Frodsham Solar
Consultation Report Appendix 3: Phase One Consultation Materials

May 2025

Cubico SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENTS

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Contents

1 Phase One Community Consultation Leaflet
2 Phase One Newspaper Advert
3 Phase One Feedback Form
4 Phase One Consultation Concept Plan
5 Phase One Site Location Plan
6 Phase One Information Event Boards

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Frodsham Solar

Phase One Community Consultation Leaflet

June 2023

Peel Cubico

RENEWABLES

www.frodshamsolar.co.uk

Introduction

Peel Cubico Renewables is proposing Frodsham Solar, a new solar farm with energy storage, situated north of Frodsham in Cheshire.

Our community consultation leaflet introduces who we are, our proposals for Frodsham Solar, and how you can take part in our Phase One consultation. Our consultation is open for six weeks between Thursday 1st June and Thursday 13th July 2023.

The project will generate renewable electricity through ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panels. The proposals include energy storage – often referred to as a Battery Energy Storage System (or 'BESS') – to store and supply electricity for when it is most needed.

Frodsham Solar sits in an area of industry looking to lead the way in low carbon technology development. It supports Net Zero North West's vision to become the world's first net zero industrial cluster by 2040.

We intend to supply the clean electricity generated by Frodsham Solar to a combination of SP Energy Networks – the network operator responsible for distributing electricity across Merseyside and Cheshire – and through direct private connections to local businesses and industrial clusters neighbouring the project.

Given the amount of clean electricity that the project will be able to generate, Frodsham Solar is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), meaning that a final decision on whether the project goes ahead will be made by the relevant Secretary of State. Before submitting an application to them, we will be undertaking thorough consultation and environmental assessment to inform our proposals.

Details on how to contact us and find out more about Frodsham Solar can be found on the back cover of this leaflet.

Who We Are

Peel Cubico Renewables is a Joint Venture partnership between natural resources and energy business Peel NRE and global renewable energy company Cubico Sustainable Investments (Cubico).

Peel NRE
RE-ENERGISING NATURAL RESOURCES

Cubico
SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENTS

Peel NRE, part of Peel L&P, is at the heart of the nation's activity around clean growth and the circular economy – helping the UK achieve net zero by 2050 and supporting regions in their actions to achieve climate emergency targets.

Peel NRE has a strong track record of engaging with local communities and is invested in the North-West, with strong ties to its communities.

Cubico is one of the world's largest privately-owned renewable energy companies.

Cubico has nearly 3 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy projects installed across 12 countries in Europe, the Americas and Australia, with around 3 GW in construction and development. It brings expertise in financing, route to market, construction and operation.

Our Mission is to accelerate change to combat the climate crisis.

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Why Here?

Frodsham Solar would be situated at the heart of the Cheshire's Energy Innovation District, a corridor of industry providing secure, low carbon and lower cost energy. Solar would complement the existing mix of low carbon technologies already present and being developed in this corridor, including wind and hydrogen.

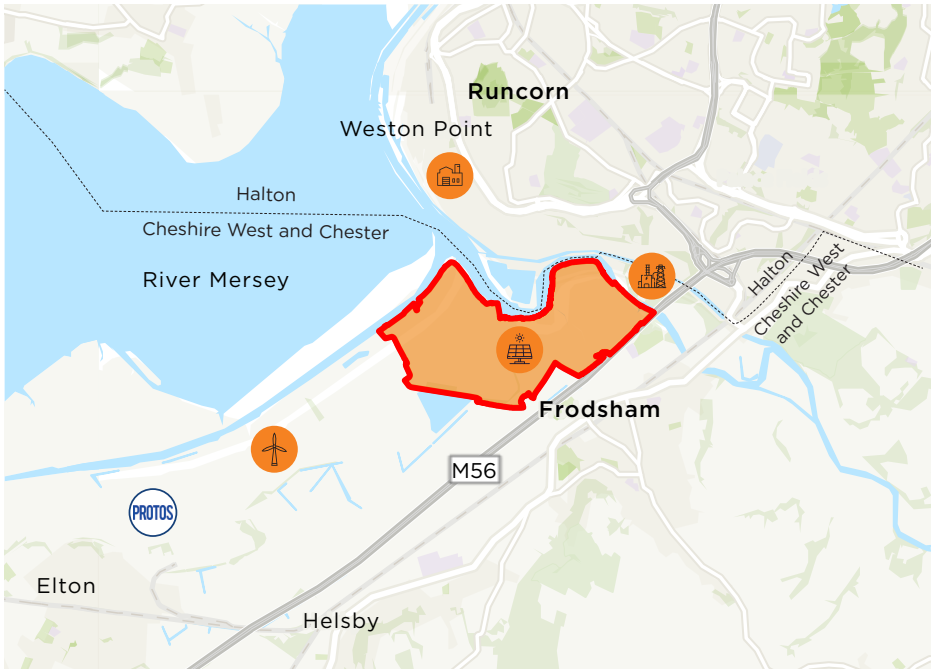
Frodsham Solar would contribute a significant amount of low carbon energy to the district by connecting power to both the local distribution network and directly to local industry, increasing the variety and production of renewable power in the region.

Frodsham Solar would sit centrally within the Energy Innovation District, enabling Frodsham Solar to produce power in an area that currently consumes around 5% of the UK's energy.

Frodsham Solar would also play an important role in contributing to the vision set out by Net Zero North West, to ensure that the North West leads the way in becoming a country-wide leader in low carbon and renewable technologies.

The North West industrial area is one of the largest emitters of carbon dioxide, and so the UK government has prioritised the need to decarbonise the sector.

Frodsham Solar would support both the Net Zero North West Industrial Cluster and Invest Net Zero Cheshire through meeting targets and allowing for direct power to local businesses.



Frodsham Solar Site Location Map

Key

- Frodsham Solar
- Frodsham Substation
- Local Industry
- Protos
- Western Cluster of Frodsham Wind Farm

A range of environmental and technical factors suggest the site is a suitable location for a solar farm. These include the topography (being relatively flat), existing land uses being compatible, our understanding of potential environmental constraints, and existing access for construction vehicles.

Frodsham Solar sits within an area of existing infrastructure, including Frodsham Wind Farm, and bordered by the M56, Mersey Estuary, River Weaver and the Manchester Ship Canal.

The site is also in close proximity to the grid connection at the existing Frodsham Substation, located adjacent to the site across the River Weaver, and clusters of local industry which are significant regional users of energy. This allows us to easily connect electricity to where it is needed.

The Opportunity

Frodsham Solar will provide a significant amount of clean electricity for businesses and homes in the region. In doing so, it supports national and regional aims to decarbonise our electricity systems and bolster our energy security.

The total amount of clean electricity produced by Frodsham Solar will depend upon a range of factors, including technology at the time of construction, connection agreements with the regional distributor and local businesses, and the final project design (which will be informed by our environmental assessments and the consultation feedback we receive).

Current proposals for Frodsham Solar have an indicative capacity of around 150 MW.

We are actively exploring private connection agreements through discussions with local industry, in an area that currently consumes around 5% of the UK's energy and contains some of the UK's most significant and energy intensive infrastructure[1].

Frodsham Solar could directly **power local industry** through new individual connections.

We have a connection agreement with SP Energy Networks to supply up to 100 MW to Frodsham Substation.

Frodsham Solar will be able to export up to 100 MW of **clean, reliable, home-grown electricity** to the local distribution network. For context, 100 MW is enough enough power for 34,000 homes[2].

[1] Cheshire Energy Hub: www.energyinnovationdistrict.com/who
[2] Based on Ofgem's figure of a medium UK house having a typical annual electricity use of 2,900 kWh.

Collectively, a mix of renewable technologies will support the UK's transition to a low carbon economy.

Frodsham Solar will be located alongside other renewable technologies, such as Frodsham Wind Farm, and the proposals include energy storage to allow for the electricity generated by the panels to be stored and distributed when it is needed, **increasing the resilience of our energy supply.**

The proposals will involve considering the site landscape, including existing and new paths and open spaces.

Frodsham Solar could provide opportunities for **public access and recreation.**

Solar energy generation can deliver major benefits to the local environment. As the panels are set on posts with minimal disturbance to the ground, the rest of the land is available to support new plants and animal life.

Frodsham Solar could **boost local biodiversity,** such as by establishing wildflower areas that provide habitats for pollinators and birds, enhancing wetland habitats to reduce flood risk and support aquatic life, and restoring hedgerows and native species.

We are committed to working proactively with the local communities within which we operate.

To make this happen, we will:

- Engage early, often, and consistently
- Listen to and respect everyone's views
- Forego formulaic approaches
- Foster ideas and commitment
- Encourage local governance of any funds

Frodsham Solar will be accompanied by a **tailored package of benefits contributions** for the local community.

You can find out more about our commitment to community involvement on Peel Cubico Renewables' website:

https://peelcubico.co.uk/communities/

Commitments To Solar

Solar energy is affordable, reliable, renewable and clean. There are a number of reasons why solar can benefit not only the planet in terms of climate change, but also the country in terms of reducing the cost of electricity and boosting our energy security.

Nationally, the British Energy Security Strategy[3] and Powering Up Britain[4] policy papers include ambitions for a significant increase in solar-generating capacity, with a target of increasing electricity generated from solar from 14 GW (gigawatts) currently to up to 70 GW by 2035.

Locally, one of Cheshire West and Chester Council's six priorities is tackling the climate emergency, targeting to install 300 megawatts (MW) of solar generation capacity by 2025 and 800 MW by 2050. Halton Borough Council aims to be net zero by 2040.

