

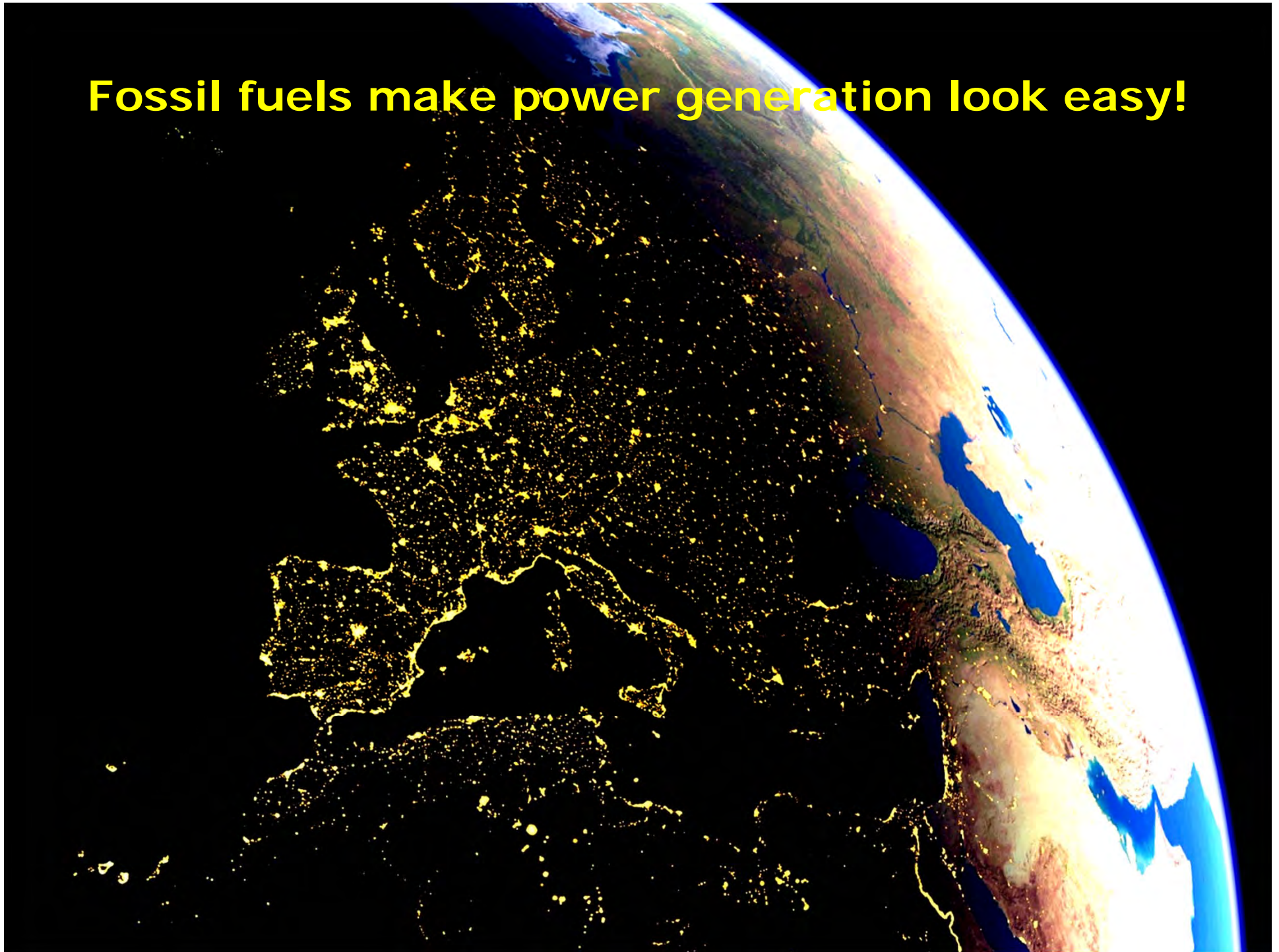


Talk by Chris Rowland – www.ovesco.co.uk

‘EmPower Communities’



Fossil fuels make power generation look easy!



Climate Change & Peak Oil



Getting off fossil fuels fix

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/ng-interactive/2015/mar/16/keep-it-in-the-ground-guardian-climate-change-campaign>

Where do we get our electricity from?



