

# Sheffield Renewables

Sheffield Renewables community group was awarded £10,000 to help develop a hydro-electric plant on the River Don in Sheffield



Sheffield Renewables is a community based social enterprise that works to make Sheffield more sustainable by developing renewable energy projects. CO2Sense contributed £10,000 towards developing plans for an 80kW Archimedes screw hydro electric plant near Blackburn Meadows in Sheffield.

The upfront costs of submitting planning permission for renewable energy plants can make it difficult for community groups, such as Sheffield Renewables, to get projects operational.

As CO2Sense have worked with other community groups in developing hydro schemes in the past, we were ideally placed to help Sheffield Renewables move their Jordan's Dam project forward.

The £10,000 investment was put towards the costs of feasibility studies, design work, landowner and local business consultations, environmental assessments on the proposed site and ultimately submitting the planning application in February 2011.

## Renewable Energy

- 80kW Archimedes screw community hydro electric plant
- £10,000 investment from CO2Sense to help pay for feasibility and planning costs
- Will generate enough electricity to power around 70 homes
- Will save 170 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year
- Will use money generated from the plant to fund future renewable energy and volunteer projects in the Sheffield area

“ The support from CO2Sense has really helped us to get through the planning and feasibility stages for our first hydro project. This plant combines generating clean, renewable energy, with providing quality volunteering opportunities, and will create income that will allow us to continue working to bring more such projects to the city. ”

Mark Wells - SHEFFIELD RENEWABLES

Jemma Benson, Principal Consultant at CO2Sense, said, “This project is a good example of renewable energy being used to benefit local communities. CO2Sense has brought our past experience in working with this sort of project to ensure that their planning application was thorough and that the plant is the best suited to the area.”

**co<sub>2</sub>sense**

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Jemma Benson – PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT – CO2SENSE



Artist's impression of Jordan's Dam

The proposed plant will generate 310 MW hours of electricity per year – enough to power around 70 homes, and save 172 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> each year. As well as generating clean electricity, the plant will also earn Sheffield Renewables payments under the Feed-in-Tariff (FIT). The profits generated by the project will be used to help fund development work for community renewable energy projects in the Sheffield area.

Sheffield Renewables has a strong volunteer base, which allows people to get experience in renewable energy and develop new skills. The Jordan's Dam project will mean that they can continue this work with the community.

The renewable energy plant also provides an ideal educational opportunity for the area, allowing the local community and other renewable energy projects to learn from the development, and raises the profile of renewable energy and sustainability.

As well as benefits to the community, the system has been designed not to interfere with the natural environment of the river. The fish pass incorporated into the plant will help with the salmon migration upstream.

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Sheffield Renewables hope to be generating electricity from the plant by summer 2012, and are working on another hydro electric plant on Kelham Island. For more information about Sheffield Renewables, visit [www.sheffieldrenewables.org.uk](http://www.sheffieldrenewables.org.uk)

**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.**