

### Dean Moor Solar Farm

Consultation Report: Appendices 1-3

on behalf of FVS Dean Moor Limited

March 2025

Prepared by: Stantec UK Ltd

PINS Ref: EN010155 Document Ref: 5.2

Revision: 1





### DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM CONSULTATION REPORT APPENDICES PLANNING INSPECTORATE REFERENCE EN010155 PREPARED ON BEHALF OF FVS DEAN MOOR LIMITED

Regulation: SECTION 37(3)(C) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008

APFP REGULATION 5(2)(Q)

**INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS: PRESCRIBED** 

FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009

Project Ref:	EN010155/Consultation Report Appendix 1-3		
Status:	Final		
Issue/ Rev:	1		
Date:	March 2025		



### 1.1 Purpose of the Appendices

- 1.1.1 The Consultation Report Appendices provide supporting information for the Consultation Report [REF: 5.1]. The Consultation Report has been prepared by FVS Dean Moor Limited (the Applicant) as part of an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for Dean Moor Solar Farm (the Proposed Development).
- 1.1.2 This report is submitted in accordance with section 37(3)(c) of the Planning Act 2008, which requires that any application for development consent must include a consultation report.
- 1.1.3 The appendices contain evidence and supplementary material that support the information presented in the Consultation Report.

### 1.2 Structure of the Appendices

- 1.2.1 The appendices are numbered to correspond with the chapters of the Consultation Report and, where possible, follow the order in which they are referenced.
- 1.2.2 For ease of reference, a complete list of appendices is provided in Table A-1 below.

### **List of Appendices**

Appendix	Document
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Appendix 2.2	Evidence of publication of project launch press release
Appendix 2.3	Project launch information letter
Appendix 2.4	Primary consultation zone
Appendix 2.5	Stakeholder correspondence list
Appendix 2.6	Correspondence sent out as part of project launch
Appendix 2.7	Presentations to ward councillor
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Appendix 2.11	Non-statutory consultation feedback form
Appendix 2.12	Non-statutory consultation exhibition boards
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Appendix 2.15	Press release sent ahead of non-statutory consultation
Appendix 2.16	Non-statutory consultation Meta Facebook/Instagram adverts
Appendix 2.17	Non-statutory consultation Meta Facebook/Instagram consultation zone

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Appendix	Document
Appendix 2.18	Example of invitations to local groups and organisations
Appendix 2.19	December 2023 presentation to Cumberland Council Climate and
	Nature Advisory Group



### 2.1 Project launch press release

Dean Moor Solar Farm to generate enough energy to power over 50,000 homes<sup>1</sup> per annum.

Firma Vogt Solar has announced plans to develop and operate Dean Moor Solar Farm, a proposed new solar farm and battery storage facility between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria. It is anticipated that Dean Moor Solar Farm would have a capacity of up to 150MW of renewable energy — enough to power over 50,000 typical family homes every year. The battery facility will reinforce the power generated by the solar farm and provide balancing services to maintain grid stability.

Dean Moor Solar Farm is a joint venture between Firma Energy Ltd and ib vogt UK Ltd, coming together under Firma Vogt Solar. It will be situated between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria.

The proposals will include solar PV arrays and battery storage facilities, as well as considerable areas for landscape planting and ecological enhancements. The land is currently used for agricultural grazing, which will be able to continue beneath the solar panels.

The UK Government and Cumberland Council have both declared Climate Emergencies in response to the climate crisis. In April 2022 the Government's British Energy Security Strategy set an ambition to increase the UK's solar capacity from 14GW to 70GW by 2035. National Grid also estimates that this will require a twelve-fold increase in storage capacity by 2050. Dean Moor Solar Farm will play a key role in helping the UK achieve energy independence, meet our Net Zero obligations, and combat the current energy crisis, while providing energy storage and investment in local energy infrastructure.

Firma Vogt Solar will shortly be undertaking their first phase of public consultation in Autumn 2023, to give local residents and communities the opportunity to find out more about the proposals and give their feedback.

We aim to work with local communities to maximise the local benefits delivered by the project. We are pleased to offer a £500,000 benefit fund which, subject to receiving planning consents, we will utilise for the local community. We are currently engaging with local partners to identify potential projects we can assist with.

To find out more about Dean Moor Solar farm please visit the website: <a href="https://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com</a>.

### **END**

**Note to Editors** 

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based upon average domestic electricity consumption per home (temperature corrected) as per Energy Consumption in the UK (published September 2021, Table C9 of ECUK: Consumption data tables)



### Firma Energy

Founded in 2021 by Rufus Salter and Andrew Jones, Firma is an independent management owned business, based in Leeds. The business has a focus on creating and delivering value from renewable energy developments with environmental and social benefits.

Across the UK Firma currently has over 260 megawatts (MW) of Solar Farm and 347MW of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in development.

### lb vogt

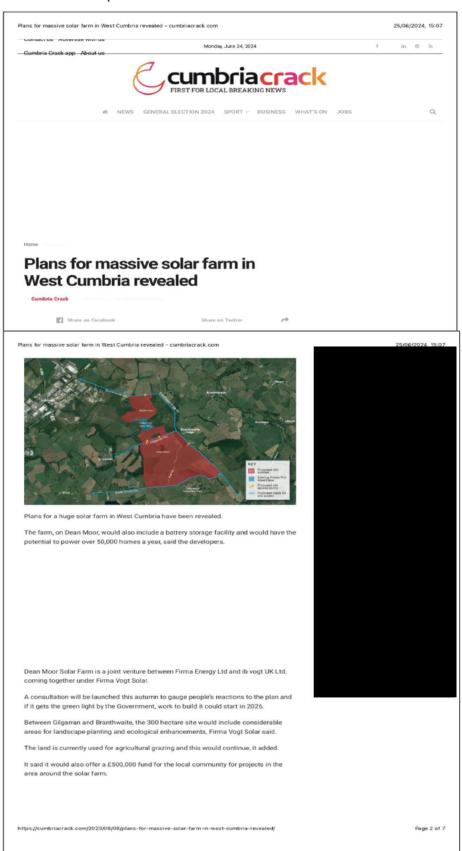
ib vogt (IBV) is a leading developer specialising in utility-scale infrastructure for solar photovoltaic (PV) farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). With a 20-year history of global expertise, we have been a significant player in the UK solar industry, holding the position of the second-largest solar developer in the country from 2012 to 2017 and with over 40GW of development projects in the pipeline globally.

At ib vogt we are committed to sustainable energy and high-quality local development, a commitment solidified by our participation in the UN Global Compact. With over 490MWp of solar operations in the UK our projects are designed and delivered with consideration for communities at their core. Through transparent communication and investment in local employment, we strive to empower local resilience while addressing the global challenges of climate change. Our focus on development and engineering excellence supports our mission to create a greener future through renewable energy solutions.



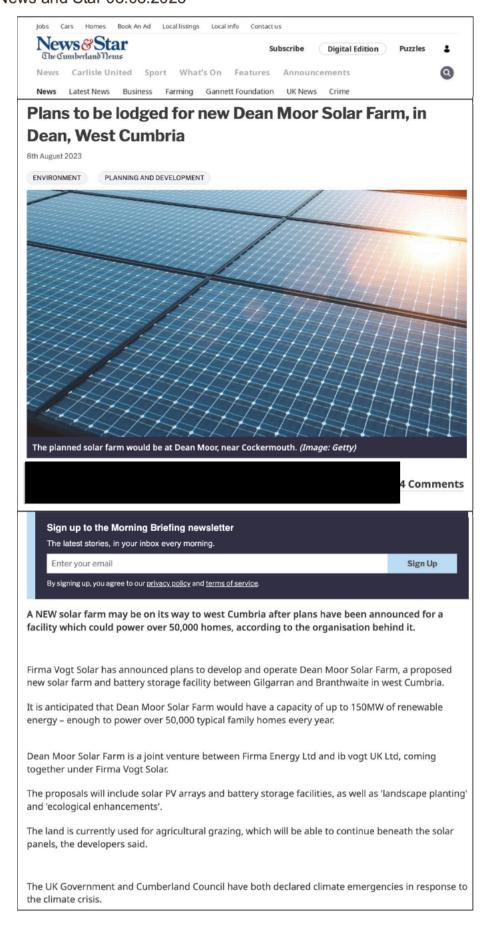
### 2.2 Evidence of publication of project launch press release

2.2.1 Cumbria Crack publication 08.08.2023





### 2.2.3 News and Star 08.08.2023





In April 2022 the Government's British Energy Security Strategy set an ambition to increase the UK's solar capacity from 14GW to 70GW by 2035. National Grid also estimates that this will require a twelve-fold increase in storage capacity by 2050.

Firma Vogt Solar will shortly be undertaking their first phase of public consultation in Autumn 2023, to give local residents and communities the opportunity to find out more about the proposals and give their feedback.

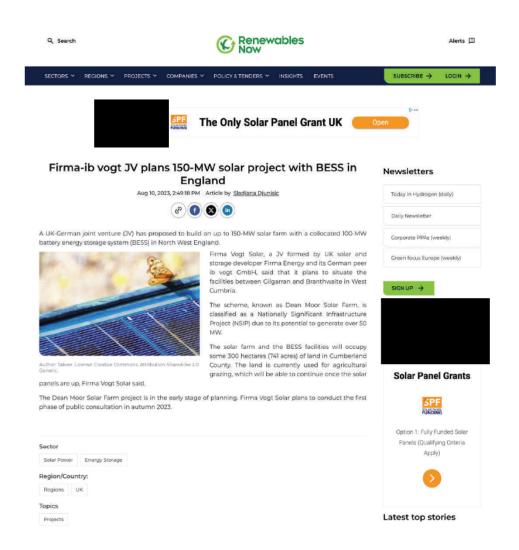
A spokesman said: "We aim to work with local communities to maximise the local benefits delivered by the project.

"We are pleased to offer a £500,000 benefit fund which, subject to receiving planning consents, we will utilise for the local community.

"We are currently engaging with local partners to identify potential projects we can assist with."

