

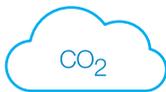
23

MW solar farm capacity



7,642

Homes powered each year



4,706

Tonnes of CO2 saved each year



52

proposed size (hectares)

About the project

Low Carbon is proposing to develop a new solar farm with battery storage to be known as Pepperhill Solar Farm

- The site is located on the land south of Holyhead Road, Albrighton.
- The solar farm will have a generating capacity of approximately **23 megawatts (MW)** of clean energy.
- The proposed site is approximately **52 hectares** (128 acres) in size.
- The solar farm will be a temporary development for a period of **40 years**, maintaining its agricultural classification throughout the development and after the removal of the equipment.

Why Here?

Low Carbon has carefully identified this site as part of a detailed feasibility process to deliver a large-scale clean energy scheme. Many factors are considered by our specialists when evaluating appropriate sites for development. These include considering the available grid locally as well as various planning and environmental constraints.

“ Now more than ever we must focus on generating cheaper, cleaner power in Britain, for Britain ”

Kwasi Kwarteng, Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Pepperhill Solar Farm will help assist in delivering low cost, safe and affordable electricity which can also help us transition into a low carbon future.

The proposal includes battery storage which will allow energy to be stored on site at times when grid-demand is lower and exported at times of higher demand to ensure no energy is ‘lost’ and help balance the National Grid.



Construction information

A typical construction period for a solar farm of this scale is around 14-20 weeks. During the construction period, it is estimated that there will be an average of 6-8 HGV trips per day. Whilst this figure is an average, there will often be a higher volume earlier in the construction period and less towards the end. It is proposed that construction working hours would be as follows:

- 08:00 - 18:00 Monday to Friday
- 08:00 - 13:00 Saturday



Access Information

The preferred construction route will come from the A41, then onto the A464, Holyhead Road.

The proposed maintenance and construction route will access the site from two roads on the A464, Holyhead Road. Firstly, from the existing farm track, whose access is opposite to Boningale Nurseries and secondly from The Hook Lane.

We have engaged a Highways Consultant to advise us of the best route. A Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) will be agreed with the Local Highways Authority ahead of any construction.

