



Call for project proposals on Decarbonisation 2019

Name and Surname *

Barbara WILSON

Name of community Benefit Trust / BenCom

(see www.community.falckrenewables.eu to check if you live in an eligible area) *

Carron Valley

Your Position/Role within the Benefit Trust / BenCom *

VRG Secretary

Contact number *

07767028744

Email address *

bwilsonscotland@yahoo.com

Wind farm *

Earlsburn

Location of the project proposal *

Carron Valley & Community District

Title of the project *

Cee-Vee-Eee-Bee-Gee

Brief description of your proposed project (no more than 200 words) *

The Carron Valley is a pleasant rural district with major conurbations beyond our fringes. Residents who do not work on their own farms tend to commute to Stirling, Falkirk, and beyond on a daily basis. These journeys are relatively short – 7 miles takes you from hill farms, through rolling woodlands, to civilisation and rail links of central Scotland. A short enough distance to be covered by bicycle. The morning pedal powered commute would be ideal with barely a need to turn a cog, free-wheeling downhill from 200m above sea level. The return trip at the end of the working day is more daunting – unless you are in training for the mountain stages of the Tour de France. The goal of our project is to take the (perceived and real) pain out of cycling by promoting greater use of electric bicycles. Our group has already contributed towards the purchase of more than half a dozen e-bikes,

generally for leisure, and by all accounts transforming the health of those who take to the saddle. With £6,000 of grant funding VRG believes we can focus on getting more reluctant enthusiasts to cycle commute to work and leave their cars at home.

Total budget of the project and amount of financial support you are looking for *

We would seek the maximum £6,000 with the intention of funding multiple bicycles - our experience to date shows e-bike purchases start at circa £2k per person. With a specific e-bike fund we would hope to top up the £500 VRG funding limit per project and promote the idea of cycle commuting.

Please tell us who will cover remaining costs *

The resident who applies has historically funded all shortfalls.

Is the project start date set before 1 November 2020? *

Yes

No

Will your project have demonstrated results by 1 November 2021? *

Yes

No

Please tell us in no more than 150 words how you will evaluate the success of your project *

It may be slightly intrusive to ask grant recipients to measure their body weight before and after a few months of e-bike ownership to directly calculate our success..... but the feedback we have already had would indicate enormous health benefits are achieved by those who cycle regularly. With some co-ordination and promotion the Cee-Vee-Eee-Bee-Gee (Carron Valley Electric Bike Group) should be able to collate number of bike miles completed by new e-bike users; and calculate the quantity of petrol/diesel not burnt to cover those miles. Although we intend to start by encouraging e-bike commuting there is no reason we cannot promote more social activities based around weekend and summer evening cycle trips in and around our district.