



## **Energy and Communities**

### **Call for Attendees to Scoping Workshop**

**3 March 2009, Birmingham**

We are holding a workshop focusing on Energy and Communities and the associated research challenges, and invite people to apply to attend. There is clearly a need for the UK to reduce green house gas emissions, to make informed choices on energy linked to other natural resource use and to encourage low carbon lifestyles. The workshop will consider technological, environmental and social aspects in the context of communities and the need to reduce energy consumption.

#### **Energy in Communities**

Achieving large reductions in energy consumption and conserving natural resources will require behavioural, structural and economic change, technological knowledge and intervention. This event will help us move toward addressing the challenge of working with community organisations (such as local authorities, councils or housing associations) to consider how they, together with their communities, can achieve a balance between realising a high quality of life for all with the need to reduce energy use and their impacts on the environment. Achieving this balance may require local regulatory bodies, communities and individuals living and working in them to make significant changes to lifestyles and businesses practices. How can communities reduce their energy consumption and carbon footprint? What are the best energy technologies to employ to make best use of land resources? Which methods for reducing energy demand work in different situations and why? Working with community organisations to address such questions offers exciting new research opportunities and challenges if we are to be in a position to measure change in different scales and contexts, and understand the factors leading to successful change.

A potential programme in this area could develop critical new understandings of the factors enabling behavioural change for environmental, social and economic sustainability, considering social drivers together with measuring, monitoring and technological intervention. One possible outcome of this event is the identification of a case study to explore these issues in an integrated and holistic fashion, enabling learning from experience.

#### **Event Details**

The workshop will be in central Birmingham on Tuesday, 3 March 2009 (10.00-16.30). This will be a facilitated workshop with attendance limited to 40 people.

The event builds on previous activities supported by the Research Councils and its outputs will be used to identify the potential for a call in the area, and help shape any such activity.

## How to Apply

We would like to encourage applicants from a wide range of disciplines as challenges in this area will require multidisciplinary input including researchers from environmental, economic and social sciences as well as from the engineering and physical sciences. We are particularly interested in receiving applications from local authorities, councils and community action groups as well as academics and we will seek to invite a balance of participants from all of these groups.

If you are an academic researcher, please fill in [Form A](#) and email it to Dolly Parkinson (dolly.parkinson@epsrc.ac.uk) **by 16.00 on 9 February 2009**.

If you are from a non academic organisation please fill in [Form B](#) and email it to Dolly Parkinson (dolly.parkinson@epsrc.ac.uk) **by 16.00 on 9 February 2009**.

If the event is oversubscribed, we will select attendees to get as wide a selection of disciplines as possible and based on the relevance of their expected contributions. We will notify successful applicants by 18 February 2009.

## More Information

- **Research Councils' Energy Programme**  
[www.epsrc.ac.uk/ResearchFunding/Programmes/Energy/default.htm](http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/ResearchFunding/Programmes/Energy/default.htm)
- **ESRC**, [www.esrc.ac.uk](http://www.esrc.ac.uk)
- **NERC**, [www.nerc.ac.uk](http://www.nerc.ac.uk)

## Contacts

Jacqui Williams  
EPSRC  
01793 444131  
jacqui.williams@epsrc.ac.uk

Paul Rouse  
ESRC  
01793 413058  
paul.rouse@esrc.ac.uk

Chris Franklin  
NERC  
01793 411708  
cfr@nerc.ac.uk

# Application Form A

**Energy and Communities –**

**Scoping Workshop**

***Application Form A: for Academic Attendees***



**Name:**

**Dept:**

**e-mail:**

**Institution:**

**Brief Summary of CV/Track Record:**

**What expertise do you bring that is relevant to the topic?**