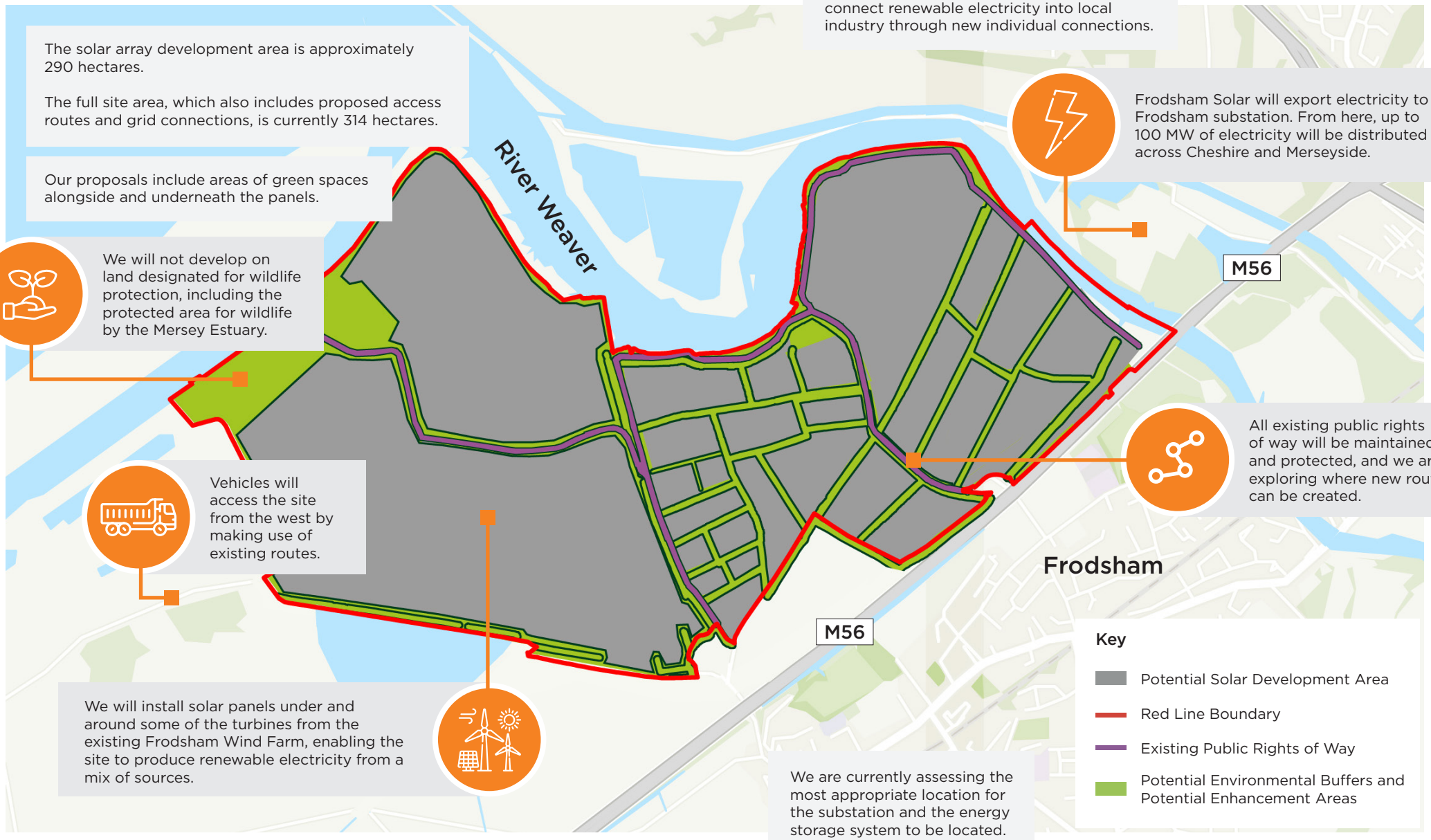
In addition to these targets, the UK government is also looking to achieve industrial decarbonisation by 2030[5]. We are actively exploring directly supplying electricity to local industry through ongoing discussions with nearby businesses. Through these agreements, Frodsham Solar could directly supply local industry with renewable power.

Frodsham Solar would support the Government vision for delivery of low-carbon infrastructure to **support industrial decarbonisation by 2030.**

[3] UK Government, 'British Energy Security Strategy', April 2022
[4] UK Government, 'Powering Up Britain', March 2023
[5] UK Government, 'Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy', March 2021

Our Proposals

We are at an early stage of developing our proposals for Frodsham Solar.



The solar array development area is approximately 290 hectares.

The full site area, which also includes proposed access routes and grid connections, is currently 314 hectares.

Our proposals include areas of green spaces alongside and underneath the panels.

We will not develop on land designated for wildlife protection, including the protected area for wildlife by the Mersey Estuary.

Vehicles will access the site from the west by making use of existing routes.

We will install solar panels under and around some of the turbines from the existing Frodsham Wind Farm, enabling the site to produce renewable electricity from a mix of sources.

We are exploring opportunities to directly connect renewable electricity into local industry through new individual connections.

Frodsham Solar will export electricity to Frodsham substation. From here, up to 100 MW of electricity will be distributed across Cheshire and Merseyside.

All existing public rights of way will be maintained and protected, and we are exploring where new routes can be created.

We are currently assessing the most appropriate location for the substation and the energy storage system to be located.

Key

- Potential Solar Development Area
- Red Line Boundary
- Existing Public Rights of Way
- Potential Environmental Buffers and Potential Enhancement Areas

Design Principles

We are undertaking an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for Frodsham Solar. An EIA involves extensive assessments throughout the pre-application process to understand how Frodsham Solar would fit into the environment and its landscape.

These assessments are ongoing and will continue throughout both phases of consultation. Together with the feedback collected from you as well as statutory and technical organisations, we will shape the final design for Frodsham Solar.

However, we want to ensure that the early design of the project is sensitively designed in response to its surroundings. As such, our team is working with a number of design principles to guide our design and mitigate potential environmental impacts.

Our Design Principles include:

Minimising the use of non-recyclable materials such as concrete, instead using recyclable materials such as steel.

Including a minimum distance between existing and potential public rights of way to protect and preserve access to and across the site.

Siting all critical infrastructure either away from any areas in Flood Zone 3, or site the infrastructure above flood levels.

Utilising existing ditch crossings and gaps in hedges for access where possible.

Managing the movement of traffic sensitively to avoid the village of Frodsham, utilising the existing Protos and Frodsham Wind Farm access roads.

Retaining all existing hedgerows and ditches where possible, as well as implementing additional screening where appropriate. Some small sections of hedgerow may be removed for cable crossings.

Exploring continued agricultural practices on site such as sheep grazing.

Assuming a maximum height of the panels including their supports to be 3.5 metres, and a minimum height of the panels' edge of 0.7 metres above ground level.

Our Phase One Consultation

We are at an early stage of developing the proposals for Frodsham Solar. The design of the solar farm will be informed by feedback we receive and the results of our ongoing Environmental Impact Assessment process.

Our Phase One consultation starts on Thursday 1st June 2023. It will run for six weeks, closing on Thursday 13th July 2023.

During this time, you can engage with our proposals in several ways:

Attend one of our community information events
We are holding a series of information events across the area, as well as a community webinar. These events provide an opportunity to view materials and discuss the proposals with members of the project team.

Visit our project website
Our dedicated website (www.frodshamsolar.co.uk) provides the latest project information, including relevant documents and answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ's). Here you can view and download all consultation documents and information.

Contact our team
A freephone information line, project email address, and freepost address are available for anyone wishing to contact us. These details are listed on the back page of this leaflet.

Provide your feedback
We want to hear any views you may have on our proposals. You can submit your feedback via our website, by completing a feedback form at one of our events, by writing to us, or by email. Please contact us if you're not sure how best to provide your feedback.

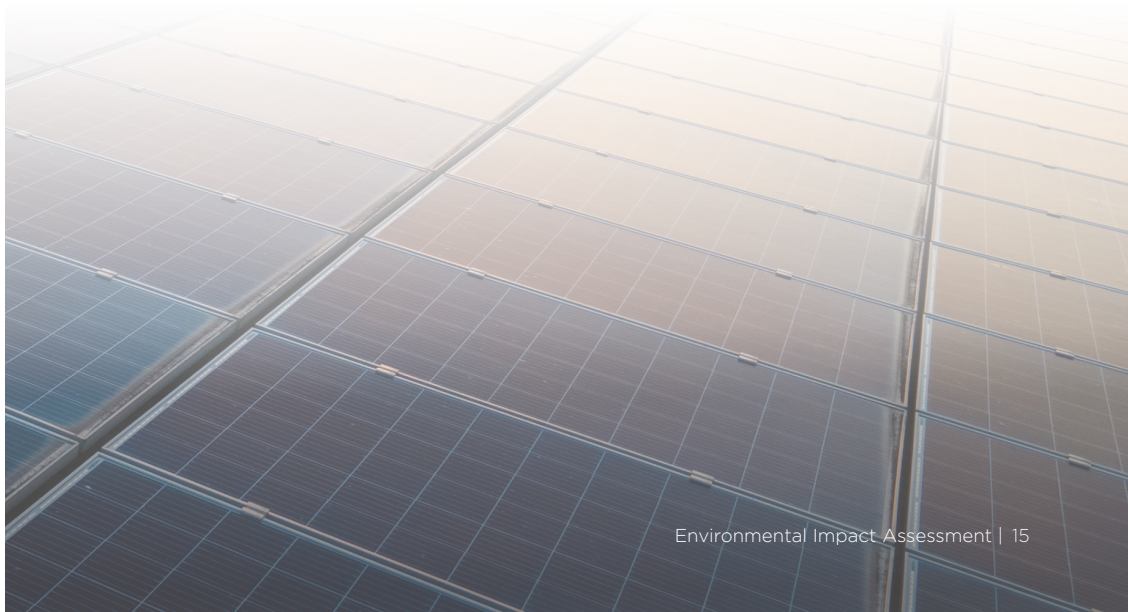
Environmental Impact Assessment

The scope and methodology of our EIA will be informed by feedback from relevant regulatory and environmental bodies.

We recently submitted a Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate, which outlines how we intend to assess potential impacts to the existing environment. The Planning Inspectorate will seek feedback from statutory consultees, such as local planning authorities, and provide us with a Scoping Opinion.

We recognise that local residents and communities will also be interested in this and may wish to submit their views. We are therefore making our Scoping Report available through our phase one consultation. You are welcome to view this document and provide your comments.

We will take a similar approach at our phase two consultation, planned for later this year, by publishing a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). This report will set out the findings of our environmental assessments that have been carried out and introduce how we intend to mitigate any impacts.



Information Events

Come and meet our team at one of our community information events.

These events will be an opportunity for you to view our early-stage proposals and discuss them in person with members of the project team. We encourage anyone with an interest in our proposals to come along. You are welcome to drop-in any time during the opening hours.

