

Our Proposals

Proposed solar installation at land near Poundon, Buckinghamshire



Animals and Wildlife

We are undertaking a range of environmental surveys including a Phase 1 Habitat Survey to identify, assess and mitigate any potential impacts on wildlife on the site. The results of the habitat survey and any measures put in place to protect wildlife and habitats will be detailed within the ecology report and in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) we will submit with our planning application.

Views and Screening

The site is well screened with existing hedgerows and trees. Supplemental planting along the site boundaries will help reduce the limited views of the project. The natural screening will also help enhance biodiversity on the site.

Continued Agricultural Use

The fields are currently used as arable farming and pasture for grazing livestock. Once the PV panels have been installed, the land under the panels can still be grazed by sheep, so the land will continue to be used for agricultural purposes.

Hedgerows and Trees

Existing hedgerows and trees will be retained wherever possible and will be supplemented with additional planting to screen the site from views and blend the site into the surroundings. We will submit a detailed planting plan as part of the planning application, which will focus on screening potential views of the site using vegetation and increasing biodiversity.

Community Benefits

We are committed to supporting the local communities around our solar projects, to create a positive impact on society and the environment that goes beyond generating renewable energy. As part of that commitment, we're proposing to create a community benefit fund that will benefit those living around the Oakfield Grove solar and energy storage project. Our proposal comprises funding of up to £8,000 per MW*1, dependent on the final capacity and lifetime of the project. We are evaluating the options on how and when that funding could be distributed and welcome your views on the types of local projects or initiatives that could be funded.

Connection to the National Grid Network

The project will provide energy to the national grid network and connect to the nearby underground 132kV cable via an underground cable within the site boundary.

Agricultural Land Grading

We have conducted an Agricultural Land Classification Survey which has classified the majority of the fields as 3b or below, which is classified as non-BMV (Best Most Versatile).

Public Rights of Way

We are proposing rerouting two Public Rights of Way to maximise the distance between the rights of way and the solar farm and retain its rural views. All other Public Rights of Way through the site will be retained.

Green Open Spaces

The project has been designed to leave wide spaces around the site boundaries and between the row of panels to avoid shading the panels.

Access (➤)

Proposed construction and operational access will be the two existing access points on Stratton Audley Road, Poundon road for the northern part of the site and from Main Street in Charndon for the southern part of the site. The existing access points already service HGVs.

