

Origin Energy (Wind), Doncaster

- **Local authority area:** Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
- **Stakeholders:** Origin Energy, CO2Sense, Doncaster MBC, Norton Energy Community

Summary

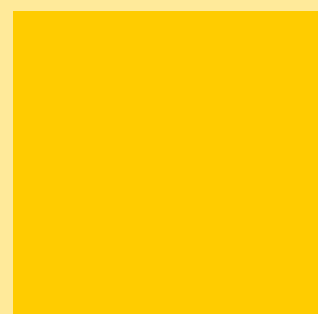
Origin Energy is managing the development of a 2.5 MW community wind energy development, to be built in Norton, near Doncaster, South Yorkshire.

Background

- The wind turbines will be a community owned development, with funds generated by the plant being put back into the community.
- Origin Energy will establish the Norton Community Society – a co-operative that will own the plant and decide upon the use of the profits that will be generated.
- Householders in the Norton area have free membership and voting rights in the Community Society. Investor members can purchase shares and will receive a dividend in return for their investment, but will only have voting rights on issues that are related to their own interests.
- This system will ensure that the plant remains for the benefit of the community, and that the community can have their input into how profits from the electricity generation are spent.

Method

- CO2Sense invested a £128,500 and a £17,288 grant to help fund the feasibility and planning costs of the development. CO2Sense is also giving the project technical support at monthly board meetings.
- The investment from CO2Sense has been spent on development costs of the project, mainly relating to the submission of the planning application in 2011.
- The wind turbine development will produce 13 GWh of electricity each year – this is enough energy to power around 3,400 homes as well as saving 5,400 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year.



Result - Key outcomes and impact

- The clean electricity generated by the project will be sold to the National Grid. The wind turbines will generate profits of between £250,000 and £350,000 per year for the first 12 years, and £600,000 per year after that.
- These funds will be used in the Norton area, some going straight to residents and some being used for community projects.

Key contact

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References / Links

<http://www.originenergy.org/index.php>

<http://www.nortonenergycommunity.org/index.html>