

Blackburn Meadows Sheffield, UK

Project description

We were appointed by E.ON to prepare a planning application, as well as to manage all related matters for the development of a biomass facility at Blackburn Meadows in Sheffield. The scheme was a key link in E.ON's £20 million, 8 km low carbon district heating network, serving Sheffield's Lower Don Valley.

This multi-faceted project comprised of option testing, feasibility studies and the subsequent submission of an outline planning application. This was supported by an Environmental Statement following extensive public consultation. We co-ordinated the preparation of the Environmental and Planning Statements and the exception test to support the Flood Risk Assessment.

Management of the application involved extensive liaison with the Local Planning Authority and Environment Agency, including a presentation to the Sheffield Design Panel. During the consultation process, we also negotiated a Section 106 agreement which included a commitment to establish a community benefits fund worth up to £25,000 a year throughout the lifetime of the facility. In addition, we co-ordinated a Section 278 agreement for off-site highway works, securing temporary access over the Sheffield Supertram network.

The facility became operational in 2015, and we were subsequently retained to gain planning approval for a combined heat and power substation facility and pipe network on the Site.

