

Tetro Energy Ltd

Plug-in vehicles help them save money and cut carbon emissions

Challenge

Developing and operating sites for commercial wind turbines, Tetro Energy's work involves making routine visits to its four sites in the Garioch area of the north east of Scotland for routine maintenance and inspection. On top of the cost of fuel, there were additional costs and administrative work because, of the three vehicles used by Tetro Energy for business purposes, two were privately owned by employees.

Solution

In March 2013, following an Energy Saving Trust Sustainable Business Transport Review, Tetro Energy used funding received from the Energy Saving Trust's low carbon transport loan to purchase an electric vehicle to replace one of the vehicles in operation for business purposes.

Tetro Energy undertook a second Sustainable Business Transport Review in June 2014 to replace another company vehicle with a plug-in hybrid with off-road capabilities. Following the review, a suitable vehicle was purchased.

An additional benefit to Tetro Energy is that it can utilise their existing on-site, large-scale wind turbine which is capable of generating sufficient electricity to charge both plug-in vehicles.

Result

Tetro Energy is enjoying savings in fuel cost and, in particular, carbon emissions - without compromising its service.

By limiting the use of vehicles privately owned by employees, it is minimising the time and administration required for mileage claims.

Before the purchase of the first vehicle, the total annual business mileage for Tetro Energy was about 25,000.

Mike Davis estimates that the electric vehicle displaced 15,000-20,000 in its first year across the three internal combustion engine vehicles used before its arrival.

An electric vehicle's approximate running cost is 3p per mile. This means estimated savings of around £1,950-2,600 for Tetro Energy. Additional savings are made as electric vehicles require no road tax, and as the vehicle was purchased outright the full cost can be written off against taxable profits in the first year of purchase.

“The vehicle is ideal for return journeys of up to 50 or so miles. Charging the car from our own renewable generation makes this a virtually zero emission vehicle, the only CO₂ resulting from its use being that embedded in the vehicle and consumable items such as tyres. Whilst reduced carbon emissions are very welcome we are also delighted with the reduced fuel costs resulting from the use of this vehicle. Overall, purchase of the car has been a sound business decision.”

Mike Davis
Owner, Tetro Energy Ltd

To find out how Energy Saving Trust can help you cut carbon emissions and save money, visit our website www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/bustrans or email sustainabletransport@est.org.uk

If you would like to speak to a transport advisor in your area please call **0800 0931 669**