



For immediate release: Tuesday 5 December 2006
Contact: Annie Heaton, RES, 01923 299347 or 07795 236403

NEWS RELEASE

Prizewinners light up wind turbine!

The lucky winner of a competition held on the RES Open Day in September will be turning on the much-admired Christmas lights on the company's wind turbine in Kings Langley from 5pm on Friday 8 December.

Rebecca Whatmore (13) from Bletchley planned the most effective layout for a wind farm at the Open Day, beating 39 other entrants, both adults and children. "Rebecca is very keen on learning how wind turbines work, and is thrilled to have won," said her mother.

Annie Heaton, Education Officer at RES, said, "*We had such a huge response from children keen to find out about renewables at our Open Day – so we are very glad that Rebecca can join us to help with our Christmas festivities. Hopefully she will sleep well knowing that the lights they switch on are entirely powered from the wind!*"

The children will also be awarded a prize for winning their respective competitions, kindly donated by **The co-operative**, which sponsored this year's competitions and supports efforts to combat climate change.

Matthew will win a water-powered clock, Rebecca a wind up radio, and Louise will be awarded a wind chime making kit.

Local **co-operative** affairs officer Julia Fuller said: "*The co-operative is at the forefront of businesses committed to tackling climate change issues and we are pleased that we can help promote renewable energy by supporting this environmental competition. The winning entries are very impressive and we are delighted to award these prizes to the children.*"

Some 3000 people visited the former Ovaltine Egg Farm for the RES Open Day on 9 September 2006, more than 1000 of whom were children. Three competitions were held during the day.

The multi-coloured lights that illuminate the RES wind turbine have become a well-known feature at Christmas in neighbouring villages Bedmond, Abbots Langley and Kings Langley, and are back by popular demand.

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

The lights will be switched on at 5pm on Friday at Beaufort Court, Egg Farm Lane, WD4 8LR.

Children and staff will be available for interview following the switch-on.

For further information, please contact: Annie Heaton, RES Education Officer on 01923 299203 or 07795 236403 Email: annie.heaton@res-ltd.com Website: www.res-ltd.com.

For further information on The Cooperative, contact Julia Fuller on 0208 364 7913 or Julia.fuller@co-op.co.uk

The RES Group, which develops sources of renewable energy, moved into its head office in Kings Langley in November 2003. The building is designed to be carbon-neutral, and is heated and powered from renewable energy sources, including the well-known wind turbine that is visible from the M25. It also boasts solar panels and a biomass boiler to heat the building in winter. The company's refurbishment of the former Ovaltine Egg Farm also aimed to create a very energy efficient building, with motion-sensitive lighting, natural ventilation and deciduous trees to shade the building's south side from the summer sun.