We are also holding an online community webinar for those that are unable to attend one of our in-person information events. Details on how to register for the event can be found in the Consultation section of our website: www.frodshamsolar.co.uk

Community Information Events

Location	Date & Time
Helsby Community Centre Lower Robin Hood Lane, Frodsham, WA6 0BW	**Saturday 17th June** 12pm – 4pm
Christchurch Hall Sandy Lane, Weston Point, Runcorn, WA7 4EU	**Tuesday 20th June** 3pm - 7pm
Frodsham Community Centre Fluin Ln, Frodsham, WA6 7QN	**Wednesday 21st June** 2pm – 7pm
Elton Community Centre School Lane, Elton, Chester, CH2 4PU	**Thursday 22nd June** 11am – 4pm
Frodsham Community Centre Fluin Lane, Frodsham, WA6 7QN	**Friday 23rd June** 2.30pm – 7pm
Online Community Webinar Zoom	**Monday 26th June** 5.30pm – 7pm

Community Access Points

You can also view and pick up hard copies of our Phase One consultation and other project materials at one of our Community Access Points:

Location	Opening Times
Frodsham Library Princeway, Frodsham, WA6 6RX	Mon – Fri: 9am – 6pm Sat: 9:30am – 1pm
Helsby Library Lower Robin Hood Lane, Helsby, WA6 0BW	Mon and Fri: 9.30am – 5pm Tues and Weds: 9.30am – 7pm Saturday: 9.30am - 1pm
Ellesmere Port Library Civic Way, Ellesmere Port, CH65 0BG	Mon, Thurs and Fri: 9am – 7pm Tues and Weds: 9am – 5pm Sat: 9am – 1pm

The DCO Process

Frodsham Solar is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) given the amount of clean electricity that the project will be able to generate. If the project is granted consent, it will be given a Development Consent Order (DCO).

The final decision of whether the project gets consent will be decided by the relevant Secretary of State.

Whilst Frodsham Solar will not be decided by Cheshire West and Chester Council or Halton Borough Council, the DCO process is thorough and requires us to demonstrate how the project has undertaken meaningful consultation and extensive environmental assessments. Local councils, councillors and the community play a vital role in the pre-application process, and we are committed to engaging openly throughout.

You can read more about the DCO Process here: **https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process/**

We have been carrying out environmental assessments since the start of the year and these remain ongoing. The initial findings of the assessments will be published in the project's Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which will be shared as part of our second phase of consultation. This is shown in our indicative timeline (opposite).

As seen in the indicative project timeline (opposite), we will hold a second phase of consultation, anticipated for later this year, including more detailed design and environmental information.

Prior to this, we will be considering the feedback that we receive during the first phase of consultation as we refine our proposals.

Indicative Project Timeline

Early Summer 2023: Publication of Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

Early Summer 2023: Public communication of proposals and opening of communications channels.

Summer 2023: Phase One consultation on initial proposals.

Summer 2023: EIA Scoping Report and Opinion.

Autumn 2023: Feedback analysis, interim reporting and ongoing engagement.

Winter 2023: Phase two consultation on more detailed proposals and Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR).

Spring 2024: DCO Application & PINS Acceptance decision.

Summer 2024: Spring 2025: PINS Examination.

Autumn 2025: Secretary of State Decision.

2026: Construction

2028: Frodsham Solar becomes operational.

All future dates are indicative and subject to change.

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Contact Us

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to find out more information about Frodsham Solar using any of the methods below.

Email: info@frodshamsolar.co.uk

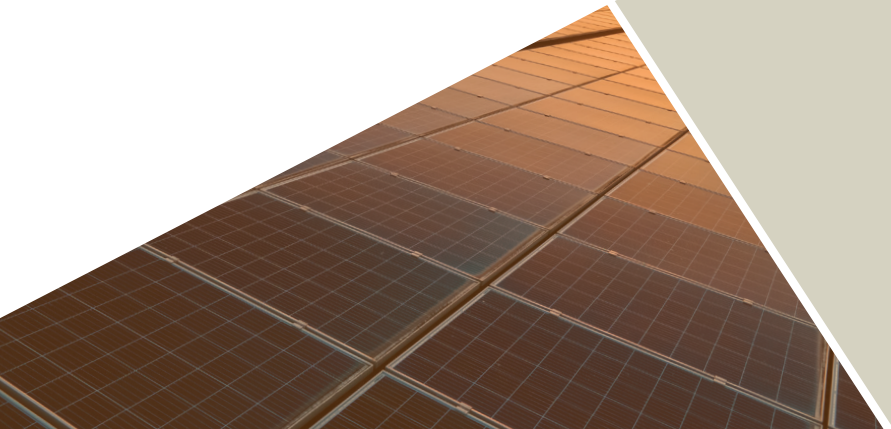
Freephone information line: 0808 175 4004

Freepost: FS PCR CONSULTATION

Website: www.frodshamsolar.co.uk

Should anybody require any documents in an alternative format, such as translated language, large print, audio or braille, then please contact us at the details provided.

All graphics and maps in this document are for illustrative purposes only.



Frodsham Solar
Phase One Consultation

Peel Cubico RENEWABLES

Thursday 01 June – Thursday 13 July 2023

Please come to our drop-in community information events to find out more about our proposals for Frodsham Solar, a solar farm with energy storage located north of Frodsham in Cheshire.

Our team will be at the following events for you to speak to them and ask questions about the proposals for Frodsham Solar.

Venue	Date & Time
Helsby Community Centre Lower Robin Hood Lane, Frodsham, WA6 0BW	**Saturday 17th June** 12pm – 4pm
Christchurch Hall, Weston Point Sandy Lane, Weston Point, Runcorn, WA7 4EU	**Tuesday 20th June** 3pm - 7pm
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Ellesmere Port Library Civic Way, Ellesmere Port, CH65 0BG	Mon, Thurs and Fri: 9am – 7pm Tues and Weds: 9am – 5pm Sat: 9am – 1pm

All project information, including a consultation leaflet, can be found by scanning the QR code or visiting our website at **www.frodshamsolar.co.uk**

If you have any questions about our proposals or our community consultation, please get in touch using the communication lines below:

Visit our website:
www.frodshamsolar.co.uk

Call our Freephone information line:
0808 175 4004

Write to us at:
FS PCR CONSULTATION

Email us at:
info@frodshamsolar.co.uk

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Frodsham Solar
Phase One Consultation Feedback Form

Community Consultation: Thursday 01 June to Thursday 13 July 2023

We want to hear your thoughts on our proposals.

You can provide your written feedback using this form, through our consultation website, or by writing to us via email or freepost:

Email: info@frodshamsolar.co.uk

Freepost: FS PCR CONSULTATION

Website: www.frodshamsolar.co.uk

Please note that the deadline for the submission of feedback is Thursday 13 July 2023 (on or before this date).

Please feel free to include additional sheets of paper alongside this form, if you require more space to fully complete your answers. All feedback received will be considered.

You do not have to supply personal details; however, it will help us work towards meeting the needs of the public during the consultation period and enable us to contact you regarding Frodsham Solar, if appropriate. Your personal details will be stored in compliance with the GDPR by Counter Context, acting on behalf of the Frodsham Solar project team, and will not be shared with any third parties.

About you

Name:

Postcode:

Organisation:
(if applicable)

What is your age?

- ◯ Under 18
- ◯ 18-24
- ◯ 25-34
- ◯ 35-44
- ◯ 45-54
- ◯ 55-64
- ◯ 65-74
- ◯ 75 and over
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Would you like us to keep you updated?

Please let us know if you agree for us to contact you with any future updates regarding the project. This may include sharing with the results of this phase of consultation with you and notifying you of any future consultation opportunities.

If you agree to being contacted, please provide your preferred contact method and your postal and/or email address below.

- ◯ Post
- ◯ Email

Address:

Email address:

General

Q1: How would you describe your interest in Frodsham Solar?

- ◯ Local resident
- ◯ Local representative
- ◯ Landowner
- ◯ Local business owner
- ◯ Regular visitor
- ◯ Local interest group
- ◯ Statutory organisation (if so, please name)
- ◯ Other (please specify)

Q2: As a principle, do you agree there is need to install solar infrastructure?

- ◯ I agree there is a need to install solar infrastructure
- ◯ I do not feel I understand enough about the need to install solar infrastructure
- ◯ I do not agree there is a need to install solar infrastructure

Q3: What are your views on our initial proposals for Frodsham Solar?

- ◯ I support the proposals
- ◯ I would like changes to be made to be able to support the proposals
- ◯ I do not support the proposals
- ◯ I need to see more detailed proposals to come to a judgement
- ◯ I have no opinion

Project specific feedback

Q4: Which aspects of the project are most important to you?

Our team will be developing the proposals for Frodsham Solar by considering a range of different topic areas. This will involve undertaking thorough environmental assessments and exploring various measures and opportunities which could be delivered.

Please note that our initial proposals look to address these topics and are available to view in our Community Consultation Leaflet, available on our website and at our information events.

In the following table, please tick the topic areas you consider to be the most important issues that you would like us to consider. You can refer to these topic areas when responding to Question 5 (Please provide comments on our initial proposals for Frodsham Solar).

Tick Box	Topic area
◯	**Local ecology** *For example, protecting existing wildlife and exploring opportunities to improve ecology and biodiversity across the site area.*
◯	**Landscape and visual** *For example, screening the solar farm from particular local viewpoints.*
◯	**Energy Storage** *For example, ensuring the safety of the on-site Battery Energy Storage System.*
◯	**Archaeology and local heritage** *For example, any ways that our proposals may interact with local heritage sites and the sharing of any archaeological findings.*
◯	**Traffic, access and construction** *For example, managing deliveries and vehicles associated with the solar farm.*
◯	**Land use and agriculture** *For example, how we can best manage the land during the operation of the solar farm, including opportunities for continued agricultural use.*
◯	**Hydrology and flood risk** *For example, considering the interaction with watercourses and rainfall in the local area.*
◯	**Recreation and amenity** *For example, maintaining existing Public Rights of Way and exploring opportunities to deliver new routes and amenities across the site area.*
◯	**Supply chain and employment** *For example, opportunities to involve local businesses and people in the construction and operation of Frodsham Solar.*
◯	**Other (please detail)** *Please list any other key topics that you would like our team to consider:*

Q5: Please provide comments on our initial proposals for Frodsham Solar.