Coal power
stations



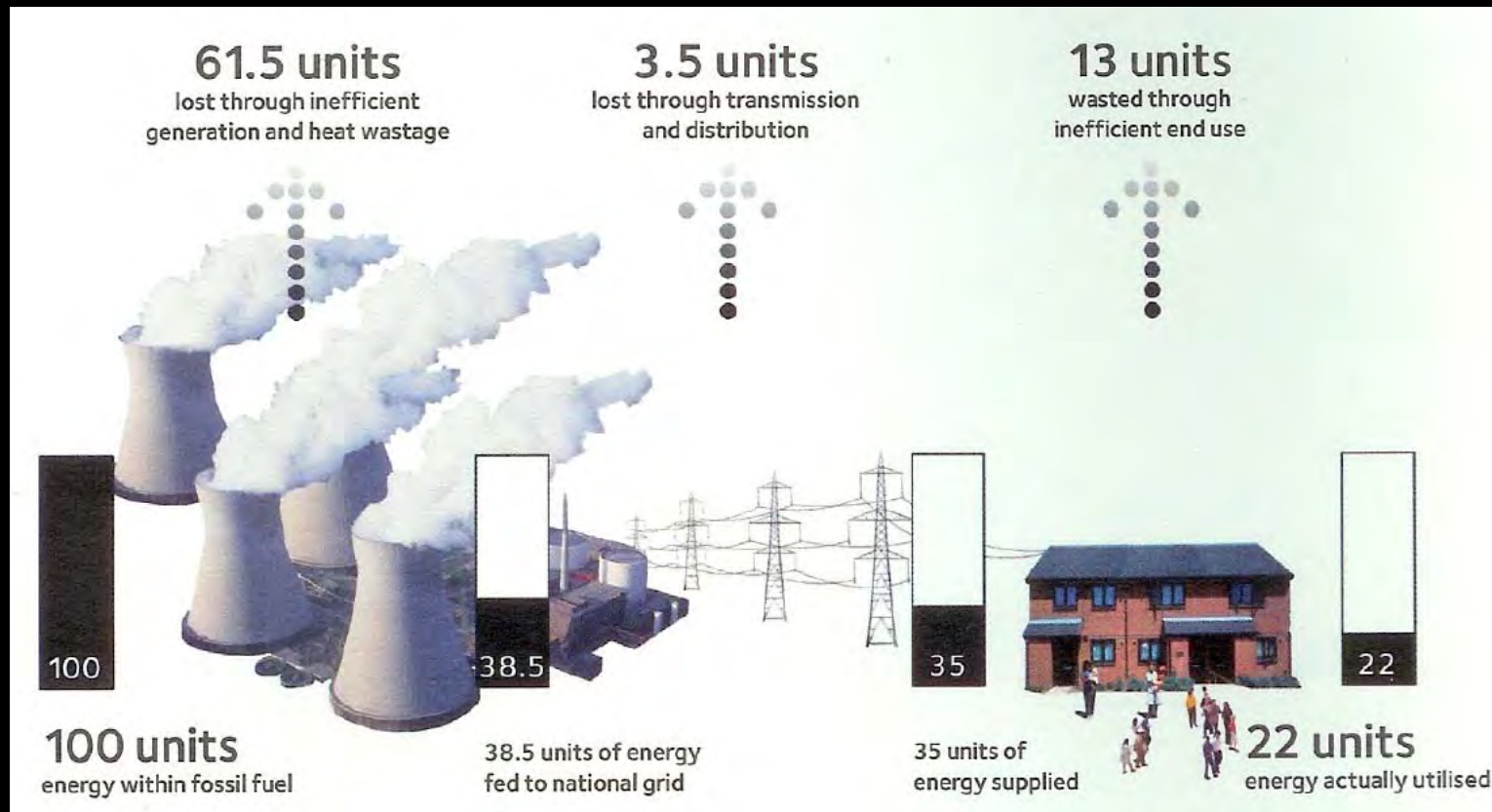
Gas power
stations



Nuclear power
Stations

Today most of our power is generated from coal, gas, oil and nuclear.
Many of these power stations are old and need replacing.

The old centralised energy model!



