



GM #CLEANSPIRATION

SHOWCASING CLEAN ENERGY LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION
IN GREATER MANCHESTER

Saddleworth Community Hydro

What is it?

A community-owned scheme that uses the power of water flowing out of Dove Stone Reservoir, six miles east of Oldham, to generate electricity. The difference in height between the reservoir and the plant below (up to 31 metres) creates pressure which is then captured as energy as water passes across the blades of the turbine.

What are its clean credentials?

The hydro power generated by the Saddleworth turbine produces enough clean electricity to power 75 homes, avoiding 170 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions every year. In addition, the scheme expects to have paid off outstanding loans after the first four years of operation and is now offering small grants to local environmental projects.

What makes it special?

Community benefit

The project sold shares to raise money for the turbine, eventually securing over £220,000, much of it from local residents. In addition to the money used to support local projects, shareholders earn interest from the sale of the electricity to the national grid.

Local partnerships

The scheme was supported by Oldham Council,

Saddleworth Parish Council and United Utilities. It also received a grant of £223,000 from Defra and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. It's a fantastic example of what can be achieved when organisations work together in this way.

How can I find out more?

Visit: www.saddleworthhydro.co.uk

Email: enquiries@saddleworthhydro.co.uk

About this series

The GM Cleanspiration series is produced for the GMCA by the Greater Manchester Big Clean Switch campaign, which helps residents save money by switching to clean electricity. To find out more, or to compare clean energy prices for your home, visit www.bigcleanswitch.org/gm.



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