You may choose to expand upon your answers to Question 3 (your overall view of Frodsham Solar) and Question 4 (the topic areas you think are most important for our team to consider).

Q6: Please provide any thoughts or suggestions that would help us to design a community benefits contribution (CBC) package to accompany Frodsham Solar.

Peel Cubico Renewables is committed to working proactively with the local communities within which we operate.

Your response could include suggestions for the type of projects or initiatives you think could benefit from this contribution.

Our consultation process

Q7: How did you find out about this consultation?

- ◯ I received a postcard
- ◯ I saw it advertised in the media
- ◯ Word of mouth
- ◯ Other (please specify)

Q8: Have you attended one of our information events?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No (you can find out about our consultation events at www.frodshamsolar.co.uk)

Q9: Do you prefer to view information online or in person?

- ◯ Online
- ◯ In person
- ◯ A combination of both

Q10: How informative have you found the materials we have shared as part of this first phase of consultation?

- ◯ Very informative
- ◯ Quite informative
- ◯ Not informative
- ◯ No opinion

Q11: Is there anything you would like us to consider for future consultations?

What happens next?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form and provide us with your feedback.

Your comments will be considered alongside our ongoing environmental assessments and technical design work. Collectively, this will inform our proposals for Frodsham Solar.

We are anticipating that our second phase of consultation will be carried out later this year, once we have developed our proposals and we have more detailed information to share.

Get in touch

To return your completed feedback form, you can place it into the feedback form box at an information event. You can also put this feedback form in an envelope and address it to:

FREEPOST FS PCR CONSULTATION. You will not need a stamp.

Alternatively, you can answer the same questions via the online feedback form on our website: **www.frodshamsolar.co.uk**

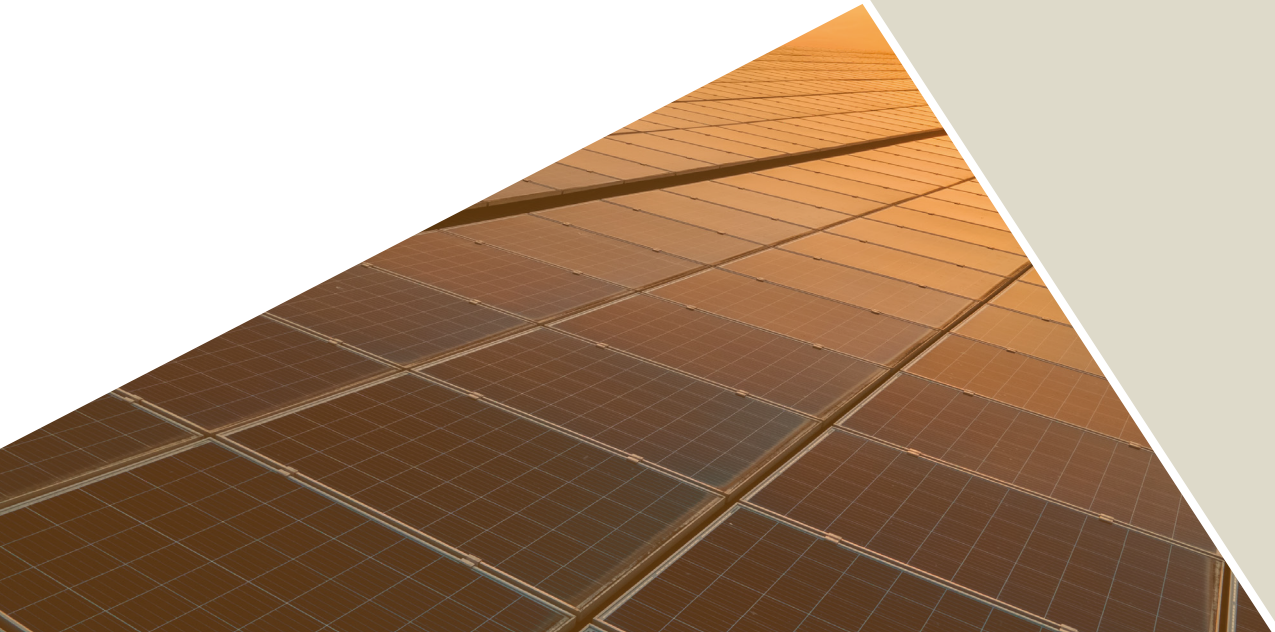
You can contact our team by:

