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**FROM OVALTINE EGG FARM TO SUSTAINABLE OFFICE:
OFFICIAL OPENING OF WORLD FIRST IN ZERO EMISSIONS COMMERCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

Minister for Energy, Stephen Timms MP, officially opened the new ground-breaking head office for leading wind energy company, Renewable Energy Systems group (RES) today. Beaufort Court at Kings Langley formerly housed the Ovaltine Egg Farm and has been transformed into a unique office space. It is the first time in the world that an historical building has been refurbished as a zero-emissions commercial development. The building has been hailed as a living case study for sustainability and a landmark example of the integration of renewable energy into the built environment.

Beaufort Court is entirely energy-self sufficient and produces zero carbon dioxide emissions. All of the building's energy and cooling is produced on-site through a wind turbine, solar panels which generate heat and electricity, biomass crop, a heat store and groundwater cooling system.

At the opening event, Stephen Timms said, "Renewable energy has a central role to play in our efforts to reduce carbon emissions. Developments like Beaufort Court pave the way by showing others how these technologies can be harnessed, taking them out of textbooks and into fully-functioning reality. I wholly endorse the approach that RES and its partners has taken with Beaufort Court and would encourage anyone involved in redevelopment and regeneration to visit and learn from their experience."

Ian Mays, Managing Director of RES said, "Collaboration and innovation have taken Beaufort Court from vision to reality and we are very proud of what we and our partners have achieved here, with the generous support of the EU. It's a living example of sustainability in action, which lies at the heart of what RES does as a business every day. Not only is it a stunning place to work but a legacy from which others can learn."

A Community Open Day will take place at Beaufort Court on 12 June. If you would like to visit the site please call: 01923 299200 for further information.

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Notes to editors

About RES

UK-based Renewable Energy Systems Ltd (RES) is part of the Sir Robert McAlpine group of engineering and construction companies. RES has an expanding portfolio of over 6000MW of wind generating capacity at various stages of development in Europe, the US, Asia and the Caribbean. The company's in-house expertise covers all aspects of wind development, from site selection, planning and design to the construction and operation of generating wind farms. RES built its first wind farm in Cornwall in 1992 and has to date developed and/or construction over 800MW of wind generating capacity.

The re-development of Beaufort Court using best practice sustainable strategies was achieved with EU support the EC Framework 5 Programme. The main project partners and contractors were Studio E Architects, Max Fordham LLP (Consulting Environmental and Building Services Engineers), Netherlands Energy Research Foundation (ECN), Shell Solar, Esbensen Consulting Engineers and Dewhurst Macfarlane. Support from the Department of Trade and Industry has been provided to assist in information and dissemination activities. A dedicated website for Beaufort Court can be found at : <http://res.esbensen.dk>

Photos are available, including archive shots.

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