



Planning • Heritage

Specialist & Independent Advisors to the Property Industry

Harrington Wind Farm

Client

Nuon Renewables

Location

Northamptonshire

Services Provided

Archaeology
Historic Buildings

Date of Completion

On-going

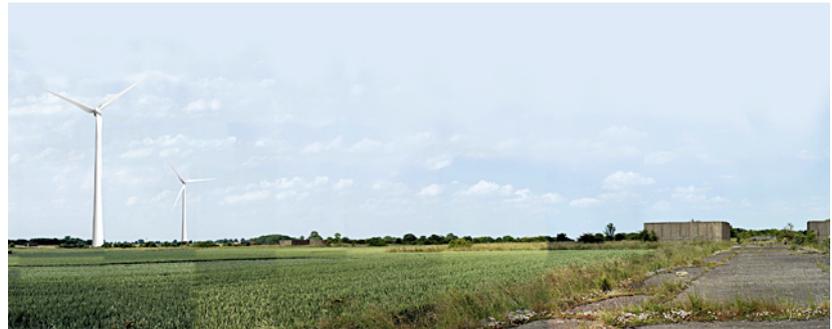
Key Issues

Cultural Heritage ES Chapter

Impact on setting of former nuclear missile launch pads

Impact on listed buildings

Archaeological Evaluation



CgMs undertook the historic environment element of an EIA and Regulation 19 SEI of a 7 turbine scheme on and beside a former WWII airfield.

The primary cultural heritage issue was the potential impact on the setting of the nationally important non-designated remains of a Cold War Thor nuclear missile launch facility at former RAF Harrington. CgMs undertook extensive documentary research into the development of the Thor missile, its deployment in the UK and the significance of the Harrington remains in particular to help determine the setting of the structures and the acceptability of the wind farm on the setting. The conclusions of this study was that the turbines lie outside of the setting and therefore the wind farm will have a neutral impact on it.

Other cultural heritage issues include the assessment of the potential impact on the setting of nearby listed buildings; the undertaking of a geophysical survey and also evaluation trenching to assess the potential direct impacts on archaeological remains.

The scheme was recommended for approval by the LPA but was refused permission at Committee on the basis of the impact on the setting of the Thor missile structures. CgMs provided historic environment expert witness at the subsequent appeal. This was one of the first wind farm appeals to be heard under PPS5 *Planning for the Historic Environment*. Unfortunately, the appeal was dismissed but invaluable lessons have been learnt regarding the implications for wind farm schemes of the definition and policies in PPS5 relating to setting.



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