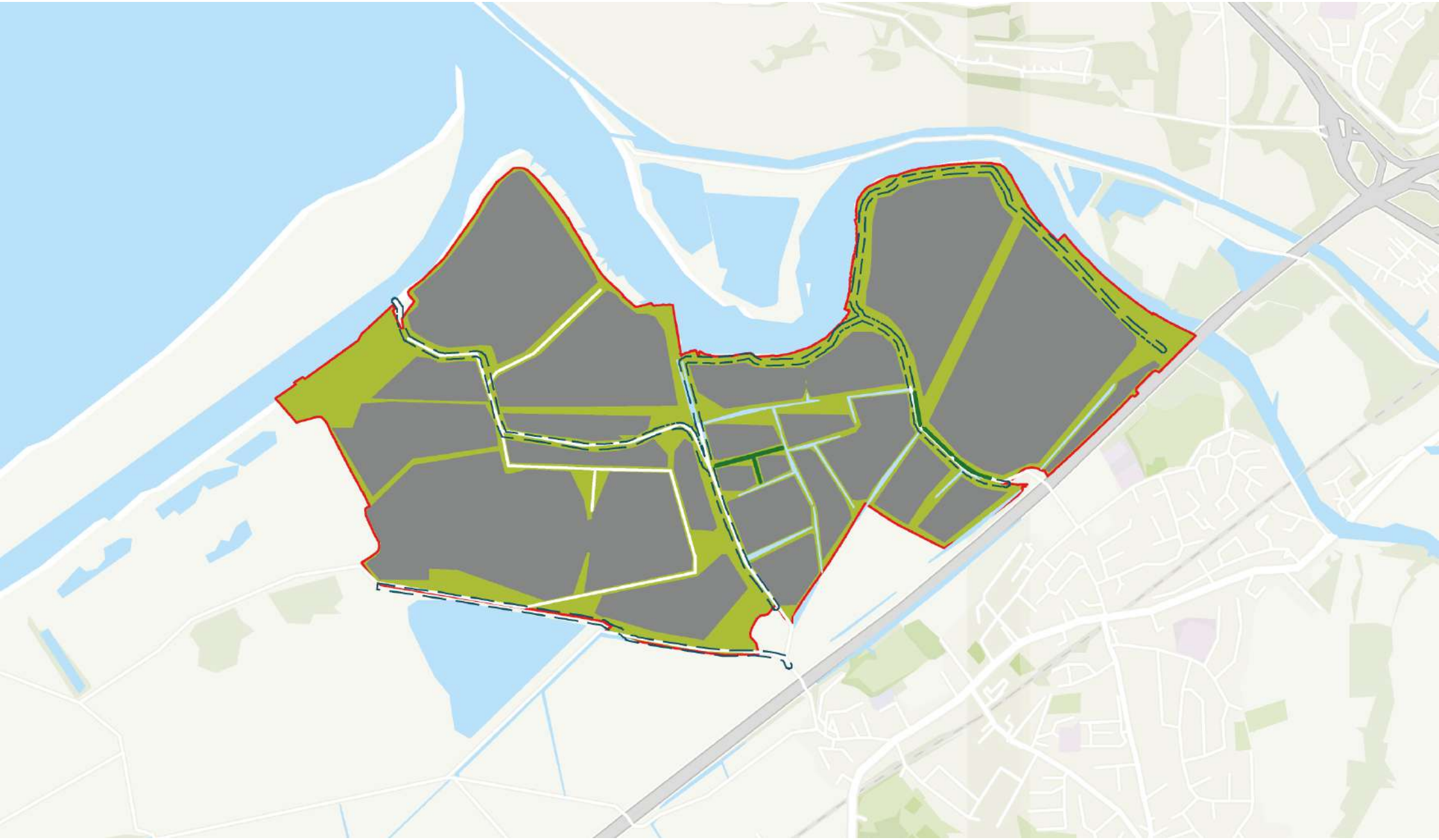
Emailing: info@frodshamsolar.co.uk

Calling our Freephone information line: 0808 175 4004

Writing to: FREEPOST FS PCR CONSULTATION

Visiting our website: www.frodshamsolar.co.uk





Key

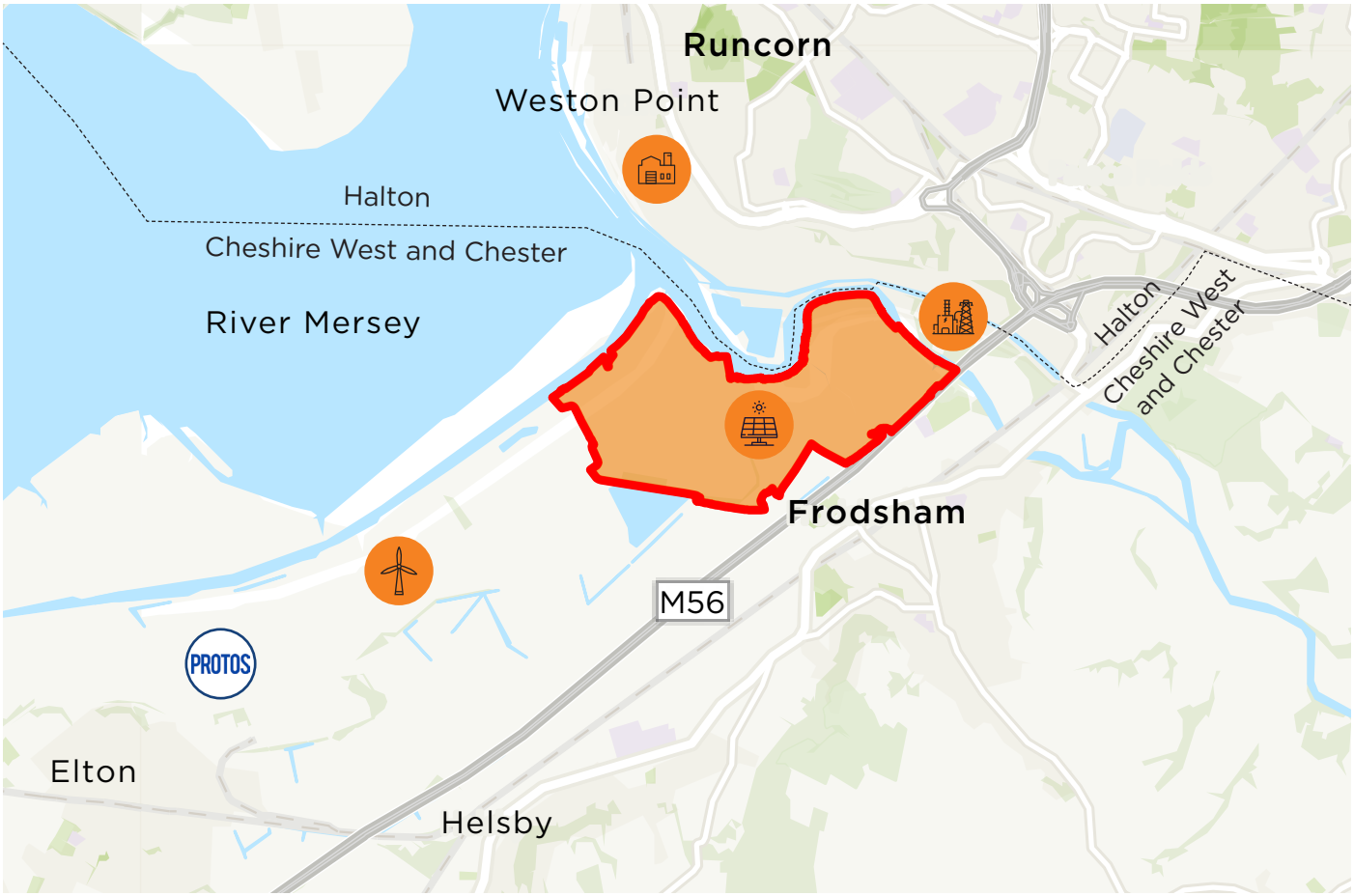
Frodsham Solar

Frodsham Substation

Local Industry

Protos

Western Cluster of Frodsham Wind Farm



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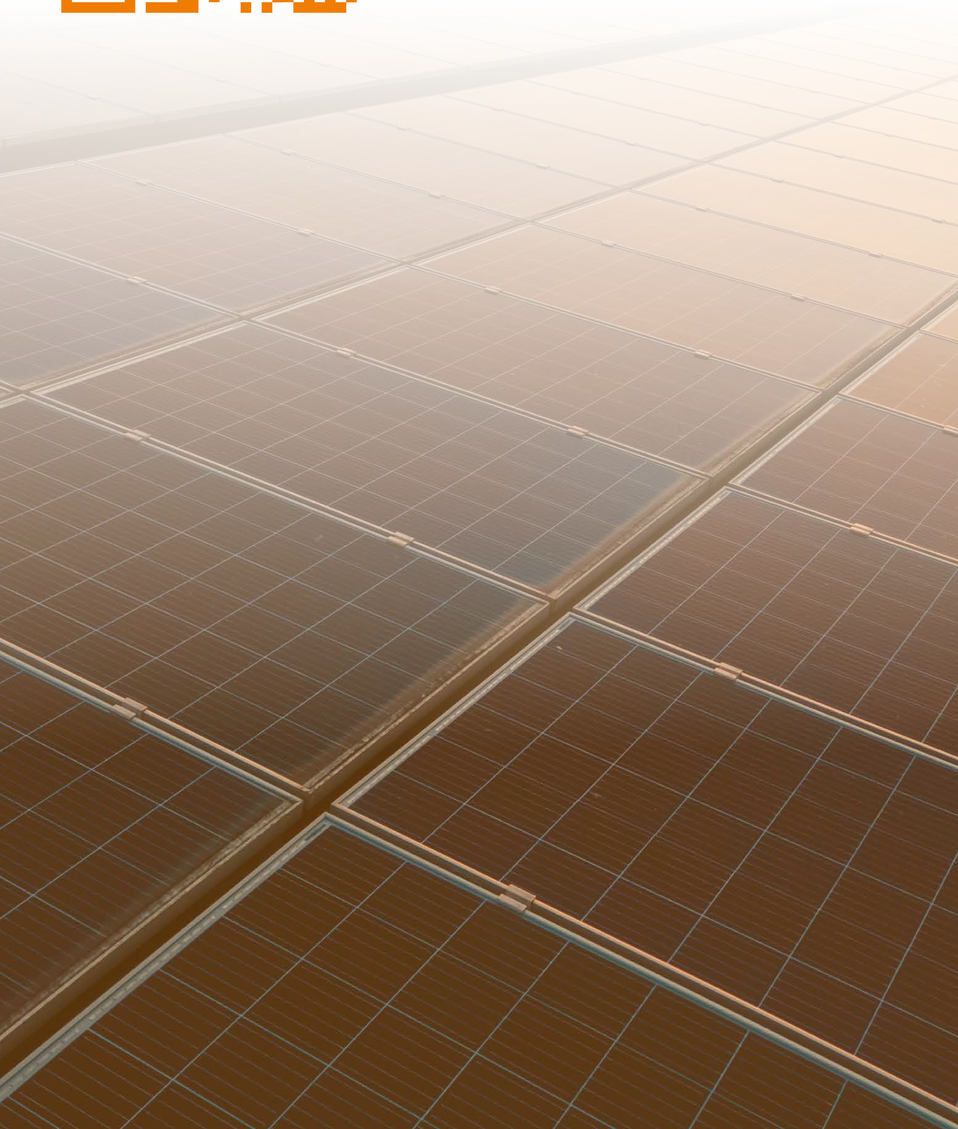
Welcome to our information event for Frodsham Solar

Thank for attending today's event. Please have a look around and speak to members of our team. Remember to please fill in a feedback form so that we can record your views.

You can scan the QR code below to visit our website (www.frodshamsolar.co.uk). Here you can access information on our proposals and provide your comments through an online feedback form.



Frodsham Solar

We are excited to introduce Frodsham Solar, a solar farm with energy storage situated north of Frodsham in Cheshire.

Who We Are

Peel Cubico Renewables is a Joint Venture partnership between natural resources and energy business Peel NRE and global renewable energy company Cubico Sustainable Investments (Cubico).

Peel NRE, part of Peel L&P, is at the heart of the nation's activity around clean growth and the circular economy – helping the UK achieve net zero by 2050 and supporting regions in their actions to achieve climate emergency targets.

Cubico has nearly 3 Gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy projects installed across 12 countries in Europe, the Americas and Australia, with around 3 GW in construction and development. It brings expertise in financing, route to market, construction and operation.

Our Mission is to accelerate change to combat the climate crisis.

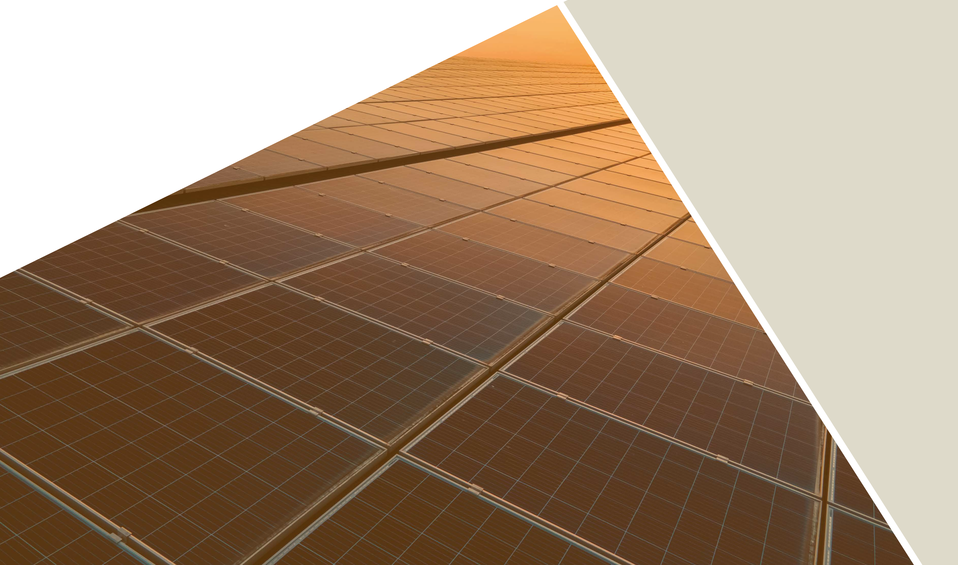
Our aim is to provide a significant amount of clean renewable electricity for businesses and homes in the region. In doing so, Frodsham Solar supports national and regional aims to decarbonise our electricity systems and bolster our energy security.

Frodsham Solar could support:

NET ZERO NORTH WEST

Cheshire energy hub

Invest Net Zero Cheshire



Why Here?

Frodsham Solar would be situated at the heart of the Cheshire's Energy Innovation District, a corridor of industry providing and developing a mix of secure, low carbon and lower cost energy technologies, including wind and hydrogen.

Frodsham Solar would sit centrally within the **Energy Innovation District**, enabling Frodsham Solar to produce power in an area that currently consumes around 5% of the UK's energy.