ENVIRONMENT PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

### 2.2.4 Renewables Now 10.08.2023



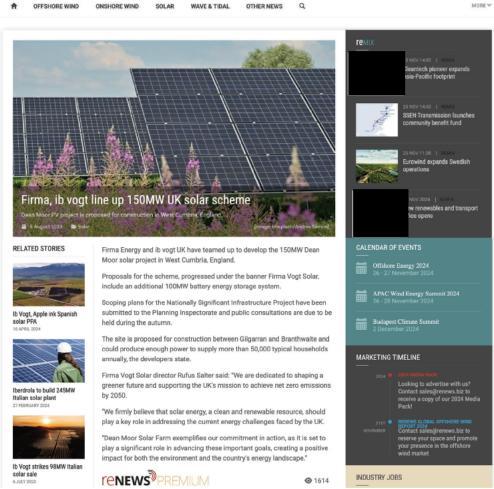
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### 2.2.5 Renews.biz 10.08.2023



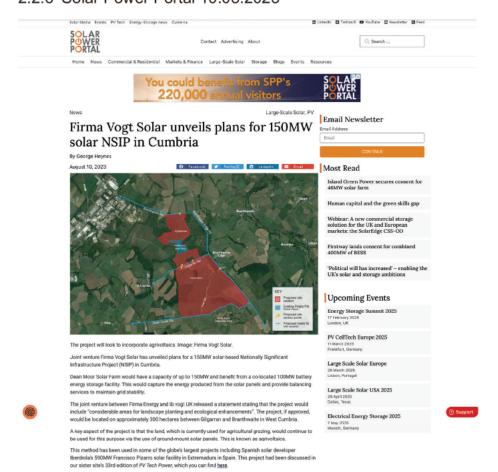


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### 2.2.6 Solar Power Portal 10.08.2023



Dean Moor Solar Farm would additionally look to include a package of community benefits. This has seen the developers offer a £500,000 benefit fund which, subject to receiving planning consents, would be utilised for

The next stage of the project will see Firma Vogt Solar conduct its first phase of public consultation in the

Firms Vogt Solar is declicated to shaping a greener future and supporting the UK's mission to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. We firmly believe that solar energy, a clean and renewable resource, should play a key role in addressing the current energy challenges faced by the UK's said Rufus Salter, director of Firms Vogt Solar. Dean Moor Solar Farm exemplifies our commitment in action, as it is set to play a significant role in advancing these important poals, creating a positive impact for both the environment and the country's energy

This solar project becomes the latest NSIP to be proposed following renewable energy company Boom Power's plans to develop a 237-5MM co-located solar NSIP in Ferwick, Doncaster, as covered by Solar Power Portal in June.

Salar Power Portal's publisher Solar Media will be organising the 11th annual edition of Large Scale Solar Europe In Lisbon, Portugal during 21-22 March 2024. The event will explore the future solar markets of Portugal, Spain and talay and with panels around securing faster grid connection, solar-wind hybrid projects and the integration of storage with solar PV among others.

"local community enhancement".

Dean Moor Solar Farm: Consultation Report Appendices: Ref 5.2



### 2.2.7 Times and Star 08.08.2023



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### 2.3 Project launch information letter

2.3.1 Information letter sent to nearest identified households

Appendices: Ref 5.2



As one of our nearest neighbours, we would be happy to arrange a call or a house visit to answer any questions you may have. Please email info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com or call us on 0800 041 8643 and we will be happy to arrange this for you.



### **CLEAN ENERGY FOR CUMBRIA**

Clean energy for over 50,000 homes\* and a brighter future





### Dear neighbour,

I am writing to you to let you know about our early-stage proposals for a solar farm with battery energy storage at Dean Moor, between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in Cumberland County. We would like to provide you with some background information and explain how you can find out more.

### What is being proposed?

We are proposing to develop and operate a 150 MW solar farm and battery storage facility between Gilgarran and Branthwaite. It is anticipated that Dean Moor Solar Farm would generate enough clean energy to power over 50,000 typical family homes every year it is in operation. The battery facility will reinforce the power generated by the solar farm and provide balancing services to maintain grid stability.



### The benefits to Cumbria

In addition to providing a source of clean electricity and energy storage, Dean Moor solar farm will also provide opportunities for local employment and local spend during the construction and operational phases of the project and will deliver significant biodiversity and ecological enhancements to improve aspects of the local environment. The land at Dean Moor is currently used for grazing, and the land will continue to be grazed for the duration of the proposal - ensuring there will be no removal of the current land use. We are also developing a package of measures designed to directly benefit the surrounding local communities.

\*Based upon average domestic electricity consumption per home (temperature corrected) as per Energy Consumption in the UK (published September 2021, Table C9 of ECUK: Consumption data tables).



### Why are we doing this?

We need to reduce our reliance on foreign fossil fuels to fight climate change and the cost-of-living crisis. In April 2022 the Government's British Energy Security Strategy set an ambition to increase the UK's solar capacity from 14GW to 70GW by 2035. National Grid also estimates that this will require a twelve-fold increase in storage capacity by 2050. Dean Moor Solar Farm would play a role in helping the UK achieve energy independence, meet our Net Zero obligations, and combat the current energy crisis, while providing energy storage and investment in local energy infrastructure.

### How to find out more?

Whilst our proposals remain at a relatively early stage, we have created a project website with answers to many typically asked questions about the project www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com.

We are proposing to hold our first phase of public consultation in Autumn 2023 where you will have the opportunity to hear more about the proposals and tell us what you think about them. We will be holding in-person and online consultation events and we will write to you closer to the time to confirm event dates and locations, and to provide more information about the proposals.

### Contact us



(A) 0800 041 8643



@ info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com



mww.deanmoorsolarfarm.com

If you would like to write to us, please send your comments to 'FREEPOST DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM' (no additional postage or address is required).

Director. FVS Dean Moor Ltd



2	3	2	Information	letter	sent to	households	within	consultation zone	1 د
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Dean Moor Solar Farm: Consultation Report Appendices: Ref 5.2



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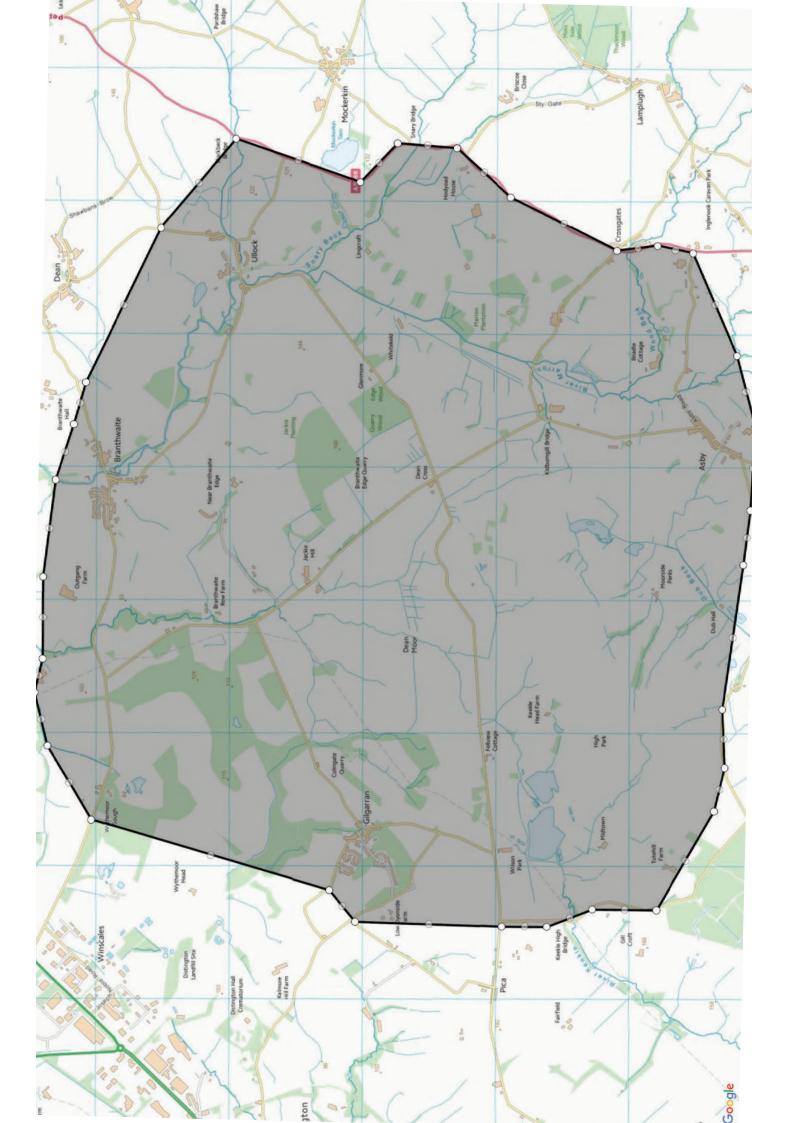
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> Director. FVS Dean Moor Ltd

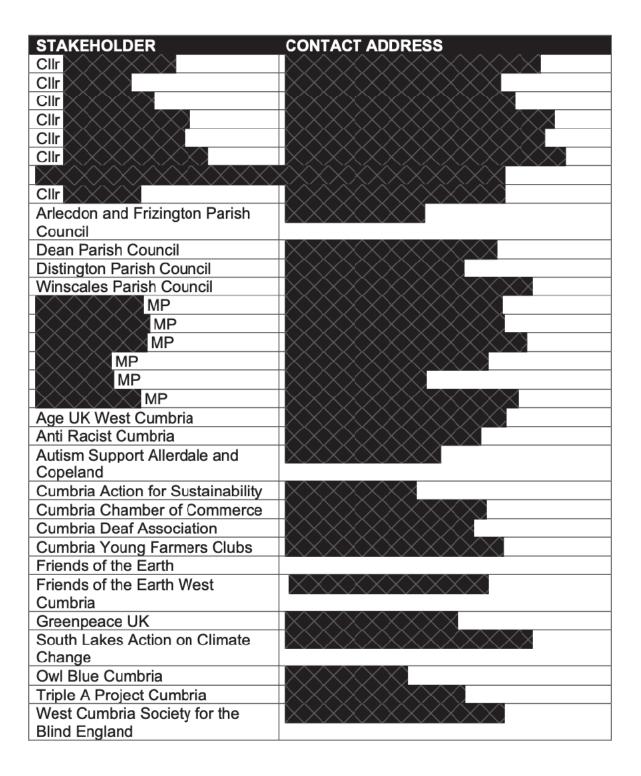


### 2.4 Primary consultation zone





### 2.5. Stakeholder correspondence list





### 2.6 Correspondence sent out as part of project launch

2.6.1 The below template email was sent to the list of stakeholders in appendix 2.5 as part of the project launch on 4 August 2023, accompanied by a copy of Letter 1 in appendix 2.3 above.

Dear XXXXXX.

I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing to you on behalf of FVS Dean Moor Ltd to let you know about our early-stage proposals for a solar farm with battery energy storage at Dean Moor, between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria. We would like to provide you with some background information and explain how you can find out more. I have attached a copy of the early-stage information leaflet which will shortly be sent to local residents, which contains further information on our proposals. We are very keen to ensure that local residents are able to gain all the information that they need about the project.

We will be holding our first phase of public consultation in Autumn 2023, where local residents will have the opportunity to learn more about the proposals and ask any questions they may have. We will be holding both in-person and online consultation events, and we will write closer to the time to confirm event dates and locations, and to provide more information about the proposals.