The current system wastes energy
& produces vast amounts of CO2 emissions

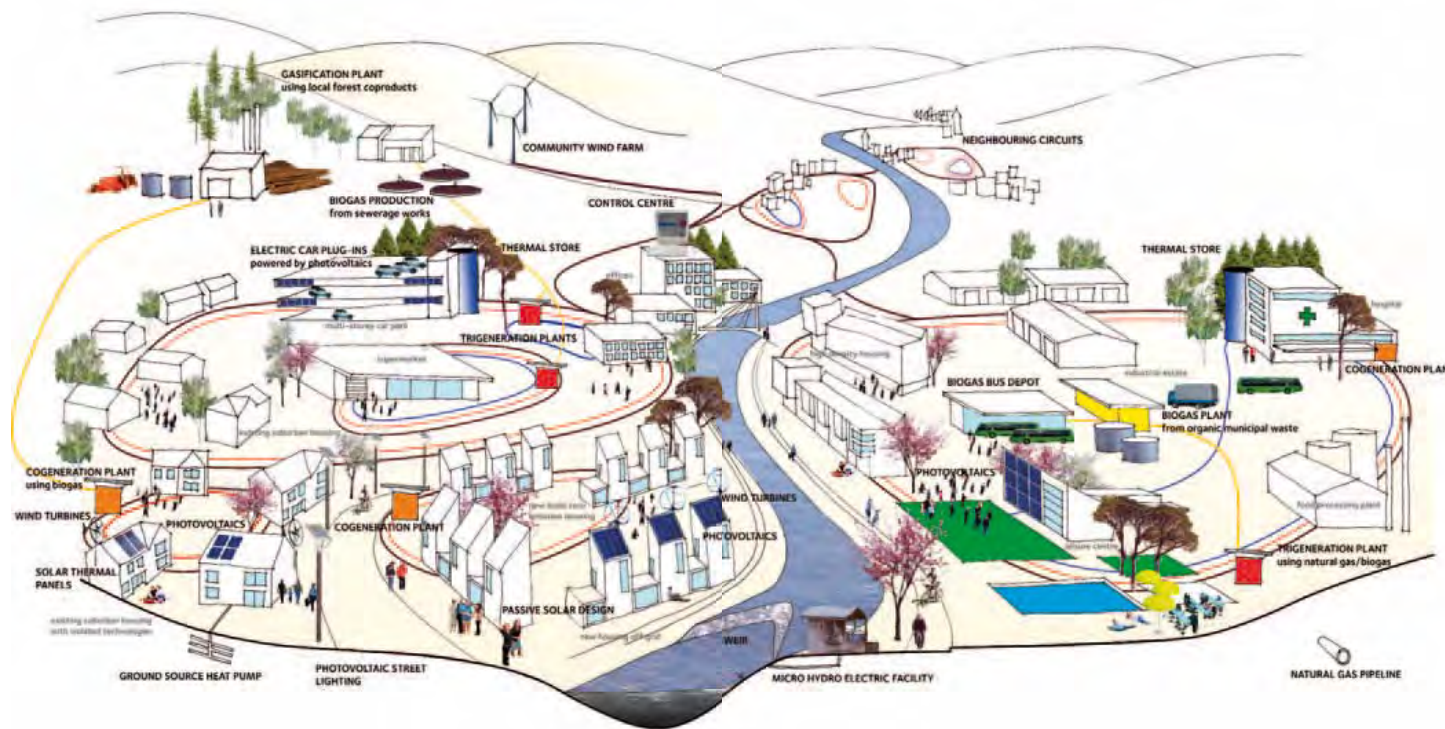


— decentralised energy 2005 — see <http://www.greenpeace.org.uk/MultimediaFiles/Live/FullReport/7154.pdf>

DECENTRALISING POWER: AN ENERGY REVOLUTION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

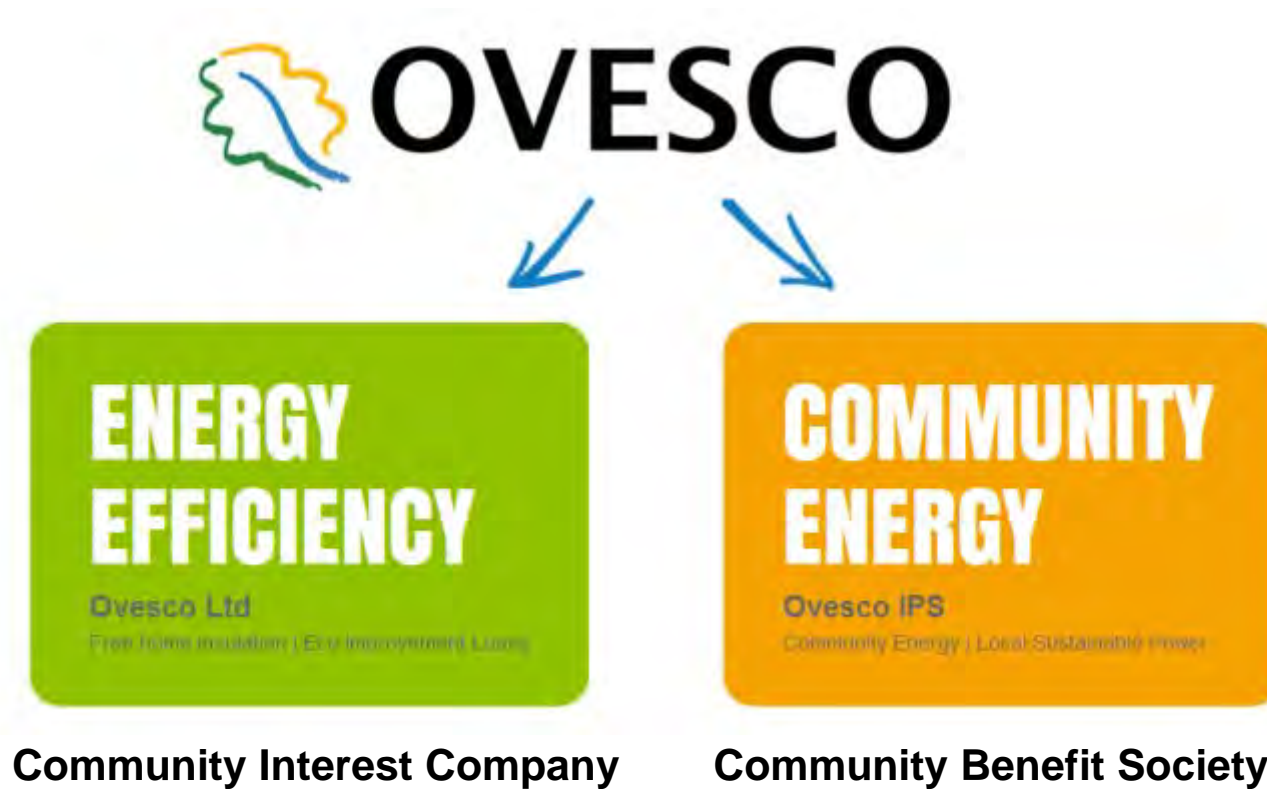
What is decentralised energy?