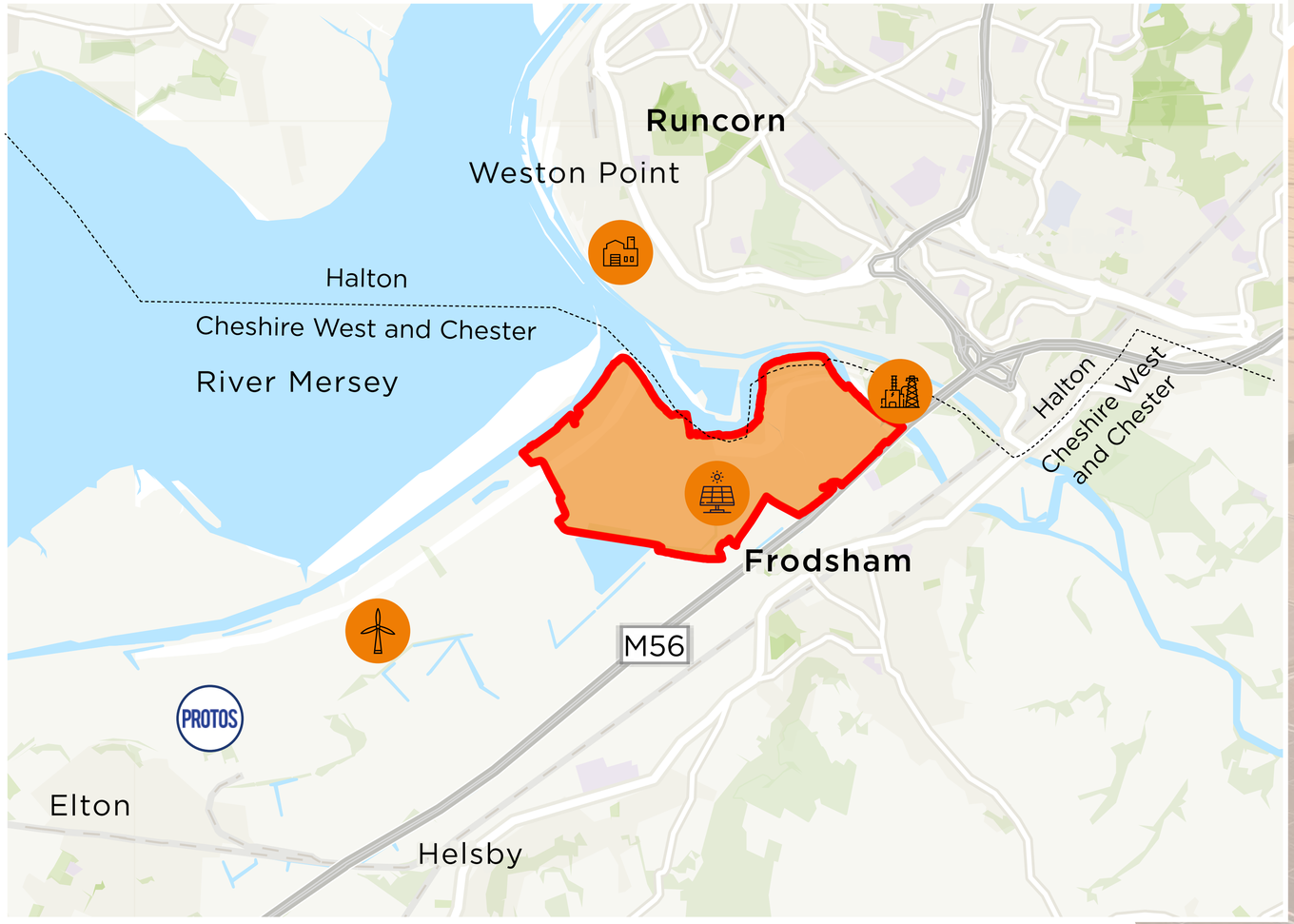
The North West industrial area is one of the largest emitters of carbon dioxide, and so the UK government has prioritised the need to decarbonise the sector.

Frodsham Solar would support both the **Net Zero North West Industrial Cluster** and **Invest Net Zero Cheshire** through meeting targets and allowing for direct power to local businesses.

A range of environmental and technical factors indicate the site is a suitable location for a solar farm. These include the topography (being relatively flat), existing land uses being compatible, presence of low-grade agricultural land, our understanding of potential environmental constraints, and existing access for construction vehicles which avoids residential areas.

Frodsham Solar sits within an area of existing infrastructure, including Frodsham Wind Farm, and bordered by the M56, Mersey Estuary, River Weaver and the Manchester Ship Canal.

The site is also in close proximity to the grid connection at the existing Frodsham Substation, located adjacent to the site across the River Weaver, and clusters of local industry which are significant regional users of energy. This allows us to easily supply renewable electricity to where it is needed.



Frodsham Solar Site Location Map

Key

- Frodsham Solar
- Frodsham Substation
- Local Industry
- Protos
- Western Cluster of Frodsham Wind Farm

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The Opportunity

Current proposals for Frodsham Solar have an indicative capacity of around 150 MW.

Frodsham Solar could directly **power local industry** through new individual connections.

Frodsham Solar will be able to export up to 100 MW of **clean, reliable, home-grown electricity** to the local distribution network. For context, 100 MW is enough enough power for 34,000 homes[1].

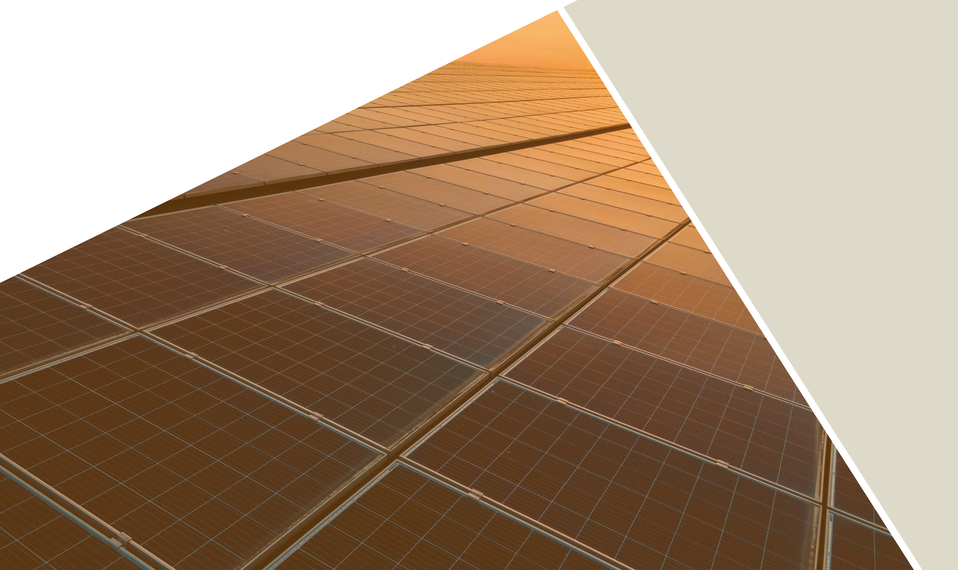
Frodsham Solar will be located alongside other renewable and low carbon technologies, such as Frodsham Wind Farm, and the proposals include energy storage to allow for the electricity generated by the panels to be stored and distributed when it is needed, **increasing the resilience of our energy supply.**

Frodsham Solar could provide opportunities for **enhanced public access and recreation.**

Frodsham Solar could **boost local biodiversity** such as by establishing wildflower areas that provide habitats for pollinators and birds, enhancing wetland habitats and restoring hedgerows and native species.

Frodsham Solar could help **support the delivery of the world's first net zero industrial cluster,** increasing job opportunities as a result of a local low-carbon green economy.

[1] Based on Ofgem's figure of a medium UK house having a typical annual electricity use of 2,900 kWh.



Frodsham Solar and the Community

We are committed to working proactively with the local communities within which we operate.

Frodsham Solar will be accompanied by a **tailored package of benefits contributions** for the local community.

To make this happen, we will:
- Engage early, often, and consistently
- Listen to and respect everyone's views
- Forego formulaic approaches
- Foster ideas and commitment
- Encourage local governance of any funds

We want to hear your thoughts and ideas about how a community benefits package could contribute to the local community.

You can find out more about our commitment to community involvement on Peel Cubico Renewables' website: **https://peelcubico.co.uk/communities**

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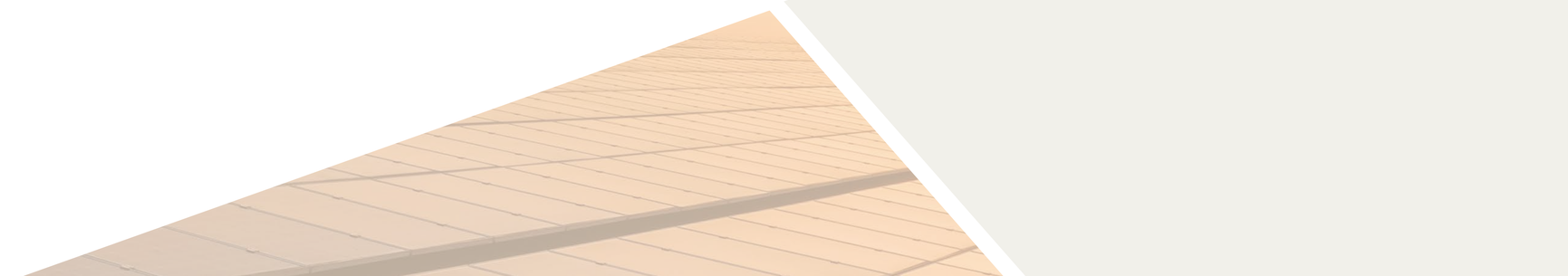

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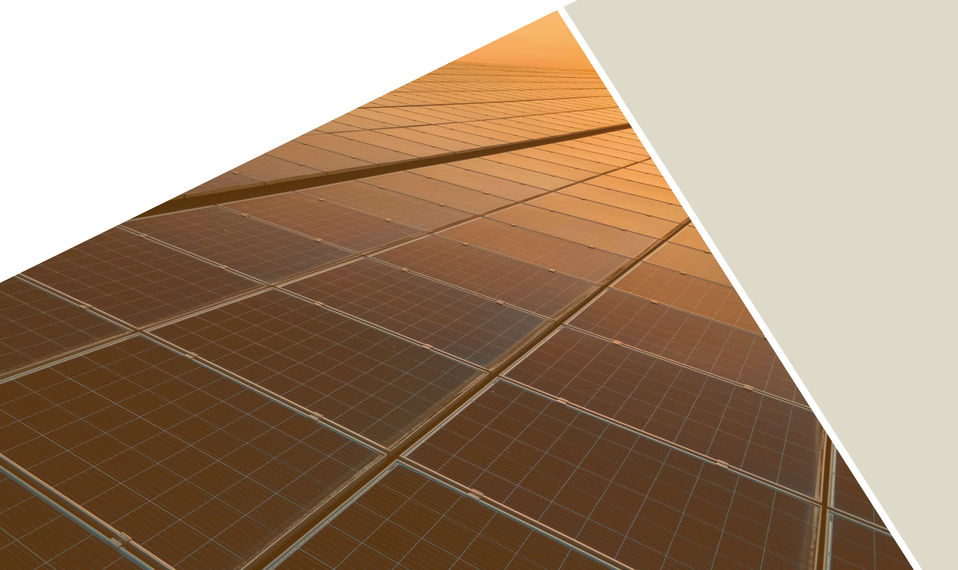
Our Design Principles

We want to ensure that the project is sensitively designed in response to its surroundings. As such, our team has established a number of design principles that will guide our design and mitigate potential environmental impacts.

