



Engage

ACTION 21

COMMUNITY ENERGY COMPANY

How the scheme might work - illustrated by a household in Warwick District looking back from 2007



1 Helped by Warwickshire Energy Efficiency Advice Centre and government grants, this household reduced its annual energy demand through efficiency measures by 50%. This saved them £200 p.a. and qualified them for membership of the Action 21 Community Energy Company.



2 They chose to reinvest 50% (£100) of their annual saving in the Community Energy Company (CEC) for the first 5 years, and this was automatically passed to the CEC by the energy supplier, who became a partner in the project during 2005.



£100 p.a. saved

£100 p.a. invested

3 Using the investment from this household and 400 others, in its first three years the CEC developed the top four renewable energy projects identified in the feasibility study undertaken in 2004 in partnership with the District and County Councils, local companies, and supported by regional and national sponsors.



For further information on or to express an interest in the proposed CEC please contact Matthew Rhodes, e-mail: matthew.rhodes@encraft.co.uk

For further information on Action 21 see website: www.action21.co.uk

6 By year three the scheme had 400 established members, and was growing at 100 a year. It had also joined in a partnership with Warwickshire College, who had begun to run training and conversion courses for installers of energy efficiency and renewable technologies.

5 In addition, the CEC negotiated attractive reduced price bulk purchase deals on both green energy and energy saving technologies with an energy supply company and various energy technology companies. These deals were used as marketing incentives to sign up additional members, and further promote the CEC scheme across the District.



Annual output	Local renewable energy project
30MWh	Hydro project on the River Leam at Mill Bridge
40MWh	Wind turbine on Beacon Hill, Newbold Comyn
700MWh	Biomass fired CHP scheme with a housing association. Also producing 1400MWh of heat
150MWh	Small scale wind and solar installations rolling out across the district

4 These projects were operated as economic schemes, owned by company members and open to public view. They returned income to the CEC which was saved for reinvestment in future projects, and enabled reduced price offers to members.

The Engage Partnership consists of Action 21, Warwick District Council, Warwickshire County Council, Warwickshire Energy Efficiency Advice Centre and the Government Office for the West Midlands

Wind turbine image courtesy of Iskra Wind/encraft and solar collector image courtesy of Imagination Solar/encraft