*Well, it's pretty much the opposite of our present, outrageously inefficient energy system, which was designed to meet the needs of **a society that hadn't even heard of climate change**.*



1. About OVESCO – a model for community energy OVESCO

Ouse Valley Energy Services Co Ltd (2007) & **OVESCO Limited** (2010)
both not for profit.



2. About OVESCO



OVESCO

Energy Fair

Lewes Cliffe Precinct
Saturday September 15th 10am-2pm



Stalls/demonstrations/information
Solar generation, insulation, biomass, ground sourced heat pumps and more

Fun and education for kids try the famous Bike Generator! For more details more details See www.ovesco.co.uk

With support from



open energy-saving house weekend
Sat 19/Sun 20 June 2010



Visit houses in and around Lewes to find out what others are doing and what you can do to **reduce** energy consumption at home, make your house cheaper to run and reduce your environmental impact

www.transitiontowns.org/Lewes/energy
or phone 01273 472405



3. Case study Haveys Depot in Lewes



Our first share issue



4. Case study Haveys Depot in Lewes

98kWp or 544 PV panels installed at Harveys Depot



5. Case study Haveys Depot in Lewes



	Harveys Depot	Priory School	Brickyard Farm	Barcombe Nursery	Chailey School
Cost	£306,000	£59,833	£33,533	£17,600	£45,850
Rating	98 kW	35 kW	19.5 kW	9 kW	29.5 kW
Predicted Output	92,300 kWh p.a.	40,580 kWh p.a.	18,525 kWh p.a.	8,216 kWh p.a.	32,150 kWh p.a.

- A total of 191 kW of roof mounted PV installed in the Lewes District to date
- Over £500,000 raised to date from our community shares
- CO2 saved approximately 83,600 ky/year
- Free (2011-13) or reduced (from 2014) cost electricity to the building owner
- Roof is leased from the building owner for peppercorn rent for 20-25 years

6. Positive News

Making Positive News

THE PAPER FOR LEWES - RINGMER - CHAILEY - NEWICK



Solar power station plans for brewery

by AMIE MORRELL
amie.morrell@sussexpress.co.uk

REMARKABLE plans are in the pipeline to make Harveys Brewery a community-owned solar power station.

Electricity would be generated from the roof of the Harveys Lane Depot in Lewes, the brewery's main storage and distribution warehouse.

The feasibility of the project is being discussed by Harveys and Lewes-based specialist OVESCO Limited and a planning application has been submitted to Lewes District Council.

The ground-breaking installation would turn the building into one of the first solar power stations in the country - and continue to build on Harveys' reputation as an environmentally responsible company.

Technically the scheme would involve installing a 900W solar photovoltaic (PV) panel array on the roof of the Harveys Lane building. The 500 photovoltaic (PV) panels would generate 10,000 kilowatt hours of 'green' electricity into the National Grid each year - enough to save more than 10 tonnes of CO2 annually.

Mike James, Head Brewer at Harveys, said: "OVESCO are pioneers and experts in the field and as a Lewes company we wanted to be part of such an innovative project. There's a will to explore it thoroughly and meet our shared objectives. It's very much an installation process at the moment but there's confidence in the team for the scheme."

The planning application for the 500 PV modules includes internally installed inverters, wiring, earth gear/control and surge protection devices.

The two companies are now in discussions about the potential benefits to both organisations and the local community.

A spokesman for OVESCO, of Basingstoke, said: "The system, once completed, would have virtually no visual impact on the surrounding area but would clearly make green electricity for Lewes."

Under the proposal being explored, OVESCO would be able to invest in the project through OVESCO, which is an Industrial and Provident Society - an IPS is a not-for-profit organisation for community benefit.

If the discussions between the two parties conclude positively, an invitation to tender will be distributed to the shortlist of potential investors. The first is to be paid for each unit of electricity generated and currently generated by the company at 10p/kWh.

Sunshine does power of good for villagers

by ROBERT TAYLOR
robert.taylor@sussexpress.co.uk

COMMUNITY member-owned company Oneida has taken new steps in the solar energy project.

The solar panels at Harborne, however, suppliers of local organic vegetable boxes, are expected to generate at least 1000 kilowatt hours of energy a year, a significant proportion of the electricity used to heat the polytunnels. The installation is being carried out by local company Southdown Solar.