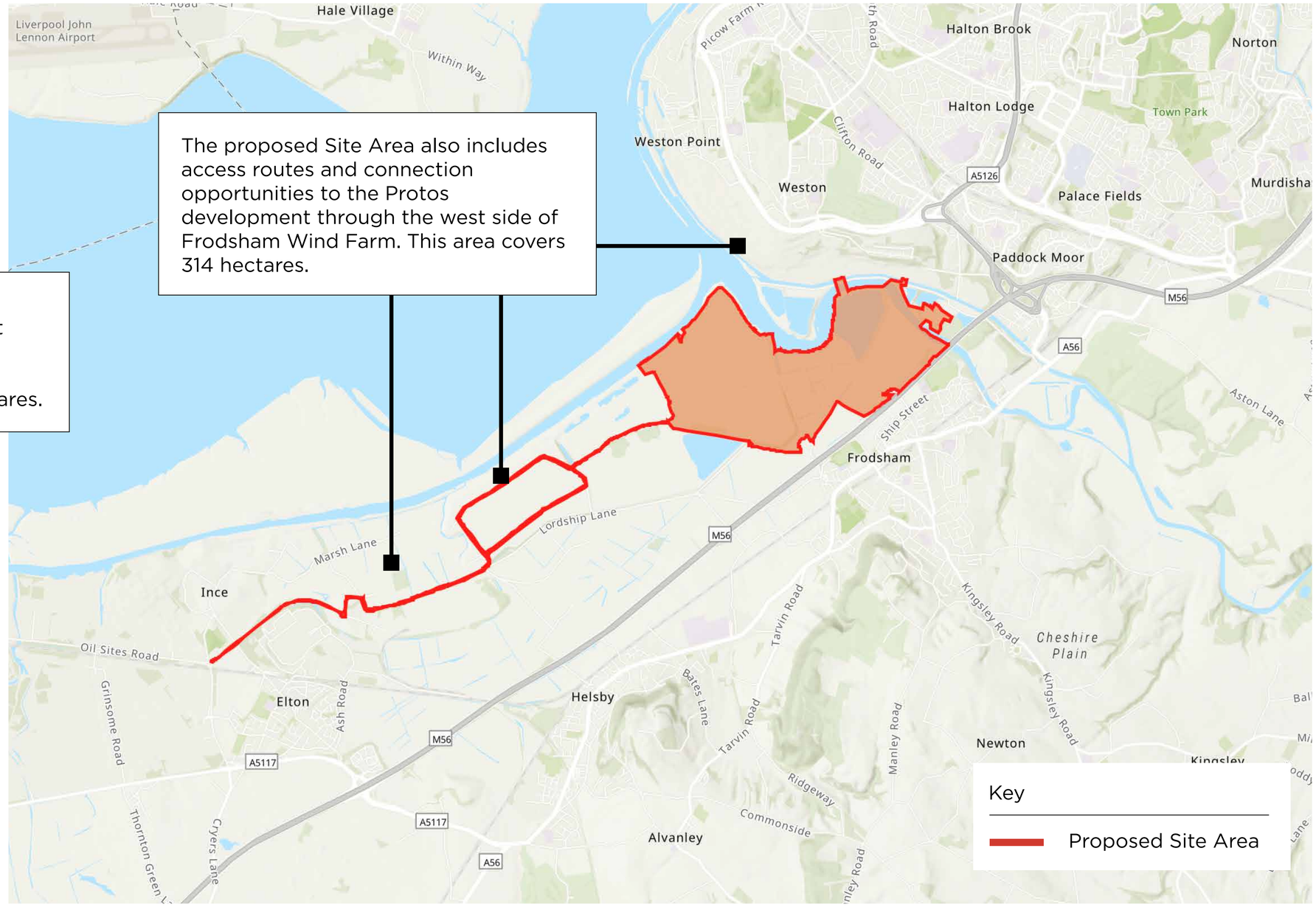
Our design principles include:

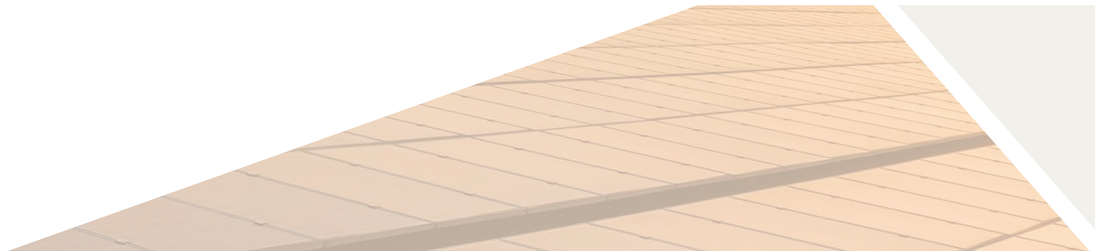
- Minimising the use of non-recyclable materials such as concrete, instead using recyclable materials such as steel.
- Including a minimum distance between existing and potential public rights of way to protect and preserve access to and across the site.
- Siting all critical infrastructure either away from any areas in Flood Zone 3, or site the infrastructure above flood levels.
- Utilising existing ditch crossings and gaps in hedges for access where possible.
- Managing the movement of traffic sensitively to avoid the village of Frodsham, utilising the existing Protos and Frodsham Wind Farm access roads and some of the access points.
- Retaining existing hedgerows and ditches where possible, as well as implementing additional screening where appropriate. Some small sections of hedgerow may be removed for cable crossings.
- Exploring continued agricultural practices on site such as sheep grazing.
- Assuming a maximum height of the panels including their supports to be 3.5 metres, and a minimum height of the panels' edge of 0.7 metres above ground level.



Proposed Site Area

The shaded area represents the proposed Solar Array Development Area and connection points to Frodsham Substation and to local industry. This area covers 290 hectares.





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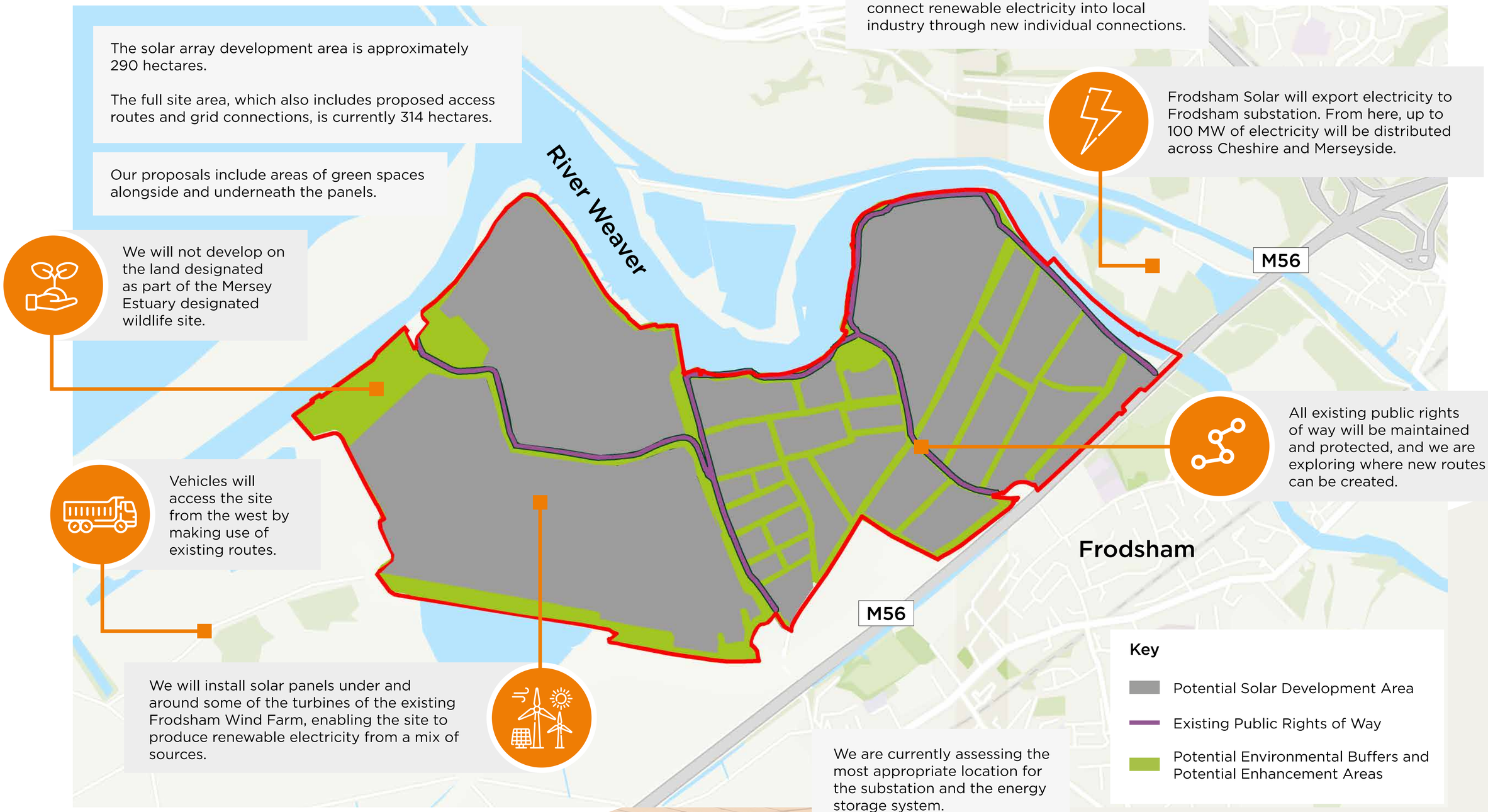
Our Proposals

We are at an early stage of developing our proposals for Frodsham Solar.



