

**Regen SW - The South West Sustainable Energy Agency
In partnership with Energy Saving Trust**

Regional Microgeneration Coordinator

Location: Exeter (South West Regional)
Reports to: Head of Business Support
Salary range: £28k - £32k
Contract: F/T until March 2011 (with strong potential for extension)

Context

The demand for microgeneration technologies is expected to grow significantly in the South West over the next 18 months.

This growth will be driven by a number of factors:

- The requirement to meet EU renewable energy and carbon reduction targets (and targets set at a regional and local authority level)
- Increasing standards through the Code for Sustainable Homes and related regulations
- Greater awareness of climate change issues and demand for low carbon energy – the South West already has the 2nd highest take up of microgeneration grants through the Low Carbon Building Programme grant scheme.
- Lower cost of renewable energy technologies – especially PV
- Changes to planning regulations that have removed some barriers to domestic renewable energy installation.
- The move in approach towards a “whole house” solution that takes into consideration a full range of low carbon measures including microgeneration
- The introduction of the new Feed in Tariff and Renewable Heat Incentive schemes

The Energy Saving Trust and Regen SW have created this new role to deal with two key challenges that must be addressed:

- 1) The requirement to provide information and advice for domestic householders about micro-generation technologies;
- 2) The urgent need to develop the supply chain to support the delivery of micro-generation technologies.

Job description

The microgeneration coordinator will have two main areas of job responsibility:

1) Supporting Energy Saving Trust's SW advice centre

Helping the advice centre to provide free, impartial advice as the first stop for all domestic microgeneration enquiries, with a high level of technical literacy and advisor ability across the five advice centre hubs, by:

- Providing or coordinating technology support training for EAC advisors;
- Providing on-going technology briefings for the EAC advisors;
- Providing on-going back office support and advice for advice centre advisors;
- Supporting targeted demand generation initiatives e.g. customer focused events ('technology showcases') and are based programmes;
- (Note: Role does not involve giving microgeneration advice to domestic householders and split between responsibility 1) and 2) estimated to be 40:60 and to decline as advice centre capacity increases)

2) Supporting the microgeneration businesses and developing the regions delivery capability (supply chain)

- **Training and Skills development** – building on the needs analysis currently being done by Regen SW; developing a training programme for microgeneration installers; co-ordination of training activities across the region working closely with local sustainable energy organisations, FE colleges and private sector training organisations.
- **Accreditation** – Microgeneration Certification Scheme accreditation has already been identified as a potential barrier for new microgeneration businesses. Encouraging, recruiting and supporting businesses through the accreditation process.
- **Microgeneration Network and Knowledge Dissemination** – building and managing a network of microgeneration installers, product providers and support organisations; support through networking events, website, knowledge dissemination. Support to attend trade exhibitions etc.
- **Analysis** – ongoing analysis of the sector; understanding the sector's requirements, growth and performance.
- **Securing additional funds** – working with local sustainable energy organisations and local authorities to target additional funding sources (EU, local and central government) to support sector development and demand generation initiatives. A priority will be to secure funds to support microgeneration training and a subsidy for accreditation.
- **Inward Investment** – increasing the delivery capability in the region by encouraging new companies to set up in the region. A high priority will be to attract product and technology companies

Relationships

The role is hosted by Regen SW in partnership with Energy Saving Trust. The microgeneration coordinator will work closely with both teams.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Qualifications and general skills:

- Educated to degree equivalent level with good grades
- Very good knowledge of a broad range of micro-generation technologies, including solar thermal, solar electric, ground source, biomass and wind. An understanding of new and emerging technologies would be beneficial.
- Experience of the microgeneration industry sector including ideally:
 - Deployment of microgeneration and its supply chain
 - Skills Development
 - Accreditation
 - Technology development and innovation
- Experience of developing and delivering skills training programmes
- Experience and understanding of the roles of local and regional organisations active in the sector, and the ability to develop partnership working
- A good understanding of low carbon building and energy efficiency technologies generally

Team skills:

- Ability to work constructively and co-operatively with other team members

Personal qualities:

- Strong commercial acumen and business skills to enable constructive and informed discourse with Regional industry bodies and industry itself.
- Lateral thinker – to be able to join all the dots and make use of all the opportunities available in the region. Using creativity to propose ideas for adding value and synergy to activity wherever appropriate.
- Strong communicator:
 - Leadership to advice centres and motivating advice staff on MG advice
 - Competent representation of EST amongst Regional industry and Government bodies
- Very high degree of initiative and self motivation - can get on without too much supervision.
- Creative problem solving skills
- Commitment to sustainable energy and developing 'greener' approaches to office work
- Flexible approach to work, with the ability to deal with a multitude of tasks simultaneously
- Willingness to work occasional unsocial hours and to travel as required – a fair proportion of the role will be on-site either at the advice centre hubs or dealing directly with businesses
- High personal standards

Benefits and term

- Starting salary £28,000 (more may be available for an exceptional candidate)
- 25 days paid holiday a year plus public holidays
- 12% pension contributions after 6 months
- Fixed term contract till March 2011 – strong potential for extension until March 2012

Application process

- Apply by post or email with a CV and a letter giving evidence of how you meet each one of the requirements of the Person Specification.
- Send your application to Chloë Uden, Regen SW, The Innovation Centre, Rennes Drive, Exeter EX4 4RN or by email to cuden@regensw.co.uk
- The deadline for applications is the 12th of October.
- Short-listed candidates will be invited to interview in Exeter at a date to be confirmed.

22/09/09