end-of-life?
- Can a community take the opportunity to own their own wind farm?

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Impact of Climate Change

- What is the impact of onshore windfarms?
- Do you think onshore wind farms can create jobs for people living here?
- Do you think onshore wind farms can generate electricity cheaply?

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Sources of Financial Risk

- Over the next few years.....
- Production – Will it be windy?
- Operations, Repairs and Maintenance – Will the turbines work?
- Electricity Price – Will there be a good price for the electricity?

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Community Ownership of Wind Farms

- Would it be good for a community to own a wind farm?
 - How many houses can a turbine supply power to? (one MW is about 300 homes, it depends.....)
 - Can a community be energy-independent and avoid power cuts?
 - Do you think it would be expensive to fix turbines?
 - How would the profits be shared?
 - How would the investment money be raised?
- Would your attitudes to wind farms change if you owned part of one?
- It has been done on Islay

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Initial Talking Points

- Is there a need for wind energy?
- What is the impact of onshore windfarms?
- Do you think onshore wind farms can create jobs for people living here?
- Do you think onshore wind farms can generate electricity cheaply?
- Would it be good for a community to own a wind farm?
- How many houses can it supply power to?
- Can a community be energy-independent and avoid power cuts?
- Do you think it would be expensive to fix turbines?
- How would the profits be shared?
- How would the investment money be raised?
- Would your attitudes to wind farms change if you owned part of one?

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