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ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT

WIND & SUN LTD. ENVIRONMENTAL & SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Wind & Sun aim to conduct our activities and operations to reflect best environmental and sustainability practice and seek innovative ways of meeting environmental objectives through a commitment to continual improvement.

These include:

- To meet and, where appropriate exceed all relevant UK, European and international legislative and regulatory requirements and agreements;
- To review all our activities and operations in order to identify, understand and evaluate all the direct and indirect environmental aspects and effects, and prioritise action to address them;
- To reduce energy and resource consumption;
- To influence our suppliers to support sustainable practices;
- To raise awareness of environmentally responsible practice within the workplace;
- To prevent pollution;
- To avoid the use of toxic materials wherever possible;
- To consider the sustainability issues behind all actions, taking into consideration not just the environmental and economic effects, but the social and ethical implications as well.

Wind and Sun aims to achieve these objectives through implementation of our [Environmental Management Policy 24.0.0.1](#)

Signed on behalf of Wind & Sun Limited:

Position:

Steve Wake

Date: 16th January 2017

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Wind & Sun Environmental & Sustainability Statement - Appendix

Wind & Sun are certified to the ISO 14001 standard for Environmental Assurance for "Renewable energy distribution and installation".

Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE)

Anyone who imports PV panels into the UK (including not only PV Distributors but also Installation Companies or Project Developers) is required to:

- Register with the Environment Agency as a producer of EEE (Electrical and Electronic Equipment).
- Report the total amount of EEE placed on the UK market, which may include other equipment in addition to PV panels.
- Pay the appropriate producer registration charge set by the regulatory authority.
- Take financial responsibility for waste PV panels under the arrangements described within the regulations.

They must also provide a producer registration number to their customers to confirm to them that they are purchasing EEE from a registered producer in the UK.

Wind & Sun's Producer Registration Number is **WEE/GK4677RY**.

Batteries

All businesses that place batteries onto the UK market are affected by the Batteries Regulations and are known as Producers and must register directly with the Department for Business Innovation & Skills (BIS).

Wind & Sun's Battery Producer Registration Number is **BPRN04942**

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Our Premises

Wind & Sun Ltd operate over two sites:

- Humber Marsh, Stoke Prior, where we have offices, workshop and training room. We have operated from here since 1997 and several new buildings have been constructed and improvements made.
- Lion Yard, Upper Hill, where we have offices, showroom and warehousing. We purchased this property in 2014 and carried out significant conversion work to the buildings before starting to use them at the end of 2015.

Humber Marsh

- Our Humber Marsh office building was designed with energy conservation in mind. Constructed using green building techniques, it incorporates a high degree of thermal mass wrapped in high levels of Warmcell recycled paper insulation.
- It has a glazed south facing gable to optimise passive solar gain, which minimises the requirement for heating or cooling systems that may create energy demands in excess of that supplied by wind and solar units.
- The building was designed so that it utilises natural ventilation cooling in summer instead of using high energy solutions such as air conditioning and mechanical ventilation.
- The building has high levels of draught proofing.
- All other buildings have high levels of thermal insulation.
- Low energy lighting is used throughout our premises.

Upper Hill

- A 50kWp PV system was installed to provide on-site generation.
- A Biomass heating system has been installed to replace a former oil fired heating system
- Led lighting has been fitted to replace fluorescent lighting and reduce energy requirements.
- These combined measures will ensure that the whole site will be carbon neutral in energy use.

Electricity Supply

We produce our own power using several grid connected photovoltaic arrays located at both sites and a 2.5kw wind turbine (at Humber Marsh) these generate the equivalent of at least the annual electrical requirements of both sites.

- Power generated is used first by site loads and then any surplus power is exported to the grid. The National Grid acts as an energy store supplying power in times when demand exceeds production.
- All other energy, purchased from the grid, is supplied on a green tariff by Good Energy.

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Energy Use & Energy Conservation

Energy is best utilised with a concerted effort to minimise energy usage.

- To minimise energy wastage, all electrical appliances are switched off at the wall outlet when not in use.
- To minimise heat losses, in winter, doors and windows are kept shut to avoid heat loss.
- Office appliances used have been selected for energy efficiency.
- All other buildings have high levels of thermal insulation.
- Low energy lighting is used throughout our premises.