In the meantime, we would be happy to arrange a call or a meeting to provide further information about the proposals. Please do let us know if this is something that would be of interest.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any questions; enquiries may be directed via our phone at 0800 041 8643, via email at <a href="mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com">info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com</a>, or via our website at <a href="www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com</a>.

Kind regards, XXXXXXX



### 2.7 Presentations to ward councillor

2.7.1 August 2023 presentation





# Dean Moor Solar Farm







## What we will cover

- Introducing FVS Dean Moor
- Our proposals for Dean Moor Solar Farm
  - Project benefits
- EIA Scoping DCO Regime
- Timeline
- Any questions



## Introducing FVS Dean Moor

FVS (Firma Vogt Solar) Dean Moor is a partnership between Firma Energy Ltd and ib vogt UK Ltd.

### Firma Energy

- Firma Energy specialise in developing costeffective clean energy projects with environmental and social benefits.
- Expertise encompasses renewable energy, real estate, and construction backgrounds.
- Established in 2021, independently identify prime sites for zero-carbon future projects.
- Possess over a decade of targeted renewable energy experience.

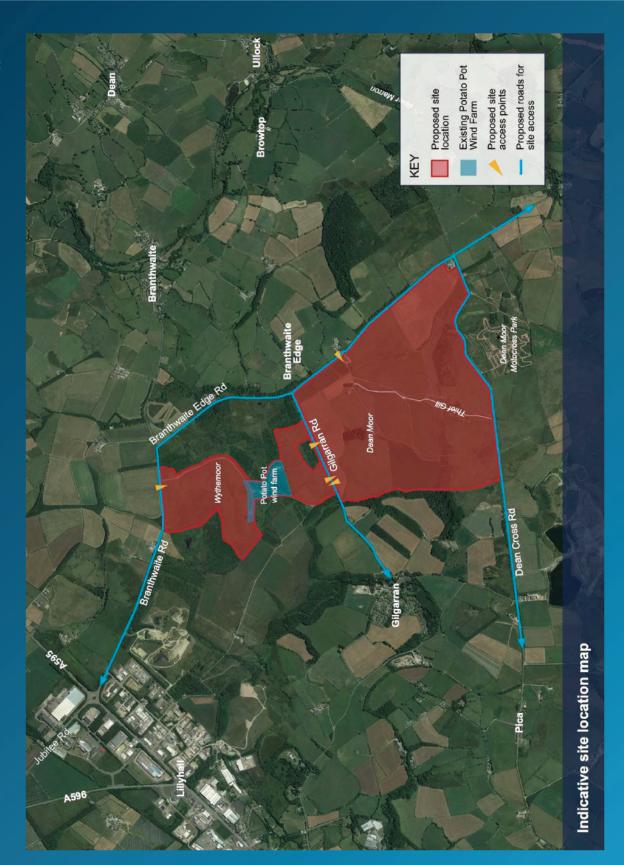
### **Ib vogt**

- IB Vogt (IBV) is a leading developer specialising in utility-scale infrastructure for solar photovoltaic (PV) farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).
- The company has a 20-year history of global expertise in solar energy and BESS development.
- IBV held the position of the second-largest solar developer in the UK from 2012 to 2017.
- The company has over 40GW of development projects in the pipeline globally.
- IBV is committed to sustainable energy and high-quality local development.



### Site Location

Dean Moor solar farm would comprise a grid connected solar farm and battery storage facility on approximately 279.5 hectares (691 acres) of land located between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in Cumbria.

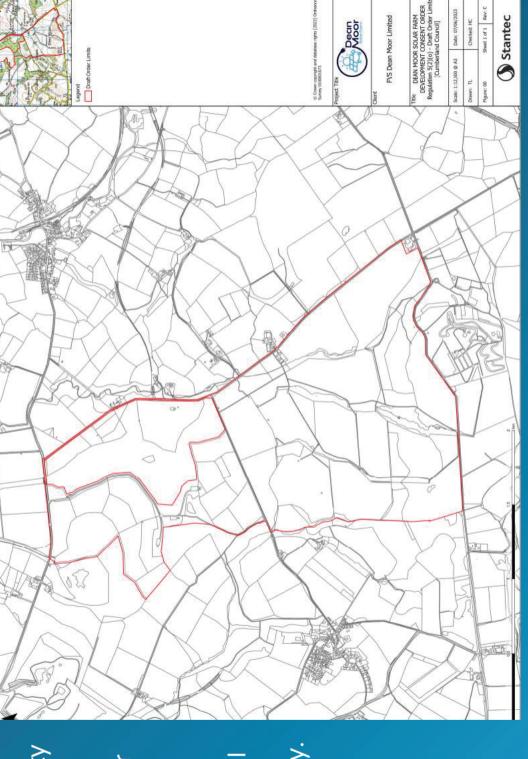




## Overview of our proposals

- Dean Moor solar farm would have a capacity of up to 150MW of renewable energy enough to power over 50,000 typical family homes per year.\*
- The onsite storage will be capable of storing up to 100MW of energy.

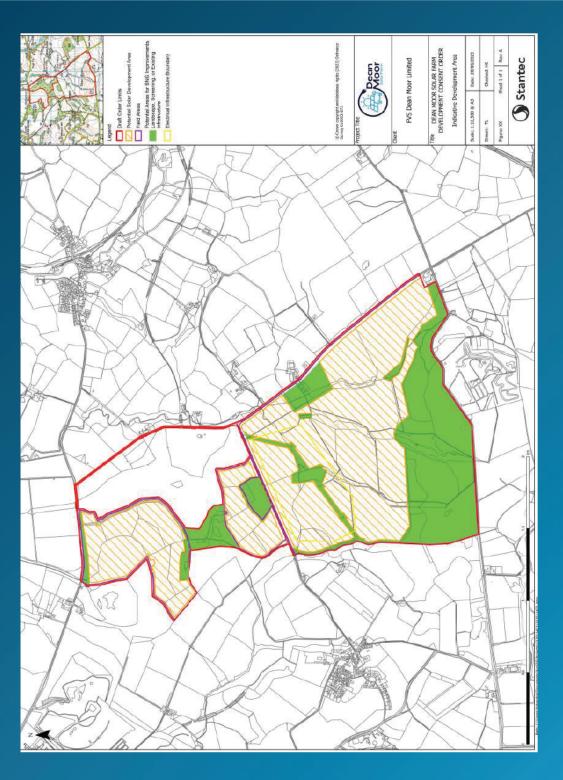
\*Based upon average domestic electricity consumption per home (temperature corrected) as per Energy Consumption in the UK (published September 2021, Table C9 of ECUK: Consumption data tables.





## Overview of our proposals

- Scoping Report Location Plan
- We are still finalising the design of the site (where to place the solar arrays and electrical equipment)
- We are carefully considering how to screen views of the project from nearby properties within the ongoing design



## **Project Benefits**



Assisting low-income households with

energy saving measures



Support for

Support for community solar panels

EV charging points

financial contribution to the local community through local partners £500,000 Approximately

Increase in business rates for the

council to invest locally

Creation of

Support The Government's goal to increase the UK's solar capacity

Ensure Britain leads the international push for Net Zero

Rapidly deploy clean C02

energy and storage for

a carbon-free power system by 2035

Achieve National Grid's call for twelve-fold

electricity storage increase in

### Sun powered local prosperity

A eleaner Gumbria



50,000 family homes Enough energy to power over

Battery storage will have potential to power 20,000 homes when

fully charged

per year



4

Helping the Council achieve its climate goals.



(1) To bring back Britishn's blodhversity (2)

To help Britteth lead the way

sheep grazing Maintained site for

New habitats for wildlife

A biodiversity net gain beyond the government's 10% target

Dean Moor Solar Farm





### EIA Scoping

- The Planning Inspectorate are currently consulting on the scope of the environmental impact assessment, which will inform the design of the
- This consultation will include feedback from the local planning authority (Cumberland Council), but typically is not designed for the public to
- The projects announcement coincided with the start of this technical consultation.





## DCO (Development Consent Order) Regime

- A DCO is the means for obtaining permission for developments that are categorised as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP).
- The applications are determined by the SoS, and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, rather than local planning authority (the
- Consultation is a key part of the application process, and will shape our application.
- We will be running a consultation in the autumn to see the views of nearby residents.
- We will also be working closely with the Council and other government bodjes to design the site.



### Timeline







Thank you for your time. Any Questions?



### 2.7.2 May 2024 presentation

## Dean Moor Solar Farm Public Consultation Webinar



22 May 2024

Clean Energy for Cumbria | Clean energy for over 50,000 homes and a brighter future





## Introduction

Thank you for joining us for this meeting.

## About us

FVS Dean Moor Ltd is a joint venture formed by two renewable energy development specialists: Firma Energy Ltd and ib vogt UK Ltd.



Founded in 2021 by Rufus Salter and Andrew Jones, Firma is an independent management owned business, based in Leeds. The business has a focus on creating and delivering value from renewable energy developments with environmental and social benefits.

Across the UK Firma currently has projects totalling over 1800 MW in development, including 300 MW of



ib vogt (IBV) is a leading developer specialising in utility-scale infrastructure for solar photovoltaic (PV) farms significant player in the UK solar industry, holding the position of the second-largest solar developer in the and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). With a 20-year history of global expertise, we have been a country from 2012 to 2017 and with over 40GW of development projects in the pipeline globally.

transparent communication and investment in local employment, we strive to empower local resilience while addressing the global challenges of climate change. Our focus on development and engineering excellence solidified by our participation in the UN Global Compact. With over 490MWp of solar operations in the UK At ib vogt we are committed to sustainable energy and high-quality local development, a commitment our projects are designed and delivered with consideration for communities at their core. Through supports our mission to create a greener future through renewable energy solutions.



# Introducing Dean Moor Solar Farm

Dean Moor Solar Farm is located between the villages of Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria. If approved, the project will consist of the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of a solar energy generating station comprising solar photovoltaic ('PV') arrays, Battery Energy Storage System ('BESS'), landscape and biodiversity enhancements, and other associated infrastructure ('the Proposed Development') on approximately 279.50 hectares ('ha') of land.

We are now carrying out a statutory consultation on our proposals for Dean Moor Solar Farm. Our consultation is running from Monday 11th March 2024 to Friday 26th April 2024.

## The need for Dean Moor Solar Farm

The solar farm will assist in tackling the climate emergency and help the UK Government in meeting its target to reach net zero by 2050 and ambition to reach 70 gigawatts of installed solar capacity by 2035. The BESS facility will reinforce the power generated by the solar farm and provide balancing services to maintain grid stability.



