



## WELCOME TO FARMER NETWORK ENERGY SERVICES

### On-site generation – Options for farmers

Despite the disruption of the past 12 months, tackling climate change remains a priority for the UK, with calls for a green recovery from the Covid-19 crisis to help the UK on its path to net zero.

One thing is clear - reaching net zero emissions by 2050 will take a collective effort, and the farming industry will play an important part in helping to reach the target. We know that our members are up for the challenge, and the good news is that when it comes to energy, there are plenty of low carbon options available. Farmer Network Energy Services can explore your renewable energy options – so you can clean up your energy use, protect the environment, and preserve our precious landscapes.

#### Examples of renewables and on-site generation

**Ground and Air Source Heat Pumps** - Heat pumps provide a low carbon space and domestic hot water heating solution, with the added benefit of attracting Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) payments on every unit of heat generated. Utilising air, ground or water as the source of the heat, the technology can utilise existing pipework and heat emitters for boiler replacement projects.

**Biomass Boilers** - Another low carbon option is the use of biomass, either via biomass boilers or biomass CHPs (Combined Heat and Power). A biomass system burns wood pellets, chips or logs to provide warmth for central heating and hot water boilers. Like heat pumps, they can also benefit from the RHI.

**Solar PV & Wind** – Solar panels can provide zero carbon electricity generation, helping you to reduce your reliance on the grid and manage your carbon emissions. Depending on the type of site you have and the space available, you could install roof or ground- mounted solar. Thanks to recent improvements in technology, solar panels are now able to generate in cloudy conditions and can also be installed in most orientations.

Wind technology is another option for reducing your carbon footprint. Both wind turbines and solar can be installed as part of a 'behind the meter' or private wire installation.

## **Financing renewable energy**

By reducing your reliance on the grid, renewables can help you cut your energy bills, and there's also the opportunity to gain income by exporting additional power back to the grid. Here are some of the options available.

**The Smart Export Guarantee** – The Smart Export Guarantee (SEG) is an obligation set by the Government, whereby a supplier will pay a pre agreed rate for power exported to the grid. The SEG came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 and it replaces the Feed-in-Tariff (FiT) scheme which closed on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. Businesses and households can export electricity produced up to a total installed capacity of 5MW. To find out more visit [Ofgem](#).

## **Renewable Heat Incentive**

Introduced by BEIS, the Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive is open until March 2022, and enables you to receive money towards your heating cost if you choose renewable technologies. You can read more [here](#).

*For help understanding your energy requirements, get in touch with our partners LSI Energy on 01727 877020 or email [enquiries@lsienergy.com](mailto:enquiries@lsienergy.com).*

## **Quote from Farmer Network Vice Chair Richard Martin, Orton Grange Farm, nr Carlisle: -**

“I realised the value and potential of farm- based renewables several years ago. We now have 2 wind turbines, 3 biomass boilers and 10kw PV panels across our dairy farm. Through Farmer Network Energy Services, I will be keeping a close eye on the renewable energy sector and potential opportunities within the farmed environment”.