



By Tim Pullen

## The Cost of Renewable Energy Systems

The actual price will, obviously, vary with the technology and the size of the system. The smallest practical wind turbine will be around £9,000, a typical solar thermal system about £5,000, a ground source heat pump maybe £8,000. It is fair to say that none are cheap - but then the best products seldom are.



What is sensible, what will suit both the budget and the project will vary with the project.

Part of the service we provide is to design systems that meet the needs of the project and the budget. The process includes providing both capital and running cost information based on the probable energy usage of the property and the client.

It may be wiser to consider the cost of not doing it.

### Grants

With the advent of Feed-in Tariffs grant funding has been all but switched off. There are still some grants available in Scotland (from the Scottish Rural Development Agency) and some local authorities have some for specific technologies. In England some regional development agencies are still offering funding to farmers and the National Parks are offering attractive deals, if not grants.

The general rule for the home owner remains that if the decision was dependent on a grant, then it was the wrong decision. The system needs to make financial sense on its own and Feed in Tariffs have made this almost universally true (if the site conditions are right).