Transport

- We make an effort to minimise unnecessary journeys by Wind & Sun employees.
- Where possible journeys are planned to minimise mileage and therefore promote fuel economy.
- Greenhouse gas emissions from plane transport are extremely high. All our stock from Europe is transported by boat. Often products from America are transported by plane because of time constraints – we aim to change this in the future.
- We aim to minimise shipping to keep costs and fuel use as low as possible.
- Electric vehicle charging points are provided at both sites
- Cycling to work is encouraged (we are part of cycle-to-work scheme), shower and changing facilities are provided and at Upper Hill there is a cycle shelter (with electric points for charging E-bikes).
- When recruiting we aim to do this from the local area in order to reduce travel, and by these means to minimise vehicle emissions and traffic volumes.

Waste Management

Wind & Sun Ltd. try to lessen the amount of waste going to landfill, protect the environment and act in a responsible manner so as not to waste resources that could be utilised.

Reduction, Re-use and Recycling of Waste

- We aim to reduce waste creation.
- We re-use and recycle as much waste as possible.
- All waste is separated for re-use or recycling.
- We re-use and recycle packaging as much as possible, whilst still ensuring that all goods reach their destination in good condition.
- All cardboard boxes and packing materials received by Wind & Sun are re-used for despatch of products. Packaging that cannot be utilised for re-use is recycled as far as possible.

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- The only packaging purchased is bubble wrap & stretch wrap, all other packaging has been used previously.
- Printing is double sided where possible to avoid wasting paper.
- Wind & Sun will accept returned packaging to utilise for re-use.
- Toners and print cartridges are returned to supplier for recycling.
- All our organic waste is composted.

Water and Sewage

- Rainwater harvesting system installed at Upper Hill to provide grey water for a new toilet block.
- The Upper Hill site water supply is from our own well
- Rain water is collected at Humber Marsh for use in wildlife ponds.
- We have no mains drainage on either site. Sewerage is dealt with via a septic tank which drains off towards the orchard area nourishing the fruit trees.

Working on Installation Sites

- All waste packaging and materials are removed from site after work is finished for re-use or recycling.
- Care is taken during every operation undertaken by Wind & Sun that it does not create any deleterious environmental effects.

Toxic Materials

Batteries

Batteries are used for energy storage in off-grid wind and solar systems.
No lead acid batteries for sale to customers are stored on site.

- Bicarbonate of Soda (Baking powder) is prescribed in the event of acid spillage.
- Wind & Sun try to ensure that all unusable batteries are recycled.

Cables & Wiring

The production, use and disposal of PVC results in the creation and release of large amounts of persistent toxic & carcinogenic chemicals, including dioxin – a hormone disruptor, one of the most toxic substances known.

- In order to avoid this environmental contamination Wind & Sun aim to use polyethylene or rubber insulated cables in place of PVC insulated cables wherever possible.

Other Products & Materials

Wind & Sun aim to avoid the use of any hazardous materials wherever possible.
COSHH data sheets for materials used are available and stored in [25.0.10 COSHH data sheets](#)

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Social and Ethical.

To be sustainable it is necessary to consider the ethical and social implications of business as well as the financial and environmental.

- Wind & Sun’s client list includes organisations working for positive change and we have actively supported many environmental initiatives.
- Wind & Sun are an equal opportunities employer.
- The showroom, displays, lecture room, toilet and shop are accessible for people with disabilities.
- Wind & Sun provide a quality working environment.
- We do not knowingly do any work for the military or the nuclear industry.
- We engage with schools and the local community through our open days and events.
- Wind & Sun have given help and advice to charities and schools.

Wildlife and Biodiversity

Wind & Sun own and manage Humber Marsh Nature Reserve as part of our commitment to wildlife preservation and education.

This is a 13 acre wetland nature reserve and maintenance and development of the reserve has been funded from Wind & Sun’s business revenues.

At our Upper Hill site as part of the building site we have created and enhanced habitats for the benefit of environment and wildlife. This has included measures such as landscaping, planting, pond creation and putting up nestboxes.

Procurement

Every effort is made to ensure that products purchased and suppliers used by Wind & Sun operate in a sustainable manner to minimise deleterious effects upon the environment.

- Use of recycled paper, envelopes, boxes and packaging or products made from local sustainable wood are our preferred choice.
- Wind & Sun Ltd try to support local shops and buy local produce as this helps to keep money within the local economy.
- Fair-trade, organic food and drink are obtained where possible.
- Wind & Sun Ltd use Ecover cleaning and washing products and environmentally benign paint to reduce the amount of harmful chemicals.

Product Stewardship

- Wind & Sun ensure that all products that we sell are safe and fit for purpose.

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- Wind & Sun try to ensure that all products we sell have no detrimental effects on the environment.

Embodied Energy from Production

Embodied energy is the energy used to produce something and then transport it

- Many of our suppliers use renewable power in their processes.
- Renewable energy equipment generates more energy over their lifetime than they use.