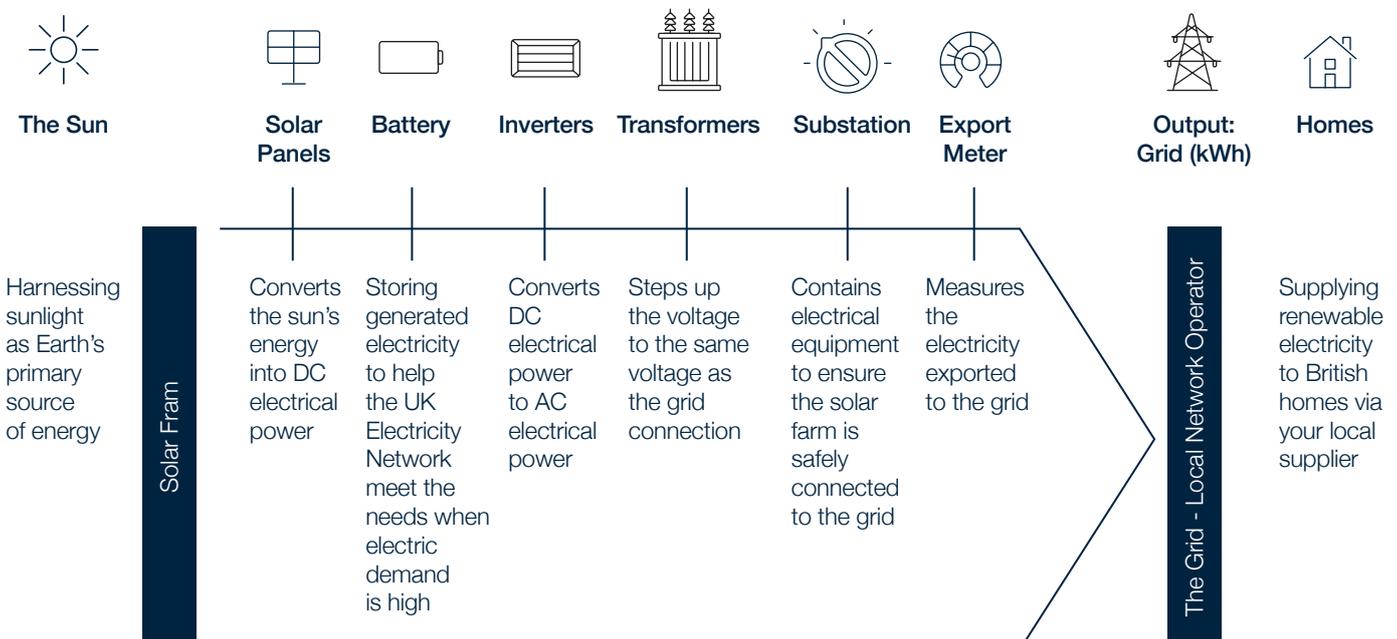


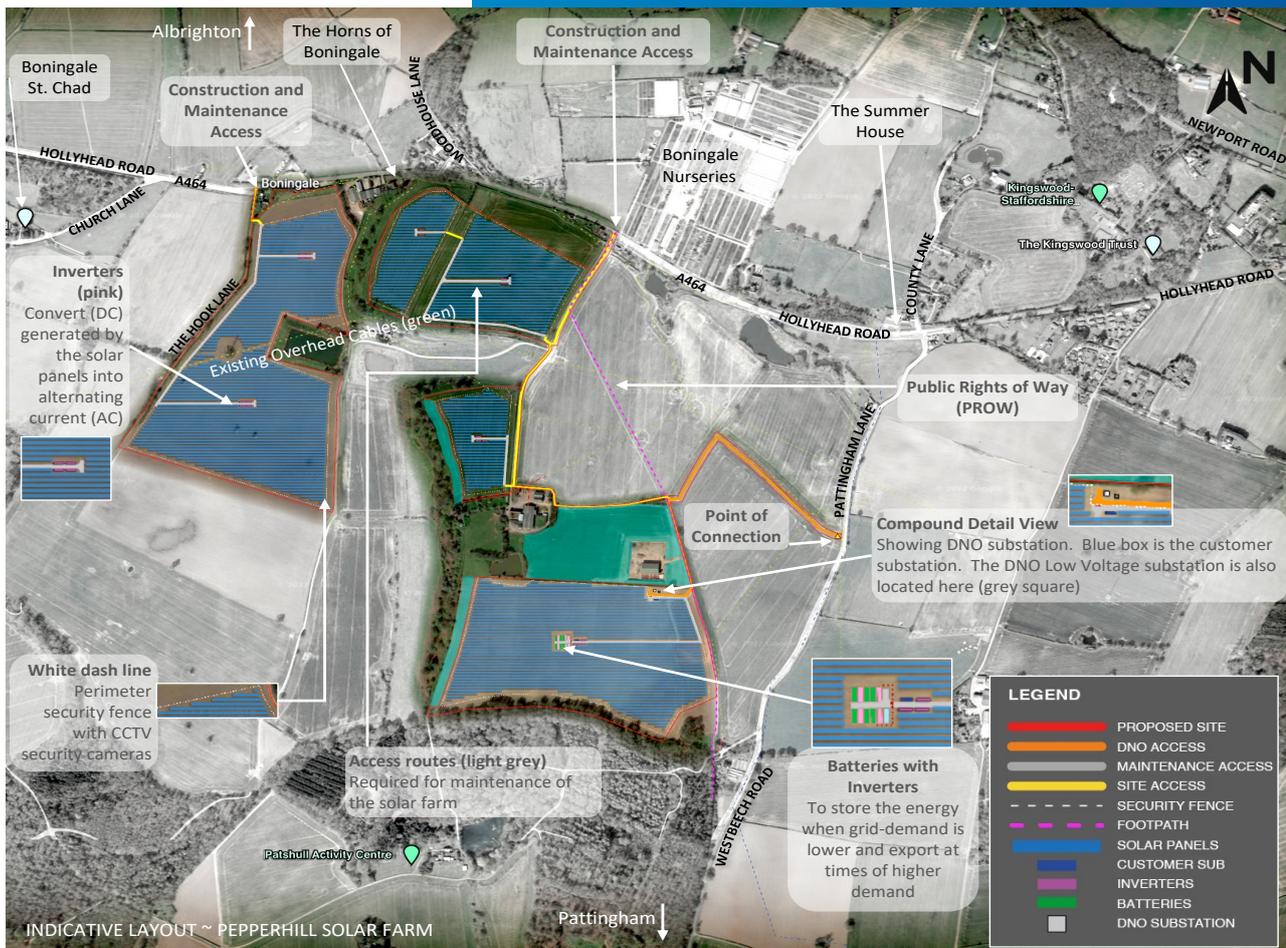
Point of connection

The electricity generated by the solar panels is proposed to connect into the local distribution network operator, Western Power Distribution (WPD), via an existing electricity pylon which is to the east of the site. A transformer substation compound would be built to step up the voltage to be fed into the grid.

