

Press Release:

Harbour Wind – the search is on!

Harbour Wind, a community-owned wind cluster (a smaller group of one to six medium-sized wind turbines), is currently searching for an appropriate location on the Banks Peninsula and seeking community input.

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Electricity is great stuff. Many of the tasks you've accomplished today have, no doubt, been aided by civilization's invisible friend. In an uncertain world of rising electricity prices, securing a resilient, renewable, locally-generated supply makes Grandma-style common sense.

Wind is never going to supply 100% of New Zealand's power supply; and we don't want it to. Wind turbines do, however, have their part to play in Canterbury's energy supply. A community-owned wind cluster allows power to be generated near where it is used, minimises visual impact, funnels profits back to the Banks Peninsula community, generates zero emissions and, even without a price on carbon, is financially viable.

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How it works in a nutshell:

Essentially the construction cost of a community-owned wind cluster is paid for by local people buying shares in a co-operative company. The wind cluster will be profitable and will pay a fair commercial return as dividends to shareholders from the sale of electricity generated by the turbines. The wind cluster is managed by the co-operative company controlled by the investors themselves. Investors get one vote irrespective of how much they've invested. In a unique Kiwi twist on the co-operative wind cluster model employed overseas, investors are also eligible for a bulk-purchase discount on their home electricity prices.

Still got questions?

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