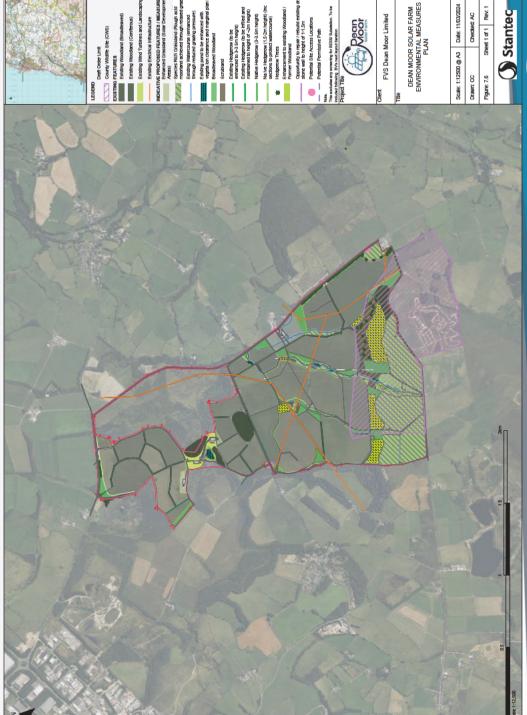




Site



### Indicative Site Layout





## **Benefits**

### Why do we need solar?

committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions energy projects like Dean Moor solar farm to help The UK has declared a Climate Emergency and by 2050. To achieve this, we need renewable reduce the UK's reliance on fossil fuels and improve our energy security.

and the Council's aim to "help the most vulnerable stated its commitment to the environment and to forefront of everything we do – working to create emerging Cumberland Council Plan (2023-2027), a more sustainable future for all at Cumberland". Dean Moor Solar Farm would help support the The recently formed Cumberland Council has fighting climate change, by putting it "at the with issues such as fuel poverty".

#### Assisting low-income Support for community £500,000 financial solar panels Approximately business rates for households with energy saving Increase in measures

## A eleaner Gumbria

Sun powered local prosperity

through local partners

contribution to the local community

the council to invest

locally



Battery storage will

have the capacity to **MW** 00 store up to of energy

to power over **50,000** 

family homes

per year

Enough energy

dimate goals the Council achieve its Helping

EV charging points

Support for

Ensure Britain leads the international push for Net Zero

Government's goal to

Support The

increase the UK's

solar capacity

Creation of

local jobs

C02

Achieve National Grid's call for twelve-fold electricity storage increase in

> energy and storage for Rapidly deploy clean

a carbon-free power system by 2035

## To help Britteth lead the way

 $\frac{\langle \hat{\mathbf{D}} \rangle_{\Phi}}{\langle \hat{\mathbf{D}} \rangle}$  To bring back Britain's biodiversity  $\langle \hat{\mathbf{D}} \rangle_{0}$ 

Maintained site for

New habitats for

wildlife

sheep

the government's net gain beyond 10% target A biodiversity



# **NSIP Planning Process & Timeline**

projects are required to go through a special planning process in order to be granted a Development Consent Order ('DCO') under As this Site will generate over 50MW of electricity, it is considered a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ('NSIP'). These the Planning Act 2008. Anyone intending to construct and operate an NSIP must first submit an application to the Planning Inspectorate for a DCO.

application being examined during a 6 month examination period. The appointed examiner(s) subsequently provide a report and recommendation to the Secretary of State for Department of Energy Security and Net Zero, who ultimately makes the decision. Once the application has been accepted by the Planning Inspectorate, views from interested parties are sought prior to the Further details on this process may be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website at https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process/

## Indicative Timeline

Summer - Autumn 3 October - 3 Winter 2023/24 ONGOING 2023 November 2023

4)

Winter 2024

L 2/1

Application Submission to Examination overseen by

Consideration of feedback Statutory Consultation and development of

Non-Statutory

Pre-Planning and Project

Dean Moor

## **Environmental Benefits**



## Recreational Access Routes

It is anticipated two permissive paths continue to be used or which may be will be established within the Site, formally adopted as PRoW by the Development will not impede any existing informal routes that may and the layout of the Proposed

#### Benefits

improved boundary planting, setting aside ecological enhancement areas, provide the opportunity to keep the (BNG) will be achieved by new and species to thrive and soil quality to and dedicated features to improve practices and chemicals, allowing improve. A biodiversity net-gain Site free from intensive farming The Dean Moor Solar Farm will measures will include:



Cultivating wildflower meadow for pollinators



Improving grazing meadows and expanding acid grasslands.



Enhancing hedgerows, planting native species.



Installing bird, bat, invertebrate boxes, and hibernacula.



Protecting watercourses, planting Introducing native trees, expanding woodlands. waterside vegetation.



Managing grassland with lowintensity sheep grazing.





## What have we changed following community feedback?

## **Recreational Access Routes**

It is anticipated two permissive paths will be established within the Site, and informal routes that may continue to be used or which may be formally the layout of the Proposed Development will not impede any existing adopted as PRoW by the Council.

### Landscaping

The updated Concept Layout which has been assessed in the PEIR includes account for natural screening through topography. This mitigation would additional buffers, areas for landscape screening and siting of panels to reduce the potential visual impact on neighbouring residents.



## **Community Benefit**

FVS Dean Moor is committed to supporting the communities in the vicinity of the Dean Moor solar farm. We have begun working with local partners in the community to help identify local projects that we may be able to contribute towards.

Following the first round of informal public consultation, we have sought to engage with additional partners and groups to enable us to provide a wider community benefits package which contributes towards causes, issues, and projects which public feedback has emphasised. This is therefore being done in addition to the initial £500,000 fund.

As well as engaging with additional partners, we are also looking to work with local groups, to provide more targeted community benefits packages to those living nearby and ensure funding directly for education and skillsbased projects.

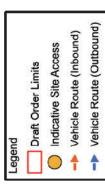
While these discussions are still at an early stage, we expect to publicise our approach to our community benefit fund in greater detail closer to the submission of our proposals in Winter 2024. We look forward to holding further discussions with the local community throughout the statutory consultation period and beyond.

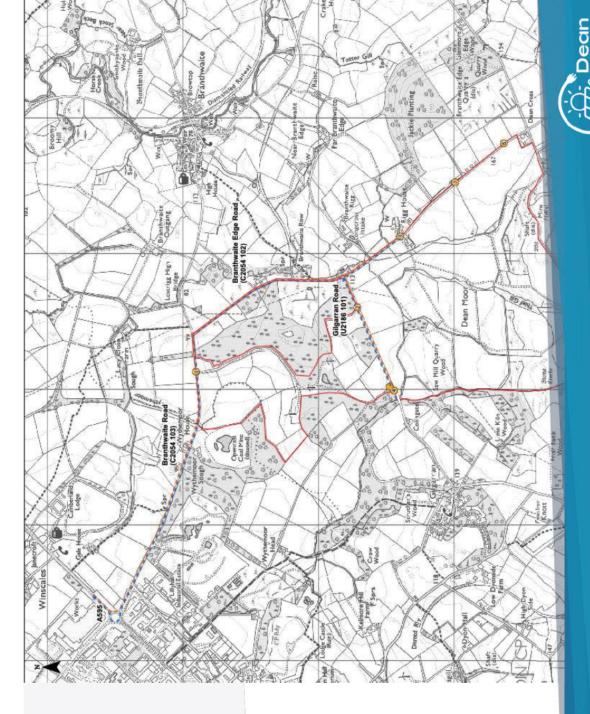




## **Construction Traffic**

During construction and operation of the solar farm, it is anticipated that there would be some traffic impacts along the three roads identified above as Branthwaite Road, Branthwaite Edge Road and Gilgarran Road. We are currently engaging with National Highways and Cumberland Council as the highway authority to ensure that any potential impacts from traffic on local residents will be appropriately mitigated.





# What is a PEIR and what is it for?

A Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR') is prepared during the planning phase of a NSIP.

Its primary objective is to provide initial environmental impact insights to allow local communities, authorities, statutory bodies, and individuals with potential interests to understand the potential environmental impacts in the early stages of project development.

This allows for a thorough understanding of the potential effects, the need for mitigation measures, and the opportunities for enhancements.

The PEIR represents the current stage of our proposals. We are therefore looking to receive stakeholder feedback on the PEIR, as your input on the PEIR is valuable and It is essential that stakeholders and the consenting authority possess this understanding before an application is submitted so that issues can be addressed in advance. can contribute to our assessments and the formulation of mitigation measures, enhancements, and local benefit commitments as we progress.

The PEIR may be downloaded at www.deanmoorsolarfarm.co.uk/documents

Alternatively it may be viewed at one of our community access points:

Distington Library

Workington Library

Frizington Library S

St Oswalds Church at Dean



## Any Questions?

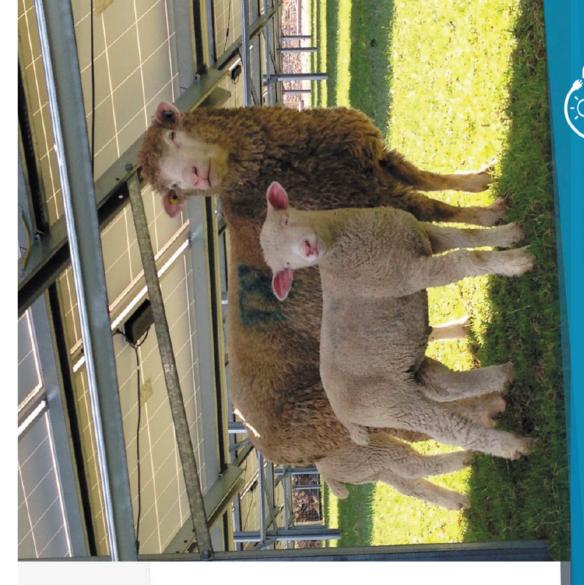
We would love to hear your views on the proposals. Please do not hesitate to get in touch by the following ways.

info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com

FREEPOST - DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM

(no additional address or postage necessary)

www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com

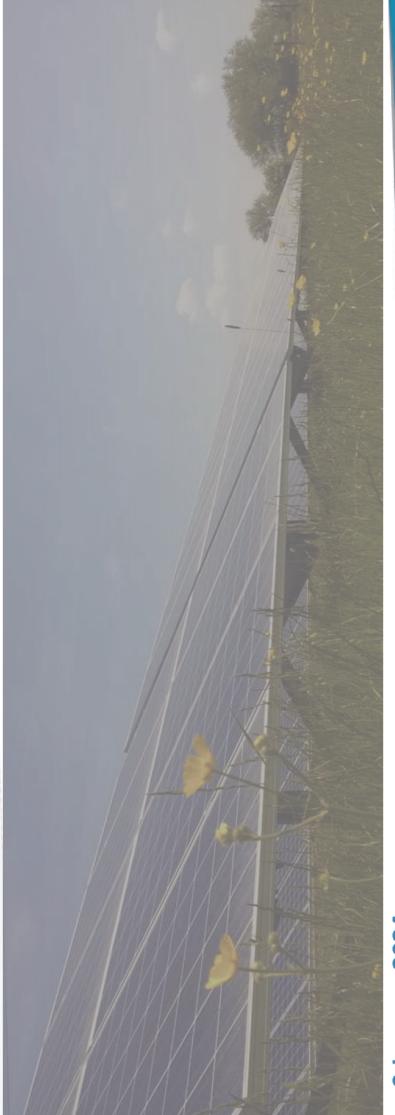






#### 2.8 January 2024 presentation to Distington Parish Council

## Dean Moor Solar Farm



**9 January 2024** 



## About us

FVS Dean Moor Ltd is a joint venture formed by two renewable energy development specialists: Firma Energy Ltd and ib vogt UK Ltd.



