



Securing the future of a comprehensive poultry business

Based at Carr Farm, near Withernsea in the East Riding of Yorkshire, K Fresh Ltd are a prime example of a progressive and successful poultry farming business. K Fresh not only produces eggs, it also grows and processes their own grain (which is then fed to the hens) and processes, packs and finally distributes the eggs. In addition to resulting in a high quality product, by keeping as much of the production process on site as possible, K Fresh have been able to achieve a smaller carbon footprint, reduce food mileage and minimise drug usage and residue.

Mr Chris Kirkwood – the owner of Carr Farm and K Fresh – had an EWT DW54 500kW wind turbine installed in May 2012. Since then, reduced energy costs and the addition of an alternative, reliable source of income has allowed K Fresh to expand its workforce and improve the long term viability of the business.



EWT K Fresh/Carr Farm Case Study

As is the case for many of the UK's farming businesses, fuel constitutes a significant part of K Fresh's running costs. In addition, poultry farmers across the UK have faced challenging circumstances in recent years, such as decreasing sale prices and increasing pressure from retailers to improve environmental performance. It was to combat these pressures that Mr Kirkwood installed the EWT turbine. The electricity produced by the turbine is used to power the most energy intensive aspects of the farm's operations, such as the farm's unique Enriched Colony caging systems. Surplus electricity is sold into the local grid network. By reducing the farm's energy costs and providing a reliable, alternative source of income, the turbine provides a buffer against predicted rises in fossil fuel based energy produced and reducing income from the sale of eggs and poultry products.

Out of a total 1,900 MWh per annum, approximately one third of the energy produced by the EWT turbine is used on-site by K Fresh – the rest is sold into the local grid network. Consequently, K Fresh has been able to operate more efficiently and with lower operating costs. This has allowed for the hiring of two more members of staff, taking the total number of jobs provided by the farm to 36. Mr Kirkwood is hopeful that the positive impact of the turbine will enable him to continue increasing his workforce, and allow him to expand his business in a sustainable manner.

Benefits to the Landowner and Community

- 1,900 MWh of electricity is generated per annum by the turbine. Of this, roughly one third is used on-site, and the remainder is sold into the local grid – providing a reliable and valuable alternative source of income.
- Between 700 – 1660 tonnes of CO₂ is saved every year the turbine is operational (source: RenewableUK).
- The turbine provides long-term job security for K Fresh's existing workforce, and has allowed Mr Kirkwood to take on 2 additional workers.
- The East Riding of Yorkshire Council receives business rates of approximately £5,000 per annum for the lifetime of the turbine. This is in addition to the business rates already paid to the Council by K Fresh.



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