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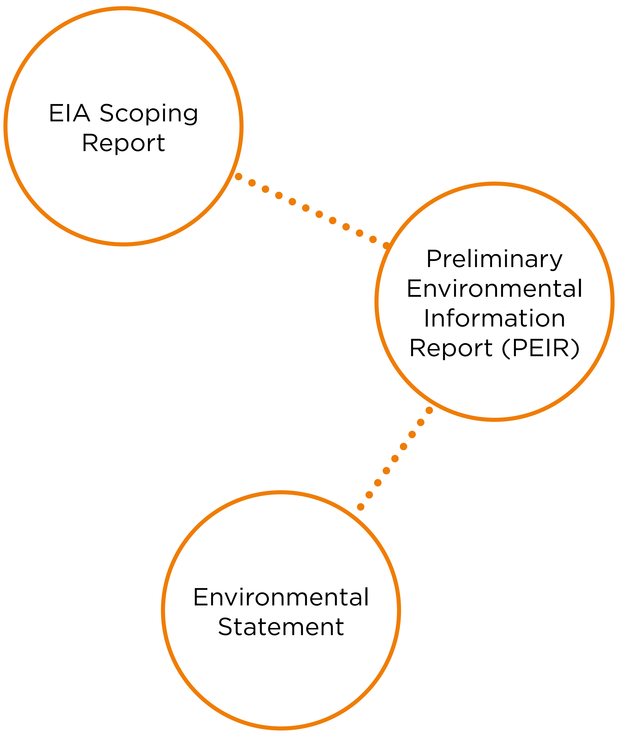
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

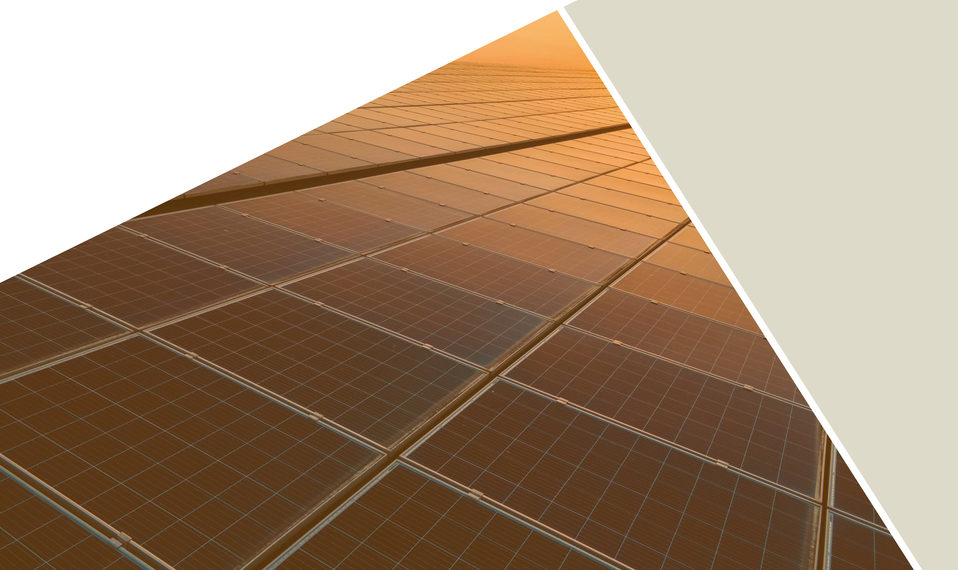
A thorough Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be carried out for Frodsham Solar.

The EIA consists of environmental surveys such as assessing the quality of the land, landscape and visual impacts and the impact on local ecology and wildlife.

We have been carrying out environmental assessments since the start of the year and these remain ongoing. The initial findings of the assessments will be published in the project's Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which will be shared as part of our second phase of consultation, anticipated for the end of 2023.

These assessments will ensure that impacts of the scheme are well understood and adverse impacts are appropriately mitigated. The assessments will also identify the opportunity to enhance the quality of environmental features within the site.





The DCO Process

Frodsham Solar is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) given the amount of clean renewable electricity that the project will be able to generate. If the application is successful, it will be given a Development Consent Order (DCO).

The final decision of whether the project gets consent will be decided by the relevant Secretary of State.

Whilst Frodsham Solar will not be decided by Cheshire West and Chester Council or Halton Borough Council, they will both be important consultees. The DCO process is thorough and requires us to demonstrate how the project has undertaken meaningful consultation and extensive environmental assessments. Local councils, councillors and the community play a vital role in the pre-application process, and we are committed to engaging openly throughout.

We are undertaking an iterative consultation process for Frodsham Solar. The feedback and information we receive will help inform the design of the project. We have recently published our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) which provides further detail on how we plan to consult with the local community and can be found on our website: www.frodshamsolar.co.uk

For further information on the DCO application process, please see here: **https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process/**

Stages of the NSIP application process

1. Pre-Application ← **WE ARE HERE**
2. Acceptance
3. Pre-examination
4. Examination
5. Recommendation and Decision
6. Post Decision

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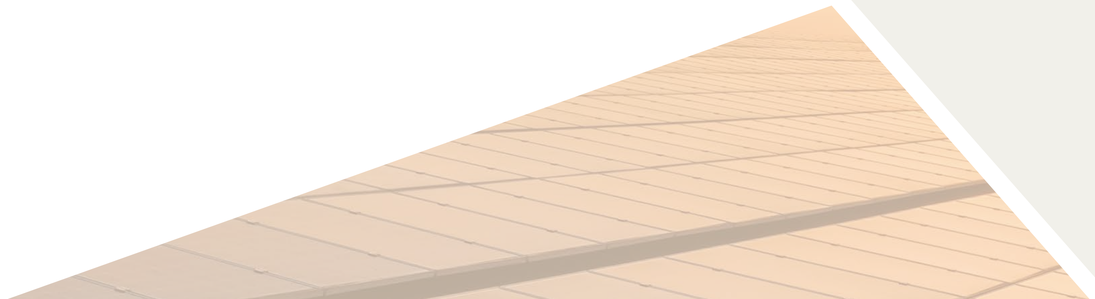

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Indicative Project Timeline

Early Summer 2023: Publication of Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

Early Summer 2023: Public communication of proposals and opening of communications channels.

Summer 2023: Phase One consultation on initial proposals.

Summer 2023: EIA Scoping Report and Opinion.

Autumn 2023: Feedback analysis, interim reporting and ongoing engagement.

Winter 2023: Phase two consultation on more detailed proposals and Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR).

Spring 2024: DCO Application & PINS Acceptance decision.

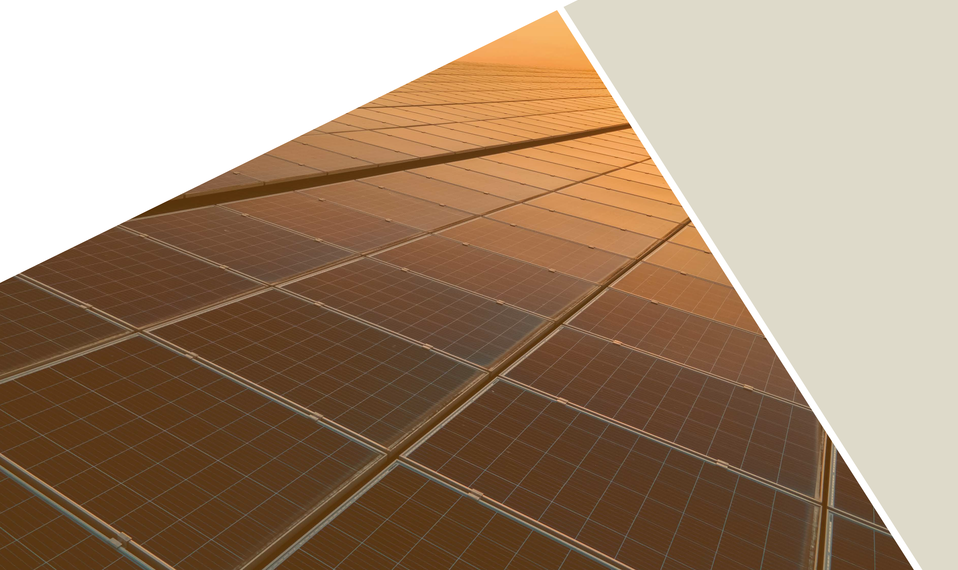
Summer 2024 - Spring 2025: PINS Examination.

Autumn 2025: Secretary of State Decision.

2026: Construction

All future dates are indicative and subject to change.

2028: Frodsham Solar becomes operational.



Have Your Say

Our Phase One Consultation for Frodsham Solar will run until Thursday 13 July 2023.

We want to hear your feedback on our proposals. We welcome your views on any aspect of the project

You can have your say by:

- filling in a feedback form at one of our in-person community information events
- completing our online feedback form on our website: www.frodshamsolar.co.uk
- posting a feedback form or writing to us free of charge via our freepost address: FREEPOST FS PCR CONSULTATION. You do not need a stamp.
- emailing us at info@frodshamsolar.co.uk

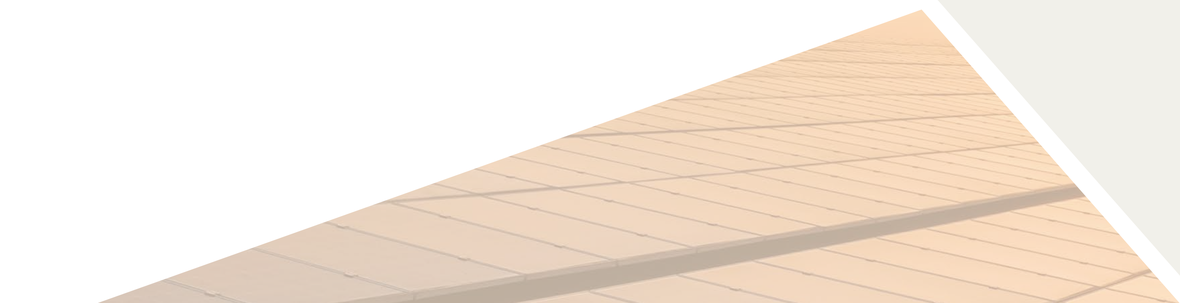
Further information regarding Frodsham Solar can be found by scanning our QR code or on our website: www.frodshamsolar.co.uk

To find out more, please contact a member of our team using any of our communications lines:

Email: info@frodshamsolar.co.uk

Freephone information line: 0808 175 4004

Freepost: FS PCR CONSULTATION



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