Founded in 2021 by Rufus Salter and Andrew Jones, Firma is an independent management owned business, based in Leeds. The business has a focus on creating and delivering value from renewable energy developments with environmental and social benefits.

Across the UK Firma currently has over 260 megawatts (MW) of Solar Farm and 347MW of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in development.



storage facilities. With a 20-year history of global expertise, IBV is a significant player in the UK solar industry, holding the position of the second-largest solar developer in the country from 2012 to 2017 and with over ib vogt (IBV) is a leading developer specialising in utility-scale infrastructure for solar farms and battery 40GW of development projects in their global pipeline.

addressing the global challenges of climate change. IBV's focus on development and engineering excellence participation in the UN Global Compact. With over 490MWp of solar operations in the UK IBV projects are IBV is committed to sustainable energy and high-quality local development, a commitment solidified by communication and investment in local employment, IBV strives to empower local resilience while designed and delivered with consideration for communities at their core. Through transparent supports its mission to create a greener future through renewable energy solutions.



# Introducing Dean Moor Solar Farm

We are at the early stages of preparing our proposals for a solar farm incorporating a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Dean Moor between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in Cumbria.

Dean Moor solar farm would assist in tackling the joint climate and biodiversity crisis and help the UK to meet its obligation for net zero emissions by 2050.

Dean Moor Solar Farm would generate approximately 150 megawatts (MW) of clean energy. This is equivalent to meeting the energy needs of more than 50,000 typical family homes.\* Additionally, the solar farm would include battery storage for up to 100 MW, which would reinforce the power generated by the solar farm and provide balancing services to maintain grid stability.

This proposed project encompasses the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays, battery storage, and associated infrastructure. The solar farm would connect into the existing overhead lines on the site with no new overhead lines or off-site grid connection works required.

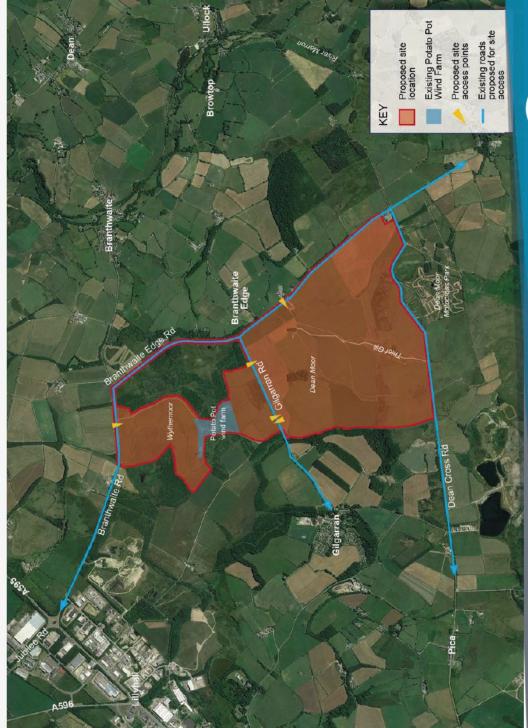
The site currently under consideration comprises approximately 279.5 hectares (691 acres) of land at Dean Moor. The solar farm infrastructure would not occupy the entire site; significant areas would also be dedicated to landscape and ecological enhancement.

\* bassed upon wearings downstancelectricity consumptions pet norms (sampsiana consecus) as per Enelgy consumption the UK (published September 2022, Table C9 of ECUK: Consumption data tables).



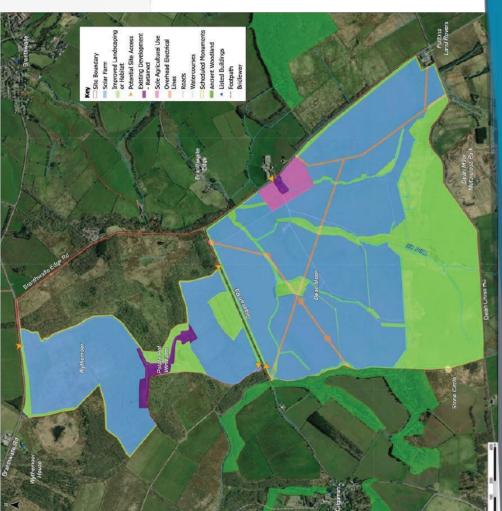


#### Proposed Site Location





#### Preliminary Layout Design





## **Benefits**

### Why do we need solar?

committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions energy projects like Dean Moor solar farm to help The UK has declared a Climate Emergency and by 2050. To achieve this, we need renewable reduce the UK's reliance on fossil fuels and improve our energy security.

and the Council's aim to "help the most vulnerable stated its commitment to the environment and to forefront of everything we do – working to create emerging Cumberland Council Plan (2023-2027), a more sustainable future for all at Cumberland". Dean Moor Solar Farm would help support the The recently formed Cumberland Council has fighting climate change, by putting it "at the with issues such as fuel poverty".

#### EV charging points Assisting low-income Support for community through local partners £500,000 financial contribution to the local community solar panels Approximately the council to invest business rates for households with energy saving Increase in measures locally

## A eleaner Gumbria

Sun powered local prosperity



have the capacity to Battery storage will store up to

to power over **50,000** 

family homes

per year

Enough energy

**MW** 00 of energy



dimate goals the Council achieve its Helping

Support for

Ensure Britain leads the international push for Net Zero C02

Government's goal to

Support The

increase the UK's

solar capacity

Creation of

local jobs

call for twelve-fold electricity storage increase in

energy and storage for Rapidly deploy clean

a carbon-free power system by 2035

Achieve National Grid's

## To help Britteth lead the way

 $\frac{\langle \hat{\mathbf{D}} \rangle_{\Phi}}{\langle \hat{\mathbf{D}} \rangle}$  To bring back Britain's biodiversity  $\langle \hat{\mathbf{D}} \rangle_{0}$ 



New habitats for wildlife

sheep Maintained site for

the government's net gain beyond 10% target A biodiversity



# **NSIP Planning Process & Timeline**

We will be holding two rounds of public consultation prior to submitting the DCO application. This first non-statutory round in Autumn 2023, followed by a second statutory consultation in early 2024.

Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). NSIP projects are determined by the Secretary of State, rather than a local the Planning Act 2008. Anyone intending to construct an approval for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under NSIP must first apply to the Planning Inspectorate for a As this site is over 50MW, it is classified as a Nationally planning authority, and the application is seeking

makes the decision. Further details on this process may be provides a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy, who ultimately The Planning Inspectorate reviews the application and found on the Planning Inspectorate website at

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/applica tion-process/the-process/

### Indicative Timeline

Summer 2023

Project Inception

Ongoing

Non-Statutory Consultation

Statutory Consultation

Winter 2024

**Early 2024** 

Planning Inspectorate



Examination overseen by Planning Inspectorate



## **Environmental Benefits**



in the future, once the solar farm has soil quality to improve, but does not prevent the land from being farmed been decommissioned at the end of can have a negative impact on the allows native species to thrive and intensive farming practices, which environment. This development opportunity to move away from Solar development provides an its operational lifetime.

aside ecological enhancement areas, gain would be achieved by setting incorporating new native species planting, providing new wildlife improvement measures would habitats. The environmental

For the Project, a biodiversity net-

We anticipate that these measures Bann unac significantly exceeds une would result in a biodiversity net Government's 10% target.



Cultivating wildflower meadow for pollinators



Improving grazing meadows and expanding acid grasslands.



Enhancing hedgerows, planting native species.



Installing bird, bat, invertebrate boxes, and hibernacula. Protecting watercourses, planting

waterside vegetation.



Introducing native trees, expanding woodlands.



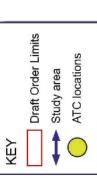
Managing grassland with lowintensity sheep grazing.

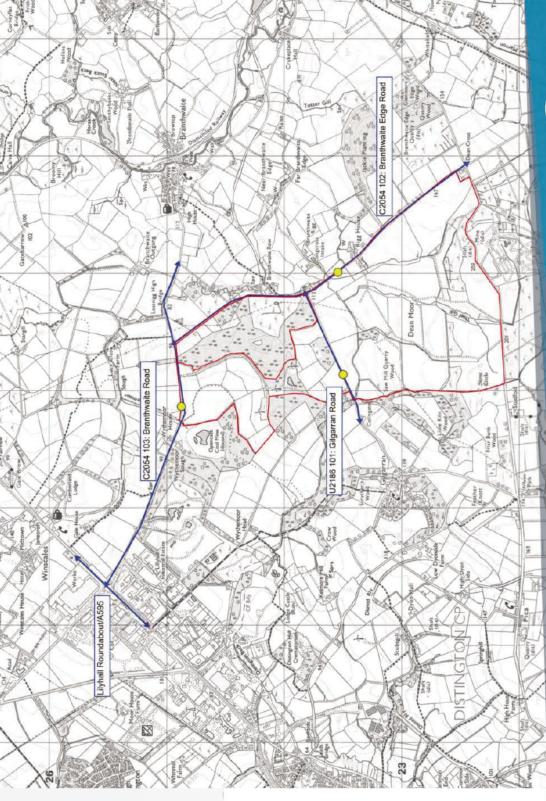




## Construction Traffic

During construction and operation of the solar farm, it is anticipated that there would be some traffic impacts along the three roads identified above as Branthwaite Road, Branthwaite Edge Road and Gilgarran Road. We are currently engaging with National Highways and Cumberland Council as the highway authority to ensure that any potential impacts from traffic on local residents will be appropriately mitigated.





## **Community Benefit**

FVS Dean Moor is committed to supporting the communities in the vicinity of the Dean Moor solar farm. We have begun working with local partners in the community to help identify local projects that we may be able to contribute towards. This could include the following:

- A scheme to assist local households with energy saving measures, particularly low-income households;
- Support for local energy efficiency and renewable energy generation projects across west Cumbria, including community solar panels and EV charging points for local schools and community organisations;
- the provision of jobs during the construction and operational phases and financial contributions to benefit the local economy during the operation of the solar farm.

