



Conference “How can Local Communities benefit from Wind Farms?”

The Latvian Wind Energy Association is inviting you to a seminar about the strategies and challenges the municipalities are facing while planning wind farms in their territories and about how wind farms can support local economic growth, environmental stewardship, and community engagement, fostering a more sustainable and vibrant local community.

Date: 21st of November 2024, 11:30 - 16:30.

Venue: Wellton Riverside SPA Hotel (8th floor), 11.novembra krastmala 33, Rīga.

Main audience: local municipalities and communities, NGOs, wind farm developers.

Seminar will be in **English**, participation in seminar is **free**.

Supported by British Embassy, Embassy of the Netherlands, Embassy of Denmark.

PROGRAMME

11:00 – 11:30	WELCOMING TEA&COFFEE
11:30 - 11:40	Welcoming notes: Katrina Duka-Gulbe , Executive Director of Wind Energy Association. Claudia Pieterse , Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Latvia. Līga Rozentāle , Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Climate and Energy.
11:40 - 12:00	Recent developments in the wind energy industry in Latvia. Līga Rozentāle, Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Climate and Energy.
12:00 - 12:20	What are the benefits from wind farms for local communities? Guy Willems, Advisor – Environment & Community, Engagement, WindEurope.
12:20 - 12:40	Planning for production of renewable energy in Lemvig Municipality, Denmark. Michael Seidelin Haustorp, Planner and project manager of Lemvig Municipality.
12:40 - 13:10	Challenge for development of wind farms in the municipalities of Latvia: Ivars Liepiņš, Executive Director of Tukums County Municipality. Raivis Kalējs, Deputy Head of Dienvidkurzeme County Municipality.
13:10 - 13:40	Discussion. How can municipalities benefit from the development of wind farms in their territories? Moderator: Artūrs Toms-Plešs, Country Manager of EWE Neue Energien.

Guy Willems, Advisor – Environment & Community, Engagement, WindEurope.
Michael Seidelin Haustorp, Planner and project manager of Lemvig Municipality.
Ivars Liepiņš, Executive Director of Tukums County Municipality.
Raivis Kalējs, Deputy Head of Dienvidkurzeme County Municipality.

13:40 - 14:10 LUNCH BREAK

14:10 - 14:20 **Welcome by Paul Brummell CMG**, British Ambassador to Latvia.

14:20 - 14:40 **Highlighting the benefits of developing windfarms in local governments based on UK experience.**

Scott Hamilton, Principal Consultant at GMC Ltd (UK)

14:40 - 15:00 **Good practice of cooperation between wind farm developers and local community in the Netherlands.**

Jan Eggenkam, Witteveen+Bos (Netherlands).

15:00 - 15:20 **Creating neighbourly relations between the local community and Ignitis Renewables.**

Kristīne Ļeontjeva, Community Manager of Ignitis Renewables (Lithuania/Latvia).

15:20 - 15:40 **What are the breaking points in the public consultations on wind farms development?**

Oskars Beikulis, Partner and Expert in Estonian, Latvian & Lithuanian Environment.

15:40 - 16:20 **Discussion: What is important for successful cooperation between wind farm developers and local communities?**

Moderator: Lauris Baltiņš, Head of Renewable Energy Support Division, Latvenergo.

Scott Hamilton, Principal Consultant at GMC Ltd (UK).

Jan Eggenkam, Witteveen+Bos, Netherlands

Kristīne Ļeontjeva, Community Manager of Ignitis Renewables.

Oskars, Beikulis, Partner and Expert in Estonian, Latvian & Lithuanian Environment.

16:20 – 16:30 EVENT CLOSING