

# Community

We make a major contribution to the communities around our power stations employing over 6,000 people mostly in rural areas. We are also acutely aware that our operations have the potential to affect the local communities in which we operate and we want to ensure that residents are informed and enabled to engage on issues that concern them.

## Local Community Engagement

An open and transparent dialogue with the communities around each of our power stations is an essential part of what we do. Station management teams and staff representatives play an important role in regular stakeholder meetings with local people, media, councils, regulators, emergency services, local politicians and NGOs. These meetings create a vital communication route with our neighbours and provide the communities around us with an opportunity to learn more about British Energy's day-to-day operations and to voice any concerns.

There are two different meeting formats at our nuclear sites, although the issues that are discussed are similar. The company hosts Local (Community) Liaison Councils at locations where we are the only nuclear operator. Where neighbouring sites are owned by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) we are members of combined Site Stakeholder Groups (SSG). SSGs differ from Local (Community) Liaison Councils in that they are independently chaired, involve an elected committee representing interested stakeholders, and they are open to the general public.

The meetings are held, on average, every six months (although the local meetings have autonomy to vary the frequency as desired) to discuss issues of concern relating to the site operation. In summer 2007, we will be



holding additional meetings at all our nuclear sites to discuss the issues arising in the Government's consultation on the future of nuclear power. We also hold similar community meetings at Eggborough. Further details, including terms of reference can be found on our website. Overall, last financial year there were 21 such meetings, an increase on last year.

### Heysham Local Community Liaison Council meeting



## Station activities

As well as engaging local residents in formal stakeholder dialogue, the company supports local communities with financial assistance and in-kind support by supporting employees who contribute to local organisations and those who wish to serve their local communities as elected representatives. Each station has a programme of activities and sponsorships to assist worthwhile projects in the local area, working with local schools a priority.

Staff at British Energy's Dungeness B power station helped budding young engineers to excel in the Engineering Education Scheme. The students from Southlands School, in New Romney, designed and built an automated electronic circuit test station. The finished product will help save time and improve fault finding and diagnosis on the boiler control system at the station.

For the second year running a Dungeness B apprentice has scooped the Apprentice of the Year award at the IPS training centre in Rochester. Patrick Melanophy was up against 37 other hopefuls all carrying out their first year off-the-job training. He was also awarded the Control and Instrumentation Shield.

A Sizewell B apprentice overcame his fear of heights by skydiving to raise over £1,000 for two East Anglian hospices. Sam Morgan took up the challenge after colleagues suggested it, and jumped from 10,000ft above the Old Buckenham airfield, Attleborough. The money raised will help two Suffolk-based organizations, East Anglia's Children's Hospice and St Elizabeth's Hospice in Ipswich, as part of a national fundraising partnership with British Energy.

A third year apprentice from Hinkley Point B won a top UK competition thanks to Bridgwater College. Mike



## Leiston High School partnership update

Sizewell B continues its partnership with Leiston High School to provide support for GCSE pupils throughout their engineering courses.

The power station provided the school, based just two miles away, with £10,000 toward its OCR GCSE Double award in Engineering plus access to BE mechanical engineers and workshops.

In addition the 21 students, 18 male and 3 female, were given supervised visits to the station's workshops and the opportunity to work with some of our mechanical engineers providing them with first-hand experience of an industrial work place.

Following the success of these visits the Sizewell access will now also be available to next year's students who are currently putting in their GCSE course options.

Our partnership with the Leiston High school, which resulted from discussions at the Sizewell SSG, has now received an 'Investing in Communities Achievement Award 2007', part of the Passport to Success project, involving East of England Development Agency Investing in Communities, Haven Gateway and Suffolk Education Business Partnership.

Westlake won the UK Skills final for Computer Aided Design and Drawing (CADD) giving him the chance to go for the World Skills finals in Shizuoka, Japan, next year.