We are also currently working with local partners to facilitate the delivery of a £500,000 community benefit fund, to be used on projects across the local area.





## Any Questions?

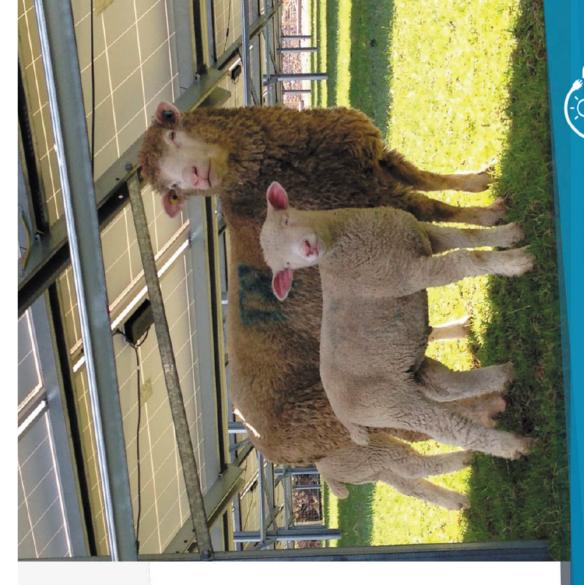
We would love to hear your views on the proposals. Please do not hesitate to get in touch by the following ways.

info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com

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(no additional address or postage necessary)

www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com







#### 2.9 Non-statutory consultation booklet

Dean Moor Solar Farm: Consultation Report Appendices: Ref 5.2



Tuesday 17 October 2pm-7pm Dean Kirkstile Hall, Workington CA14 4TH Wednesday 18 October 2pm-7pm Solway Lounge, Hunday Manor, Winscales, Workington, Cumbria, CA14 4JF

Thursday 19 October 6pm-7pm Monday 30 October 6pm-7pm

#### **Dean Moor Solar Farm** Introducing

We are currently in the early stages of preparing our proposals to develop and operate a 150 MW solar farm and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) between Gilgarran and

and help the UK Government in meeting its target to reach net zero by 2050 and ambition to reach 70 gigawatts of installed solar capacity by 2035. The BESS facility will reinforce the power generated by the solar farm and provide balancing The solar farm will assist in tackling the climate emergency services to maintain grid stability.



over 50,000 typical family

\*Based upon average damestic electricity consumption per home (temperature carrected) as per Energy Consumption in the UK (published September 2022, Table C9 of ECUK. Consumption data tables).



## **The Planning Process**

required to go through a special planning process in order to be granted a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008. Anyone intending to construct and operate an NSIP must first submit an application to the Planning As this site is over 50MW, it is considered a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). These projects are

the application being examined during a 6 month examination period. The appointed examiner(s) subsequently provide a report and recommendation to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy, who ultimately makes the decision. Further details on this process may be found on the Planning Inspectorate website at https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process/.

### Indicative Timeline

We are currently in the non-statutory consultation phase. We will be holding further statutory consultation events in early 2024,



Autumn 2023

£ 9

Spring 2025

Winter 2024

Early 2024

Submission to Planning Inspectorate Application

Statutory Consultation

Non-Statutory Consultation

Pre-Planning and Project Inception

overseen by Planning Examination Inspectorate



#### About Us

FVS Dean Moor Ltd is a joint venture formed by two renewable energy development specialists: Firma Energy Ltd and ib vogt UK Ltd.



Founded in 2021 by Rufus Salter and Andrew Jones, Firma is an independent management owned business, based in Leeds. The business has a focus on creating and delivering value from renewable energy developments with environmental and social benefits.

Across the UK Firma currently has projects totalling over 1800 MW in development, including 300 MW of solar.

#### ≥ ib vogt

ib vogt (IBV) is a leading developer specialising in utility-scale infrastructure for solar photovoltaic (PV) farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). With a 20-year history of global expertise, we have been a significant player in the UK solar industry, holding the position of the second-largest solar developer in the country from 2012 to 2017 and with over 40GW of development projects in the pipeline globally.

At ib vogt we are committed to sustainable energy and high-quality local development, a commitment solidified by our participation in the UN Global Compact. With over 490MWp of solar operations in the UK our projects are designed and delivered with consideration for communities at their core. Through transparent communication and investment in local employment, we strive to empower local resilience while addressing the global challenges of climate change. Our focus on development and engineering excellence supports our mission to create a greener future through renewable energy solutions.



## **Environmental benefits**

The solar farm provides the opportunity to keep the land free from intensive farming practices and chemicals, allowing species to thrive and soil quality to improve. A biodiversity netgain will be achieved by new and improved hedgerows, setting aside ecological enhancement areas, and native woodland planting. These enhancements will include:



Cultivating wildflower meadow for pollinators.



Improving grazing meadows and expanding acid grasslands.



Enhancing hedgerows, planting native species.



Protecting watercourses, planting waterside



vegetation.



Managing grassland with low-intensity sheep grazing.



We anticipate that these measures will result in a biodiversity net gain in excess of the government's 10% target across the entire site.



### Meet us in person

We will be holding two in-person public consultation events and two online webinars. These will be at the following times and addresses:

#### IN-PERSON:

### **Tuesday 17 October**

2pm-7pm Dean Kirkstile Hall, Workington CA14 4TH

### Wednesday 18 October

2pm-7pm

Solway Lounge, Hunday Manor, Winscales, Workington, Cumbria, CA14 4JF

#### WEBINAR:

Thursday 19 October 6pm-7pm

Monday 30 October 6pm-7pm



Attend our webinar and Q&A sessions on Thursday 19 October and Monday 30 October from 6pm – 7pm

You are invited to attend our online public consultation webinar and Q&A session event.

The webinar will be a ten-minute presentation by the project team where they will outline the draft proposals. During the Q&A session which will follow the webinar you'll have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have about the draft proposals with members of the project team.

The webinar will be recorded and hosted on our public consultation website so that you can watch it again or see it if you are unable to watch it live.

You can register to attend our online public consultation event by visiting our website at www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/public-consultation and completing the webinar registration.



Scan here and follow the instructions on the page to sign up to a webinar



## Tell us what you think

We would love to hear your views on the proposals. Please do not hesitate to get in touch by the following ways, or complete and return the feedback form at the end of this brochure:

Email:

info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com

Freephone:

0800 041 8643

Freepost:

**FREEPOST - DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM** 

(no additional address or postage necessary)

Website:

www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com



### **DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM**

### Feedback form

To return your completed feedback form please tear it from the brochure and pop it in the post by Friday 3 November 2023. Alternatively, you can return your form via email to info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com.

	Postcode:		
		Telephone:	
Name:			
	ess:		
Title:	Address:	Email:	

1. What are your early thoughts on the principle of developing Dean Moor Solar Farm in this location?

☐ In favour ☐ Not in favour ☐ Undecided

Please let us know any initial thoughts about the proposed site, the local environment, access considerations or other technical points that you feel we should be taking into account as we develop the proposals. 3. We'd like to understand where we may be able to bring local benefit to the communities around the site. Please let us know if you had any thoughts or suggestions on this.

Please provide your contact details if you wish to get a response. Any information provided will only be used for the purpose of the planning application to the Local Planning Authority and will not be disclosed with any third parties. Your contact details will not be listed on the planning application documentation.

#### Freepost ALPACA COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED

**FOLD HERE** 

#### Instructions

To return your feedback form, please fold and put it in the post to us.

If you'd like more space to share your thoughts, send us an email, or just write your comments down and pop them in an envelope with 'FREEPOST ALPACA COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED' written on the front. You don't need any further address or stamp.

Any queries or problems? Get in touch via feedback@alpacacommunications.com.



#### 2.10 Example of stakeholder invitations to project briefings and introduction to project

Dean Moor Solar Farm: Consultation Report Appendices: Ref 5.2

March 2025 A69

#### Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at 12:19:27 Greenwich Mean Time

Subject:	Dean Moor Solar Farm Introduction and Offer of Meeting
Date:	Friday, 4 August 2023 at 12:14:16 British Summer Time
From:	
To:	
CC:	
Attachments:	dean_moor_outreach_letter_FINAL.pdf
Dear Cllr	
I hope this em	nail finds you well.
proposals for Branthwaite	to you on behalf of FVS Dean Moor Ltd to let you know about our early-stage a solar farm with battery energy storage at Dean Moor, between Gilgarran and in West Cumbria. We would like to provide you with some background and explain how you can find out more.
residents, whi	ed a copy of the early-stage information leaflet which will shortly be sent to local ich contains further information on our proposals. We are very keen to ensure that is are able to gain all the information that they need about the project.
have the opposition will be holding	lding our first phase of public consultation in Autumn 2023, where local residents will prtunity to learn more about the proposals and ask any questions they may have. We go both in-person and online consultation events, and we will write closer to the time ent dates and locations, and to provide more information about the proposals.
further info	time, we would be happy to arrange a call or a meeting to provide rmation about the proposals. Please do let us know if this is something be of interest.
via our phone	hesitate to get in touch should you have any questions; enquiries may be directed at 0800 041 8643, via email at <a href="mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com">info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com</a> , or via our website at <a href="mailto:orsolarfarm.com">orsolarfarm.com</a> .
Kind regards,	
	alpacacommunications.com



#### 2.11 Non-statutory consultation feedback form

Dean Moor Solar Farm: Consultation Report Appendices: Ref 5.2

# Feedback form

To return your completed feedback form please tear it from the brochure and pop it in the post by Friday 3 November 2023. Alternatively, you can return your form via email to info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com.

Name:	Postcode:	Telephone:	<ol> <li>What are your early thoughts on the principle of developing Dean Moor Solar Farm in this location?</li> <li>In favour</li> <li>Not in favour</li> <li>Undecided</li> </ol>	2. Please let us know any initial thoughts about the proposed site, the local environment, access considerations or other technical points that you feel we should be taking into account as we develop the proposals.	3. We'd like to understand where we may be able to bring local benefit to the communities around the site. Please let us know if you had any thoughts or suggestions on this.	
Title:	Address:	Email:	1. What	2. Pleasi techn	3. We'd if you	

Please provide your contact details if you wish to get a response. Any information provided will only be used for the purpose of the planning application to the Local Planning Authority and will not be disclosed with any third parties. Your contact details will not be listed on the planning application documentation.

# Freepost ALPACA COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED

**FOLD HERE** 

# Instructions

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Any queries or problems? Get in touch via feedback@alpacacommunications.com.



# 2.12 Non-statutory consultation exhibition boards

Dean Moor Solar Farm: Consultation Report Appendices: Ref 5.2





# **Introducing Dean Moor Solar Farm**

We are at the early stages of preparing our proposals for a solar farm incorporating a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Dean Moor between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in Cumbria.

