

Job of the Week – Renewable Energy Engineer

Job description:

To work on the production of energy through natural resources such as wind, hydro, solar or marine power. Renewable Energy Engineers look at ways of reducing the impact on the environment by researching and developing new technologies that will result in cleaner ways to supply energy.

Pathway routes into the industry

You can get into this job through:

- A degree in Engineering or a Scientific subject e.g. Renewable Energy, Environmental Engineering, Earth Sciences etc
- An apprenticeship at higher or degree level

Entry requirements

You will usually need:

- Four or five GCSEs at grades 4 or above including Maths and Science
- 2-3 A-Levels or equivalent

Subjects

Relevant subjects include:

- Science
- Physics
- Maths
- Geography
- Design Technology
- Engineering

Salary: £20,000 for a starting salary, rising to £50,00 for an experienced Renewable Energy Engineer.

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Skills

You will usually need:

- knowledge of engineering science and technology
- maths knowledge
- analytical thinking skills
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- thinking and reasoning skills
- the ability to use your initiative
- the ability to come up with new ways of doing things
- knowledge of building and construction
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently

Day-to-day tasks

You could:

- research and design new generating sites
- decide on the best locations for sites
- plan and oversee production programmes and budgets for sites
- manage and coordinate technicians/site workers
- design and select equipment
- meet environmental standards, like carbon reduction targets
- find the most cost efficient and productive processes
- carry out laboratory experiments
- convert experiments into industrial processes
- work with geologists, geophysicists and specialist contractors