

Energy4All Ltd

Job vacancy for Technical Consultant
based Ludlow, Shropshire



The Company

Energy4All is the UK's leading enterprise in the promotion of community ownership of renewable energy schemes. It is a limited company, but is operated on a not-for-profit basis and the co-operatives it creates own a majority of its shares, in order to ensure its social enterprise ethos. It combines robust business principles with the ethics of a democratically run business. Energy4All has pioneered a series of business models to facilitate community ownership. These range from 100% community ownership models where the development, financing and operation of the project is undertaken by a co-operative; the 'developer' model in which the community purchases a stake in a commercial project; and regional programmes of community ownership, funded by Regional Development Agencies .

Sharenergy

Sharenergy helps communities to build and own their own real renewable energy co-operatives in the West part of the West Midlands.

Sharenergy provides funding and expertise to take renewable energy schemes from a bright idea to a fully viable project which will ultimately be owned and operated by a local co-operative. A revolving fund of £600k of funding is available: successful projects pay back to the fund to support future projects.

Sharenergy is delivered by Energy4All and funded by Advantage West Midlands in the Rural Regeneration Zone of the West Midlands (an area covering most of Herefordshire and Shropshire and a slice of Worcestershire). The funding period of 3 years started in April 2008. At the present time, Sharenergy is working with around 15 community projects using wind, hydro, biogas and biomass technologies ranging from 10kw to several MW. Most of these projects have passed through a screening phase and are in the early stages of detailed feasibility work. The majority of these projects are led by voluntary community groups very local to the proposed installation.

Website: www.sharenergy.coop

The Job

The Technical Consultant will be a consistent expert resource available to all groups and projects in order to help them define and manage the technical aspects of the project.

The focus is on support for the community groups in order to help them get the best value from the resources on offer, to help them drive through the feasibility and planning phase and get their projects built. All projects are heavily dependent on the services of external highly specialised consultants at this stage. The Technical Consultant will be an advisor and advocate throughout this process helping to define the brief, liaise and manage the relationship with the specialist, and interpret the results of these studies.

Sharenergy is a unique project and this is a unique opportunity to get involved with real renewable energy projects coming from grassroots level and supported by a talented team with the strongest track record in this area. Energy4All is very strongly driven by personal conviction and this role will only suit somebody who is dedicated to walking the talk and going the extra mile.

Skills

The Technical Consultant will work across all projects and technologies and will need to be well versed in the theory and practice of renewable energy, with good interpersonal skills and a grasp of financial, policy and project management fundamentals. Personal experience of taking projects to completion is essential as is an ability to explain renewable energy technologies in everyday terms. With support from the Project Manager, the Technical consultant will have to be able to understand and interpret regulatory guidance and financial models. The role has a strong public facing aspect and the candidate will need to have an understanding of and personal connection with the concerns and approach of voluntary community groups.

Details

Location: The role is based in Ludlow, Shropshire, and the Technical Consultant will be working directly with the Project Manager from there for the majority of the time. As we are working with community groups throughout Shropshire and Herefordshire local travel for site visits and meetings is a constant aspect of the role. Occasional national travel (ie to our offices in Cumbria) is also required.

Hours: Nominally normal office hours. However in practice it is often necessary to attend meetings in the evenings and occasionally on weekends. Applicants need to be flexible and willing to work around the needs of the projects.

Reporting Structure: The Technical Consultant will report directly to the Project Manager. The Project Manager reports to the Development Manager (England) and the work of Sharenergy is accountable to the Sharenergy Management Group representing Advantage West Midlands, local public bodies and interests and Energy4All.

Contract: The Technical Consultant will be employed on a fixed-term full-time or nearly full-time 18 month contract by Energy4All.

Salary: £26k p.a.

Holidays: 25 days plus statutory holidays.

Notice Period: There is a 6 month probationary period during which notice period is 1 month on either side. After that a notice period of 3 months applies.

Office and Equipment: The company will supply all necessary equipment

Expenses: All expenses are reimbursed at cost against receipts. Mileage is paid at 40p per mile but, wherever reasonably possible, employees are encouraged to use public transport.

Closing Date: Closing dates for all applications is 17.00 on Monday 5th October 2009, please email a CV and covering letter to helen@energy4all.co.uk

Energy4All has a small team who believe in what they are trying to deliver. New recruits should be happy to fit into this ethos. The company is currently in a rapid growth phase and needs committed individuals who want to take advantage of a unique opportunity to make their mark quickly in a dynamic area.