Dean Moor Solar Farm would assist in tackling the joint climate and biodiversity crisis and help the UK to meet its obligation for net zero emissions by 2050.

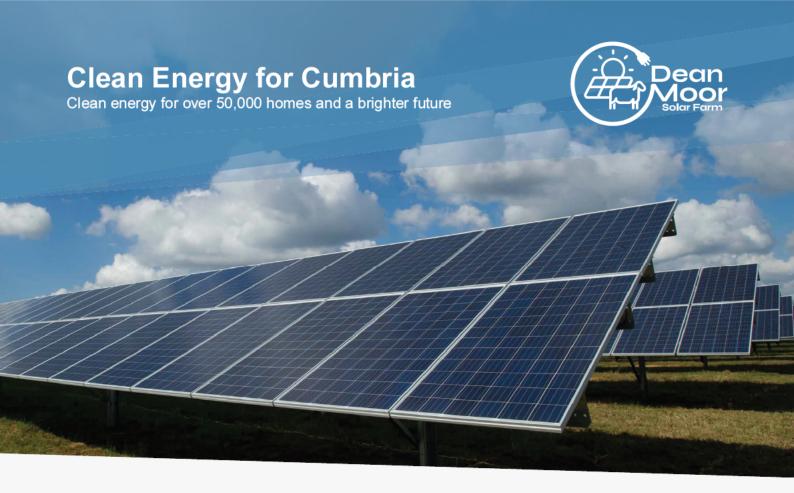
Dean Moor Solar Farm would generate approximately 150 megawatts (MW) of clean energy. This is equivalent to meeting the energy needs of more than 50,000 typical family homes.\* Additionally, the solar farm would include battery storage for up to 100 MW, which would reinforce the power generated by the solar farm and provide balancing services to maintain grid stability.

This proposed project encompasses the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays, battery storage, and associated infrastructure. The solar farm would connect into the existing overhead lines on the site with no new overhead lines or off-site grid connection works required.

The site currently under consideration comprises approximately 279.5 hectares (691 acres) of land at Dean Moor. The solar farm infrastructure would not occupy the entire site; significant areas would also be dedicated to landscape and ecological enhancement.

The Proposed solar farm would not occupy the entire site, areas of the site would be dedicated to landscape and biodiversity enhancements, so that the project delivers a net gain for biodiversity. Land would also be retained around the existing farmyard to enable co-located grazing as part of the solar farm's maintenance regime.

<sup>\*</sup>Based upon average domestic electricity consumption per home (temperature corrected) as per Energy Consumption in the UK (published September 2022, Table C9 of ECUK: Consumption data tables).



# **About us**

FVS Dean Moor Ltd is a joint venture formed by two renewable energy development specialists: Firma Energy Ltd and ib vogt UK Ltd.



Founded in 2021 by Rufus Salter and Andrew Jones, Firma is an independent management owned business, based in Leeds. The business has a focus on creating and delivering value from renewable energy developments with environmental and social benefits.

Across the UK Firma currently has over 260 megawatts (MW) of Solar Farm and 347MW of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in development.



ib vogt (IBV) is a leading developer specialising in utilityscale infrastructure for solar farms and battery storage facilities. With a 20-year history of global expertise, IBV is a significant player in the UK solar industry, holding the position of the second-largest solar developer in the country from 2012 to 2017 and with over 40GW of development projects in their global pipeline.

IBV is committed to sustainable energy and highquality local development, a commitment solidified by participation in the UN Global Compact. With over 490MWp of solar operations in the UK IBV projects are designed and delivered with consideration for communities at their core. Through transparent communication and investment in local employment, IBV strives to empower local resilience while addressing the global challenges of climate change. IBV's focus on development and engineering excellence supports its mission to create a greener future through renewable energy solutions.



# **Dean Moor Solar Farm**

Dean Moor solar farm would generate enough clean electricity to power over 50,000 typical family homes every year it is in operation. The solar farm will assist in tackling the climate emergency and to help the UK Government in meeting its target for net zero emissions by 2050.

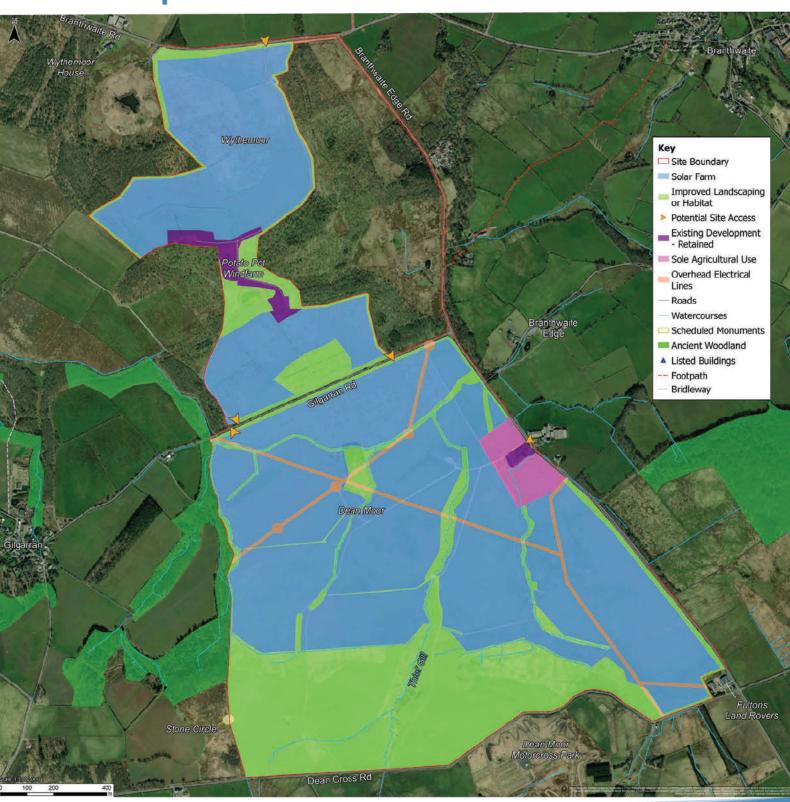
The solar farm will produce up to 150 MW of renewable energy, enough to power over 50,000 typical family homes per year.\* The onsite storage will be capable of storing up to 100 MW of energy. The Proposed Development would include arrays of solar PV panels, energy storage and associated infrastructure that will connect to the existing Distribution Network Operator (DNO) electricity network on site.

The Proposed Development will be situated at on 279.5 hectares (691 acres) of land at Dean Moor, between Gilgarran and Branthwaite. The actual solar farm will not occupy the entire site, as portions of it are made up of existing roads and tracks. Large areas will be further dedicated to landscape and ecological enhancement.

<sup>\*</sup>Based upon average domestic electricity consumption per home (temperature corrected) as per Energy Consumption in the UK (published September 2022, Table C9 of ECUK: Consumption data tables).



# **Concept Site Plan**



# Clean Energy for Cumbria

Clean energy for over 50,000 homes and a brighter future



# **Benefits**



households with energy saving measures



Assisting low-income Support for community solar panels



Support for **EV** charging points



business rates for the council to invest locally



Approximately £500,000 financial contribution to the local community through local partners



Creation of local jobs



Support The Government's goal to increase the UK's solar capacity by 2035



Ensure Britain leads the international push for **Net Zero** 



Rapidly deploy clean energy and storage for a carbon-free power system by 2035

To help Britain lead the

C<sub>0</sub>2

Achieve National Grid's call for twelve-fold increase in electricity storage

Sun powered local prosperity

# A cleaner Cumbria



Enough energy to power over 50,000 family homes per year



**Battery storage will** have the capacity to store up to 00 MV of energy



Helping the Council achieve its climate goals

# To bring back Britain's blodiversity



New habitats for wildlife



Maintained site for sheep grazing

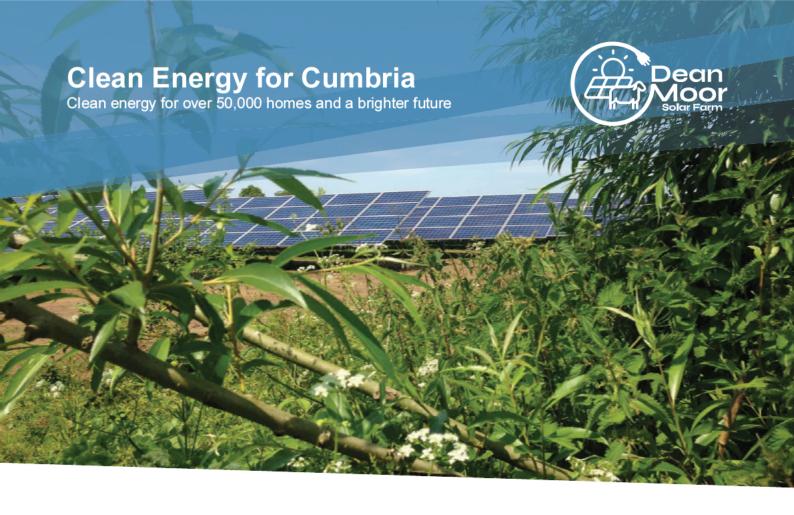
A biodiversity net gain beyond the government's 10% target

# Why do we need solar?

The UK has declared a Climate Emergency and committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050. To achieve this, we need renewable energy projects like Dean Moor solar farm to help reduce the UK's reliance on fossil fuels and improve our energy security.

The recently formed Cumberland Council has stated its commitment to the environment and to fighting climate change, by putting it "at the forefront of everything we do - working to create a more sustainable future for all at Cumberland". Dean Moor Solar Farm would help support the emerging Cumberland Council Plan (2023-2027), and the Council's aim to "help the most vulnerable with issues such as fuel poverty".

Dean Moor Solar Farm would also accord with 'Britain's Energy Coast: Masterplan for West Cumbria', which emphasises Cumbria's unrivalled natural environment and strong renewable energy sector. The solar farm would help fulfil the Masterplan's twin goals to "project a positive image to the world, and be recognised by all as an area of scientific excellence, outstanding natural beauty and vibrant lifestyle, which attracts a diverse population and visitor profile" and to "provide opportunities for all its communities, where geography is not a barrier to achievement and where deprivation, inequality and social immobility have been reduced."



# **NSIP Planning Process & Timeline**

As this site is over 50MW, it is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).

NSIP projects are determined by the Secretary of State, rather than a local planning authority, and the application is seeking approval for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008. Anyone intending to construct an NSIP must first apply to the Planning Inspectorate for a DCO.

We will be holding two rounds of public consultation prior to submitting the DCO application. This first non-statutory round in Autumn 2023, followed by a second statutory consultation in early 2024.