On the eastern border of the parish at The Secret Camptel based at Beckford Park, Three Littlewicks, a larger roof is expected to yield more than 1000 kilowatt hours annually, supporting owner The Butler's plan for an environmentally friendly company alongside a number of existing sustainable enterprises. Southdown Solar is the contractor for this project.

Tim Butler said: "The Secret Camptel will greatly demonstrate these means of working sustainably and recycling. From the solar panels we have installed on the site with the creation of our own eco-park, we are aware of the value and the saving of all the other, the solar energy that they

exciting new solar roof will generate for perfectly with the planning permission of the old Chichester property."

A spokesman from Harborne Oneida said: "We are excited with our new roof, which is performing well in terms of the rain. The weather has meant it had not been primary producers of food, and we are very glad to have this new energy resource which will support us with through the year but scheme of providing fresh, organic vegetables to local people."

The solar roofs are funded by Lewes-based Oneida, a community-owned not-for-profit company that has already funded the large solar roof on Harveys Brewery's warehouse and more recently a roof on Priory School, Lewes.

Local people involved in the organisation, and will receive training from the Priory School for renewable energy making a useful addition to the country's currently limited green energy.

The site owners will share in the solar energy produced while Oneida will receive a small amount of the income and the balance will be paid into the National Grid.

Chris Rowland of OVESCO said: "We are delighted to be able to help build small businesses in this way."



Delighted: Barcombe Nurseries gets solar power

THE PAPER FOR LEWES - RINGMER - CHAILEY - NEWICK



School that's starting to run on sunshine

by ROBERT TAYLOR
robert.taylor@sussexpress.co.uk

THE roof of Priory School, Lewes, now hosts 140 solar PV panels. The £50,000 project was funded by excess community investment in the Harveys Brewery solar power installation, the first major project of its kind in the UK.

OVESCO, with the help of local company Southern Solar, installed the 140PV system, which is expected to generate in excess of 15,000kWh of solar electricity per year.

During term time the school is expected to use most of the energy generated by the system but during school holidays the surplus will be sold back to the National Grid. While the school will save an estimated £2,000 on energy bills, investors in the project will be provided with a return of 4 per cent per annum over the next 15 years.

Changes to the government's feed-in-tariff (FIT) resulted in a number of reductions to the rates offered for solar-generated electricity. Fortunately the cost of solar installations has also dropped, enabling the project to proceed with Priory School benefitting from a tariff of 15.2p/kWh for the energy it generates.

OVESCO Director, Nick Campbell said: "Young people are acutely aware of the issues facing the environment and it's important for them to know the solar generation are taking action to safeguard their future. We are delighted that the students at the school have shown so much enthusiasm for the project."



Solar power: The brains behind the project at Priory School in Lewes

Energy efficiency measures, waste recycling schemes and green workshops have long been part of the school's operations. But it wasn't until OVESCO realised its efforts to become more sustainable that it was chosen for the installation.

Tony Smith, Head of Priory School, said: "Our vision for the school was to become more sustainable and community-involved, our pupils really embraced the idea and were keen to do something bigger."

"At the same time the school was under pressure to reduce costs and I struggled to see how we could improve efficiency with little funds. In return for our roof space the solar installation will reduce our energy costs while supporting a very worthwhile community initiative."

The main driver for change was the popular Eco Group, a student body committed to awareness raising and reducing the school's environmental impact. It was this group that drove demand for the solar energy installation.

Pupil Ann Ogle, 15, is a member of the Eco Group and a big supporter of renewable energy. She said: "We wrote a letter to OVESCO when we first heard about the scheme. We got the idea because some of us have solar panels installed on our homes and we thought it would be great if the school could have them too."

Mr Smith added: "OVESCO and Southern Solar came along at the right time and made things easy. We got on with running the school knowing we were cutting carbon and would save have more money to spend on learning and resources."

As part of the student engagement process, Southern Solar will host a Priory School assembly and OGA, providing pupils with first hand information on the installation and how it works.

Howard Jones MD of Southern Solar and Director of the Solar Trade Association, said: "We're passionate about community-owned energy and working with Priory School presents a great awareness raising opportunity. Education plays an important role in empowering people and communities to generate their own energy and it's something we're keen to support."

OVESCO's long-term plan is to make Lewes District self-sufficient in renewable energy by 2015.

7. Supporting others in the SE



Ashden
Award
winner
2014

OVESCO is at the vanguard of the community energy revolution.

