

## Case Study: Norton Community Windfarm

Origin Energy proposed construction of up to three wind turbines around Norton, near Doncaster, in South Yorkshire. As part of these works it was important to ensure that the associated infrastructure of the project wouldn't impact on sites of cultural heritage and archaeological significance, which would have resulted in the risk of delays and mounting costs for the client.

AB Heritage was commissioned by Origin Energy to produce a Cultural Heritage Environmental Statement (ES) assessing and managing the potential impacts on any archaeological features found on the site of the proposed community windfarm scheme.

The assessment concluded that there was a potential for the survival of archaeological deposits dating to the prehistoric and Romano-British period within the area of proposed development. This was reflected by a concentration of pre-Iron Age funerary monuments and field systems in the wider area, while the Iron Age to Romano-British feature was dominated by substantial settlement and agricultural features, in addition to the nearby scheduled remains of the British multivallate enclosure.

AB Heritage put in place recommendations to alleviate, avoid or mitigate adverse impacts to the cultural heritage that was identified. This included for progression of a programme of fieldwalking, followed by targeted geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation trenching, which would enable production of a suitable mitigation strategy, where required.

"It was essential for us to manage the resource from the outset to minimise potential damage to the archaeological features," explains Andy Buckley, of AB Heritage. "By putting these precautions in place, we could also reduce the overall risk of significant remains being identified at a later stage of the project. This protected our client from unexpected costs and delays, helping to ensure the successful completion of the Windfarm scheme."



### Key Factors

- **AB Heritage Limited produced a Cultural Heritage Environmental Statement assessing the level of archaeological and heritage significance, as part of the Norton Community Windfarm scheme.**
- **Our work enabled a strong understanding of the potential project risks associated with the archaeological resource, allowing for early design guidance on positioning the turbines.**
- **AB Heritage Limited developed an investigation/mitigation strategy allowing the team to assess and understand potential below ground archaeological remains. This was designed to reduce the risk of disturbing complex and significant archaeology late in the project lifecycle, protecting the client from associated costs.**

<b>Client:</b>
Origin Energy
<b>Location:</b>
Norton, Campsell and Sutton, South Yorkshire
<b>AB Heritage Input:</b>
Cultural Heritage Environmental Statement
<b>Date of AB Heritage Works:</b>
April 2010 – February 2011