How a solar farm works

The illustration (below) is indicative of the components usually found on a solar farm.





The final design will be informed by considering the findings from the surveys we're carrying out, alongside feedback provided through ongoing consultation.

Proposed site layout

Design of the site

- The development would consist of **static rows** of photovoltaic (PV) solar panels fixed into metal framework supported by either single or double mounted posts.
- The panels would be set to a **maximum height of 3m** with the bottom of the panels approximately 0.9m from the ground.
- The metal poles would be **pile-driven** into the ground to a depth of around 1.5m.
- The panels would be laid out in straight arrays set at an angle of between **10 and 35 degrees from east to west** across the field enclosures.
- The final number of panels depends on a variety of factors such as the capacity of each panel and the design of the arrays. It is too early in the process to confirm this yet.
- **No flood lights** will be installed within or around the site. Above the entrance door to the DNO Substation, there may be a downlighter to aid access.
- **Public Rights of Way (PROW) will not be moved or closed** during construction or operation (if planning is granted).
- There is a **minimum separation distance between solar panels of 2.5m**, where biodiversity enhancements such as pasture-mix grassland planting can be implemented.
- Between the arrays and the site perimeter or, in other areas of unused space, we typically plant wildflowers or pasture-mix grasses.

Indicative timeline



Technical Assessment

We undertake a wide range of detailed studies and technical assessments to help respond to questions raised and to assist the final design.

- Transport
- Ecology including Biodiversity Net Gain
- Heritage including geophysical survey
- Landscape and Visual Impact including photomontages
- Flood Risk and Drainage
- Arboricultural Assessment
- Agricultural Land Classification survey
- Glint and Glare Assessment
- Alternative Site Assessment



Benefits



Biodiversity

It is important that the site is improved for nature and shows a biodiversity net gain, thus helping to protect and improve new and existing habitats whilst allowing the land to recover from a monoculture environment. Creating a species rich haven for wildlife.



Sheep grazing

We work in partnership with the landowner or local shepherds to provide a unique and innovative space for sheep to graze amongst the solar panels which provide protection in both summer and winter.



Beehives

We encourage the siting of beehives within the solar farm, which not only helps to pollinate nearby crops and plants but provides a secure environment with readily available food sources. The hives are tended by trained local beekeepers to ensure the health and welfare of the bees.



Public Rights of Way

The Public Rights of Way (PRoW) which run alongside the eastern side of the site will be kept open throughout construction and operation of the solar farm. If possible and to maintain the enjoyment of these paths we look to include buffers of meadow or wildflower planting and a 2m thick hedgerow to help screen direct views of the solar farm.



Planting

Our sites are designed around existing hedgerows and trees. We look to enhance the site with additional planting of native species of hedgerows, trees, pasture-mix grasses and wildflowers.

Public Consultation

Webinar

Join us for a webinar for the Pepperhill Solar Farm. The webinar will be followed by a Q&A. Register your details on our project website to join the webinar, www.pepperhillsolarfarm.co.uk.

When: Wednesday, 27 April 2022

Time: 7:30pm

Come and meet us in person

We are delighted to confirm that we are hosting an event where you can come review our proposal and we will be available to hear your feedback and comments and, answer your questions.

When: Wednesday 4 May 2022

Time: 2:30pm-7:30pm

Location: The Kingswood Trust, Holyhead Road, Perton, Wolverhampton WV7 3AP

We are very much looking forward to you joining us!

If you have any questions, contact us:

Email: info@pepperhillsolarfarm.co.uk

Call our free information line: 0800 082 0906

About Low Carbon:

Low Carbon, the developer of this project is a British-owned investment and asset management company whose business model is based on the financing, development, construction and operational responsibility of renewable energy projects at scale. Low Carbon is committed to making a positive and significant impact on the causes of climate change with the goal of a low carbon future with environmental stewardship and collaboration with local communities and biodiversity at the heart of this approach.

Certified



Corporation

Low Carbon is a certified B Corporation®.

B Corps™ are businesses that meet the highest standards of social and environmental performance, transparency and accountability.