‘commitment to passing on its technical and practical know-how to other community energy organisations’

Ashden UK judging panel

Community energy pioneers spread the word



See the Ashden video about OVESCO <http://www.ashden.org/media/films/2726/watch>

8. About CES as a regional HUB for South East

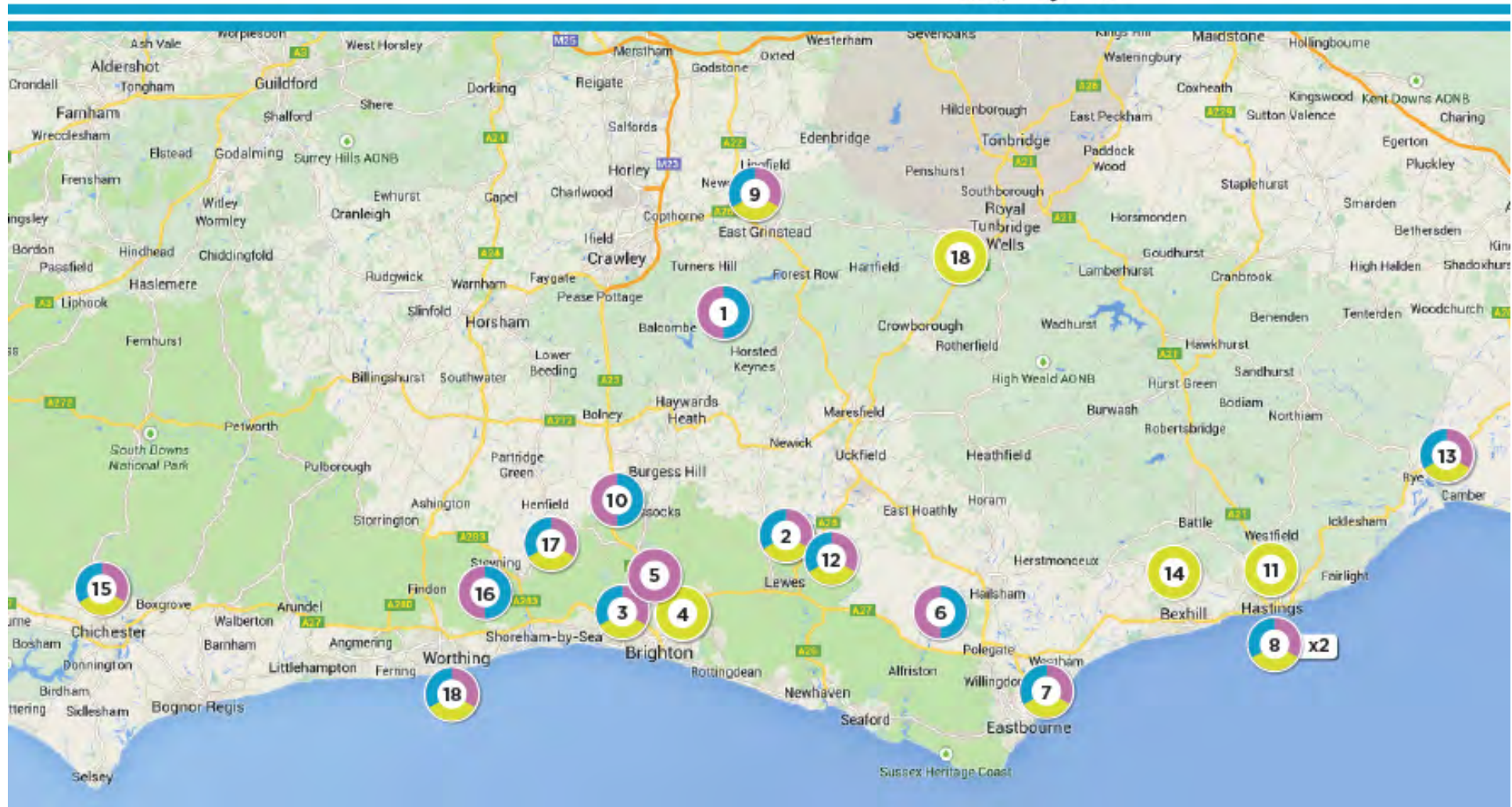


Developing community energy projects in the South of England

Community Energy South has been setup as a result of community energy groups wanting to share best practice, skills, expertise and resources. This website will give you information on community energy, allow you to sign up to our newsletter and register your group with Community Energy South.

9. A growing network

Energy Champion Map



10. Mentoring groups in the SE

- First mentoring success story Transition HKD
- It all started in a pub!
- They set up HKD Energy 2014
- Just launched a £150,000 share issue
- Share offer over subscribed!



11. SE24 – Herne Hill cycling group

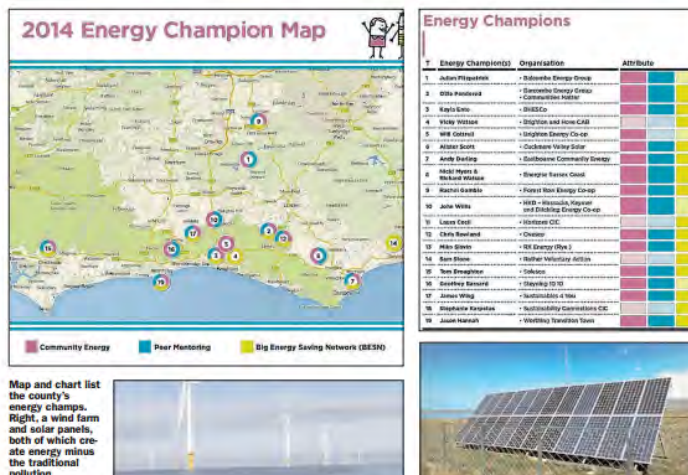


12. Building support across the SE

Shouting ABOUT IT!



