

# THE BENEFITS OF SOLAR POWER

Solar power is the world's fastest growing source of new energy because it has the potential to meet many of the low-carbon challenges we are facing today. It is increasing in popularity because it is cost-competitive, versatile, quick to deploy and kind to our environment.



## Renewable

Solar panels produce electricity by transforming the continuous flow of energy from the sun to electricity.



## CO<sub>2</sub> free

No harmful emissions are released into the air when electricity is produced.



## Quick to Deploy

Compared with nuclear or coal power stations that can take decades to develop, solar farms are relatively quick to deploy with construction lasting months rather than years.



## Bridging the energy gap

Compared with traditional power plants, solar installations are quick to deploy and can be operational in a matter of months.



## Designed to avoid harm to land

Solar installations have a relatively limited footprint, and it's easy to remove infrastructure at the end of its lifespan - not many other 'power station' types can say that! The pile-driven frames can be pulled out and any concrete and gravel easily removed with no damage to soil quality. We then backfill any dips, and harrow and reseed where necessary.



## Continued agricultural use

About 70% of a solar installation is open grassland. If it's appropriate, agricultural land can remain in use with smaller livestock such as chickens or sheep grazing. Stocking densities are rarely affected.

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 **Limited noise**  
Operates with minimal noise output.

 **Boosting biodiversity**  
Opportunities to enhance flora & fauna.

 **Local & clean generation**  
Lowering the local carbon footprint.



## Boosting biodiversity

The UN's IPBES Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (May 2019), concluded that nature is declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history, with the rate of species extinctions accelerating. Our schemes have created opportunities to enhance habitats and support local flora and fauna.



## Supporting rural business

**Farmland diversification with solar has been proven as a good solution to support rural business. It provides a secure and sustainable income as well as protection from market and weather volatility.**



## Why ground mounted solar?

Most of our projects are ground mounted. Rooftop solar installations present a number of often insurmountable challenges, including structural issues, asbestos and shading, as well as difficulties for roof maintenance and legal complications. Ground mounted solar farms are a more efficient way to meet our low-carbon energy targets.