Hinkley Point B continued to turn out winning apprentices after taking the top three spots in each category of the Engineering Employers Federation (EEF) Apprentice of the Year awards in 2006. Mark Harris, Tom Willis and Lewis Rush all finished in the top three of their respective years in the Somerset round of the awards.

British Energy supported the Edinburgh International Science Festival and working with Curriculum Science enabled hundreds of primary school children in the vicinity of Hunterston B and Torness power stations to enjoy a unique science event in their schools.

**School children at the Edinburgh International Science Festival, supported by British Energy**

### British Energy employees after completing the Help the Hospices - Paris to London Bike Ride



### Charity of the Year: Help the Hospices

Help the Hospices, the national charity for the hospice movement, was chosen by our staff as the British Energy Charity of the Year for 2006/07. Each of our sites nominated a local hospice to support with fund raising and volunteering activities. This means, with corporate matched funding, so far this year over £215,000 has gone directly to supporting hospices in the communities in which we operate.

Fund-raising highlights included family fun days, a Paris to London bike ride, football matches, book sales, raffles, the London Marathon and a Charity Gala Dinner. Heysham 1 and 2 helped out their local hospices, Derian House and St Johns Hospice, by running a number of successful events such as Charity Karaoke night, World Cup raffle, hosting a children's Christmas party and joined up with the local Mountain Rescue to abseil down the Ashton Memorial in Lancaster. Lisa Corfield, event organiser at the Hartlepool and District Hospice echoed the sentiments of all the hospices we have worked with when she said:

*I hope we have more partnerships like British Energy - the Hartlepool site has been an absolute pleasure to work with and has given 110% to supporting ourselves and Butterwick Hospice. It has certainly been one of the most successful corporate partnerships we have been involved with.*

**Lisa Corfield, Event Organiser  
Hartlepool and District Hospice**

Almost a million website visits to  
[www.british-energy.com](http://www.british-energy.com)  
 last year

### Wider community engagement through the British Energy website

The internet has developed into an important medium for the provision of information and communication. The British Energy website has proven very popular since it was upgraded in June 2005, receiving about 960,000 'visitors' last year, with an average monthly 'hit rate' of just over 80,000, a 30% increase on the previous year.

The website is increasingly being used in an interactive mode. For example at the personal level, we have developed the British Energy Carbon Calculator to raise awareness on the role of the individual in meeting the climate change challenge. The main contributors to climate change are carbon dioxide emissions from the use of fossil fuels - for electricity generation, heating and transport. This simple tool enables the user to calculate their carbon dioxide emissions associated with electricity and fuel use, car travel, public transport and flying. We want to create awareness of our use of these fuels and give suggestions on where we can reduce how much we consume.

At the other end of the energy spectrum, those wishing to explore alternative energy futures for the UK can access The Power Game. Originally this game was available on CD, free on request, but last year we went a step further and made it accessible for people to download it directly onto their computers from our website. The game is an interactive educational tool that allows the user to evaluate the climate change, security-of-supply and cost implications of different electricity generation futures. This tool has proved very popular right across the stakeholder spectrum, from students to government officials, and has been accessed in many countries. It is our intention to update the game this year to keep it up to date and relevant.



### Our partnership with Institutions - The John Collier Medal winner James Lovelock

A trust fund was established by British Energy in 1995 to celebrate the memory of John Collier, a well respected Chairman of Nuclear Electric, through a bi-annual Award and associated lecture. Past winners of the award have come from both academia and industry with a strong focus on energy, the environment, and sustainable development. The Award is administered by the Institute of Chemical Engineers with assistance from the Royal Academy of Engineers.

Professor James Lovelock was the 5th winner of the John Collier Medal, in recognition of his major contributions to the fields of medicine, biology, instrument science, and geophysiology. His lecture, titled '*Global heating from an Engineer's viewpoint*', was given on November 28 2006 to an audience of around 350 people at Savoy Place, London. Professor Lovelock drew on his considerable and varied experience to address the implications for life on earth of climate change in his lecture.

A copy of the speech is located on our website, and a printed version, including a DVD of the lecture, is freely available on request.