Delegates listen attentively at the community energy conference and, inset, one of the speakers



County welcomes renewable energy revolution

SUSSEX is leading the crusade to use more renewable energy sources. In a vow to fight looming threats of fuel poverty, hikes in energy costs and the return of blackouts, the county has seen scores of community energy groups start up this year.

But what does it all mean and how can it benefit you? FLORA THOMPSON reports.

WHAT is community energy?

Perhaps a definition for the phrase does not instantly spring to mind, and as a result, its importance may pass many of us by. A small army of volunteers, keen to join the crusade in reducing our carbon footprint and save people money, have joined the project and is taking Sussex by storm.

The groups, which are popping up all over the county, join 6,000 across the UK, and have formed the Community Energy South network to introduce renewable energy in their homes and communal buildings.

A series of conferences in Lewes, Forest Row and Plumwell concluded on Monday and featured presentations from a host of guest speakers.

The free events aimed to give groups, councils, individuals and businesses, information about how they can get involved.

Lewes-based Ouse Valley Community Services Company (Ovesco), which calls itself the "vanguard of community energy", was one of the organisers.

Ovesco was one of the UK's first community-owned renewable energy providers and was awarded a £50,000 grant from the Community Energy Fund Mentoring Fund to help

progress the campaign in Sussex.

It has also been helping install community-owned solar projects in schools and businesses since it was set up in 2007. It is now encouraging volunteer groups.

Ovesco director Ollie Pendered, also a chairman of the Barcombe Energy Group, said: "The UK does not own its own gas or coal supplies and nuclear power is astronomically expensive."

"Coal and gas stations are coming to the end of their lives and we are very close to black outs and concerns for our power supplies because of this."

"We are just playing out part and helping groups become resilient and prepare for this."

"If we are faced next year with energy price rises of up to 40 per cent, fuel poverty will be a real issue."

"If people are worried about their rising energy costs they can get in touch with their local group. We want to change the way people use energy and think about energy consumption."

Mr Pendered said the success of the events proved how many people are considering community energy.

He said: "I was particularly pleased about the number of people from new areas, such as Wadhurst, Mayfield, Cuckfield and Horsted Keynes, which expressed an interest in the scheme."

"Community energy across our region is growing. These events have helped grow support for our groups and encourage new communities to get involved and empowered to build a low carbon future."

He said there was proof the scheme was already working: "An elderly lady in Hail-

sham sought advice from a pop-up energy shop and was able to save £800 on her bills."

"The shop was visited by 400 people in one week in April."

To mark the talks the organisation's shareholders asked a portion of their investments to be donated to three Lewes schools.

Ringsmer Community College, The Priory School and Chichester School each received £250 and were asked to come up with ideas on how they could use the funding to become even more environmentally friendly.

Eco-school

They all gave presentations at the Lewes conference.

Ringsmer Community College and Sixth Form is labelled a Green Flag ambassador eco-school and is a winner of the Ashden Award, which celebrates environmental work.

Its use of renewable energy resources has reduced CO2 emissions by around 600 tonnes a year.

Stephen Green, the school's environmental coordinator, said: "We believe all children should be given an insight into the energy challenges they might face in their lives, be it for environmental or economic reasons."

The college uses renewable energy sources including biomass, solar, ground source heat pumps and a wind turbine and staff and students are expected to take personal responsibility for their energy consumption.

"Sharing our work with the wider community is an excellent experience for students."

Lewes MP Norman Baker led a debate dur-

ing the first conference at the Linklater Pavilion on September 18.

He said: "This was an opportunity for communities to come together and discover the development of local power networks."

"It is often communities and local interest leads on some of the most innovative community energy projects."

"Bringing together schools, energy champions and communities which are interested in making a difference is a great way of learning and supporting more initiatives as well as developing relationships to help get some of these projects started."

She said: "Being part of the network has been a great help to re-power Barcombe."

"I was pleased to speak and hope these events can inspire more community energy groups to get going."

East Sussex county councillor Rosalyn St Pierre, a shadow portfolio holder for the environment and transport who also led a debate at one event, said it "gave insight into the enormous potential" of the project.

She said: "The presentations were at the cutting edge of schemes that benefit communities by decreasing or eliminating the need for fossil fuels and provide a financial return. I will see what extra support can be provided for projects."

Greg Barker, the former minister for energy and climate change, praised the project.

He said: "I want to see new strong partnerships between community groups, local authorities and businesses leading the way to create a diverse and local energy sector."

To get involved and for more information visit www.communityenergysouth.org.uk.

What is community energy?

It is a plan to help the environment, where groups can own renewable energy resources, for communal buildings or their own homes, to reduce the area's carbon footprint.

Community energy facts

The Brighton Energy Coop has installed £750,000 worth of solar projects for businesses and community buildings in Brighton.

