

# Origin Energy

**Origin Energy is managing the development of a 5MW community wind energy development, to be built in Norton, near Doncaster, South Yorkshire.**



The 2 wind turbines will be a community owned development, with funds generated by the plant being put back into the community.

CO2Sense invested £145,788 to help fund the feasibility and planning costs of the development. CO2Sense is also giving the project technical support at monthly board meetings.

The wind turbine development will produce 13GWh of electricity each year – this is enough energy to power around 3,000 homes and save 7,150 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year.

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.

## Renewable Energy

- Community owned 2 turbine wind energy development
- Will produce enough electricity to power 3,000 homes each year
- Will produce up to £600,000 income that will be used in community projects in the Norton area
- Will save 71,500 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> over a ten year period
- Received £185,500 from CO2Sense to help progress the project to submitting the

“ This is an ambitious project that will be producing both substantial amounts of clean electricity and revenue for the community. It is a great example of how much can be done by a community working together. ”

Victoria Maynard - CONSULTANT - CO2SENSE

Victoria Maynard, Consultant at CO2Sense, said, “This is an ambitious project that will be producing both substantial amounts of clean electricity and revenue for the community. It is a great example of how much can be done by a community working together”.

Origin Energy has established the Norton energy Community – a co-operative that will own the plant and decide upon the use of the profits that will be generated.

“ We believe that this project can make a big difference in generating clean, renewable electricity and to the Norton community. Both the financial and technical help from CO2Sense has been invaluable in helping this project to move to the next stage. ”

Steve Carney - ORIGIN ENERGY

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.

The investment from CO2Sense has been spent on development costs of the project, mainly relating to the submission of the planning application, scheduled for autumn 2011.

The completed environmental impact assessments have included habitat surveys of the local badger, bat and newt populations, alongside a year-long ornithology study. Other considerations included the impact of the turbines on the area's cultural heritage and noise levels.

CO2Sense have also committed to provide the project with ongoing technical support and attend monthly board meetings to help with the planning application and other development queries as they arise.

This expert advice will help Origin to ensure the wind farm is a viable project that can give real results to the community.

Steve Carney from Origin Energy, said, “We believe that this project can make a big difference in generating clean, renewable electricity and to the Norton community. Both the financial and technical help from CO2Sense has been invaluable in helping this project to move to the next stage”.



**CO2Sense was established by Yorkshire Forward to help businesses in the region to prosper in the low carbon economy.**

**We provide expertise and funding to help environmental companies to grow. We work with partners to help all organisations to fund and develop initiatives that reduce their carbon emissions.**