Volunteers who run the groups have dedicated 3,500 hours to the project so far this year.

Scores of people, including representatives from 26 parish councils, attended the conferences and expressed an interest in the scheme. So far 19 groups have been set up this year, see map.

Barcombe is not connected to the national gas

This can include solar panels on village halls or better insulation for housing. The actions will, in turn, reduce the cost of energy bills and could make savings for households and communal areas.

What does the future hold?

The groups are continuing to work on projects and meet regularly. Plans include:

- Developing a training programme with the Sussex Learning Network to help new energy groups set up, train individuals and small businesses so advice can be provided in the work place.
- Working on a Sussex Energy Bill next for the county's residents.
- Building a network to tackle fuel poverty and give independent energy advice.
- Setting up a series of energy advice shops across Sussex.
- Brighton and Hove Energy

cashing in on the town's name as the sunniest in the UK by looking into solar projects.

● Rix Energy Rye is doing something similar and offering independent fuel poverty advice.

● The Barcombe Energy Group is investigating locally sourced wood chip-fuelled heating for the village.

● The Stanning Green Group are hosting regular 'green city' talks as well as energy advice through their Power Rangers Advice service.

● Cuckmere Valley Solar is developing a community owned solar park.

● Eastbourne Community Energy is

their community energy group.

● Worthing Energy Group is launching an energy shop where people can drop in for advice and join workshops to learn more about simple draft proofing and lighting.

● Energise Sussex Coast is working on campaigns in Hastings and St Leonards and has just launched its first solar schools project at a primary school.

● RePower Barcombe wants to prove it can fly in the face of fracking threats and generate as much solar power as possible.

● Forest Row Energy is due to support an apprentice scheme so young people can train through

A hydro-electric scheme

Conference 26th-27th Sept Lewes

13. DECC Community Energy Strategy

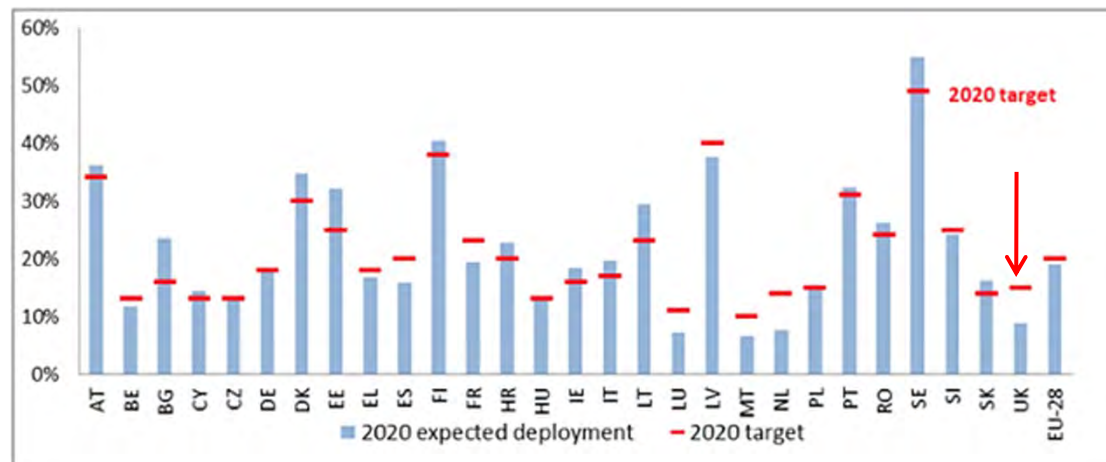
- Community energy 0.5 - **3GW** of electricity by **2020** (2.2-14%)
- There is significant potential for **growth**
- **LAs** may provide loan funding & partnerships
- Community **heat** – lack of awareness
- Make **processes** as simple as possible
- By 2015 it should be the **norm** for communities to offered some level of ownership by commercial developers

Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

Community Energy Strategy:
People Powering Change

27 January 2014

EU targets:



14. Public Concerns

Not In My Backyard - concerns, policy & confusion



What is fair & acceptable?

15. For or against?

Opinions split & benefits

Glyndebourne wind turbine launch met with cheers and jeers

Sir David Attenborough helps launch first wind turbine to power a major UK arts institution, after years-long planning battle



📷 Gus Christie and Sir David Attenborough pose in front of the Glyndebourne wind turbine. Photograph: Dominic Lipinski/PA



OVESCO takes WI visit Glyndebourne turbine

Community owned renewable energy – the way forward

16. Community lead

Positive stories lead by the community



The largest community-owned solar farm in the UK: Westmill Solar Coop near Oxford, where 5000 local people own £16 million of solar PV

17. Repower Balcombe

Our mission is simple: we aim to generate the equivalent to 100% of Balcombe's electricity demand through community-owned locally-generated renewable energy.



<http://www.1010uk.org/articles/i-actually-went-solar-farm-and-it-was-amazing>

Community lead The 'YIMBY' PEOPLE