The Planning Inspectorate reviews the application and provides a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy, who ultimately makes the decision. Further details on this process may be found on the Planning Inspectorate website at:



# **Indicative Timeline**

**Summer 2023** 



**Project Inception** 

**Ongoing** 



Pre-Planning

**Ongoing** 



Non-Statutory Consultation

**Early 2024** 



Statutory Consultation

Winter 2024

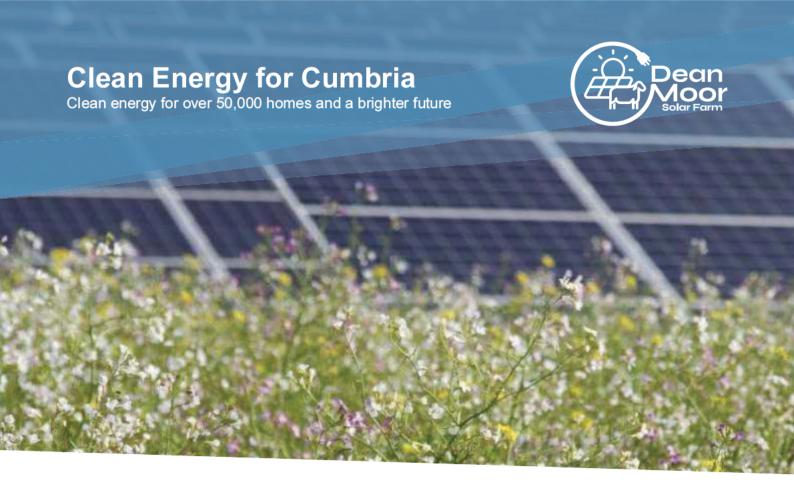


Application Submission to Planning Inspectorate





Examination overseen by Planning Inspectorate



# **Environmental Benefits**

At a global scale, there are clear environmental benefits to switching from fossil fuels to clean renewable energy. At a local scale, this solar farm also provides the opportunity to improve the natural environment for plants and wildlife, supporting the national need to improve biodiversity.

Solar development provides an opportunity to move away from intensive farming practices, which can have a negative impact on the environment. This development allows native species to thrive and soil quality to improve, but does not prevent the land from being farmed in the future, once the solar farm has been decommissioned at the end of its operational lifetime.

For the Project, a biodiversity net-gain would be achieved by setting aside ecological enhancement areas, incorporating new native species planting, providing new wildlife habitats. The environmental improvement measures would include:



Cultivating wildflower meadow for pollinators.



Improving grazing meadows and expanding acid grasslands.



Enhancing existing hedgerows and planting new native species hedgerows.



Installing bird, bat, invertebrate boxes, and hibernacula.



Protecting watercourses, planting waterside vegetation.



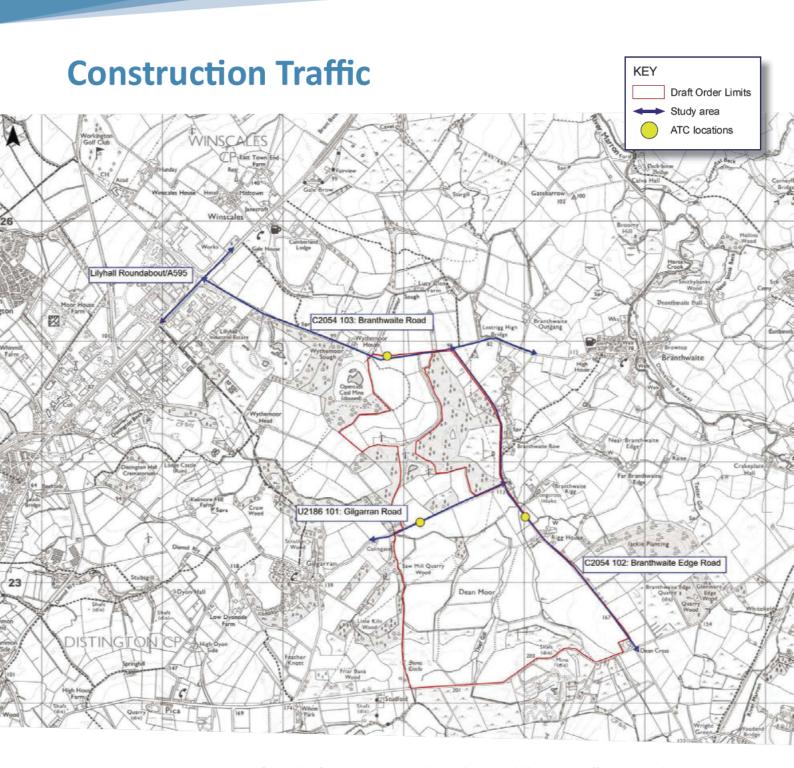
Introducing native trees, expanding woodlands.



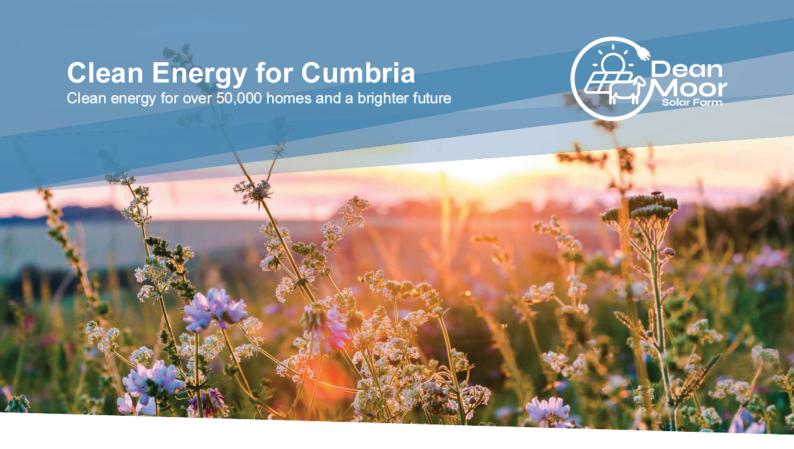
Managing grassland with lowintensity sheep grazing.

We anticipate that these measures would result in a biodiversity net gain that significantly exceeds the Government's 10% target.





During construction and operation of the solar farm, it is anticipated that there would be some traffic impacts along the three roads identified above as Branthwaite Road, Branthwaite Edge Road and Gilgarran Road. We are currently engaging with National Highways and Cumberland Council as the highway authority to ensure that any potential impacts from traffic on local residents will be appropriately mitigated.



# **Community Benefit**

FVS Dean Moor is committed to supporting the communities in the vicinity of the Dean Moor solar farm. We have begun working with local partners in the community to help identify local projects that we may be able to contribute towards. This could include the following:

- A scheme to assist local households with energy saving measures, particularly low- income households;
- Support for local energy efficiency and renewable energy generation projects across west Cumbria, including community solar panels and EV charging points for local schools and community organisations;
- The provision jobs during the construction and operational phases and financial contributions to benefit the local economy during the operation of the solar farm.

We are also currently working with local partners to facilitate the creation and delivery of a £500,000 community benefit fund, to be applied towards projects within the local area of the solar farm.

Please let us know if you have any suggestions for community benefits that we may be able to assist with:



# Tell us what you think

We would love to hear your views on the proposals. Please do not hesitate to get in touch by the following ways, or complete and return the feedback form.



Email:

info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com

Freephone:

0800 041 8643

Freepost:

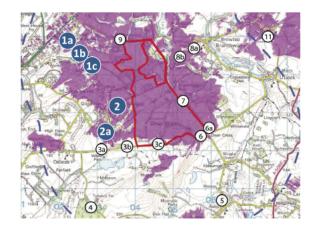
FREEPOST - DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM

(no additional address or postage necessary)

Website:

www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com







Viewpoint 1a



Viewpoint 1b



Viewpoint 1c

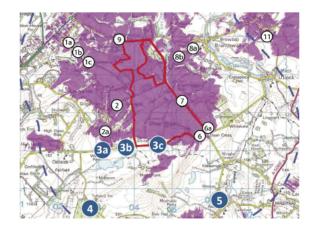


Viewpoint 2



Viewpoint 2a







Viewpoint 3a



Viewpoint 3b



Viewpoint 3c

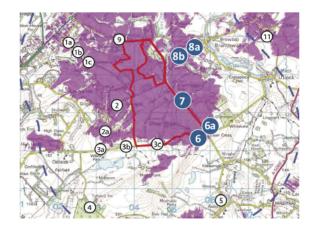


Viewpoint 4



**Viewpoint 5** 







Viewpoint 6



Viewpoint 6a



Viewpoint 7

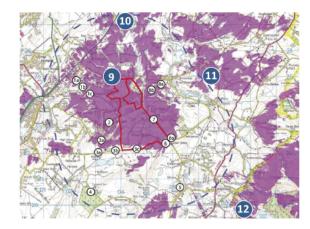


Viewpoint 8a



Viewpoint 8b







Viewpoint 9



Viewpoint 10



**Viewpoint 11** 



Viewpoint 12



# 2.13 Images from non-statutory public consultation events

2.13.1 The below image was taken at the Dean Kirkstile Hall consultation event on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023.



2.13.2 The below image was taken at the Hunday Manor consultation event on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023.



Dean Moor Solar Farm: Consultation Report

Appendices: Ref 5.2



# 2.14 Non-statutory consultation webinar slides

Dean Moor Solar Farm: Consultation Report Appendices: Ref 5.2

March 2025

A90

# Dean Moor Solar Farm Public Consultation Webinar



30 October 2023

Clean Energy for Cumbria | Clean energy for over 50,000 homes and a brighter future



# Introduction

Thank you for joining us this evening.

Please note the following:

- The Q&A session will follow this presentation we will do our very best to answer as many questions as we can during this time.
- When invited to ask your question you will be prompted to unmute your microphone.
- The webinar is being recorded and will be uploaded to our project webpage deanmoorsolarfarm.com



# About us

FVS Dean Moor Ltd is a joint venture formed by two renewable energy development specialists: Firma Energy Ltd and ib vogt UK Ltd.



Founded in 2021 by Rufus Salter and Andrew Jones, Firma is an independent management owned business, based in Leeds. The business has a focus on creating and delivering value from renewable energy developments with environmental and social benefits.

Across the UK Firma currently has over 260 megawatts (MW) of Solar Farm and 347MW of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in development.



storage facilities. With a 20-year history of global expertise, IBV is a significant player in the UK solar industry, holding the position of the second-largest solar developer in the country from 2012 to 2017 and with over ib vogt (IBV) is a leading developer specialising in utility-scale infrastructure for solar farms and battery 40GW of development projects in their global pipeline.

addressing the global challenges of climate change. IBV's focus on development and engineering excellence participation in the UN Global Compact. With over 490MWp of solar operations in the UK IBV projects are IBV is committed to sustainable energy and high-quality local development, a commitment solidified by communication and investment in local employment, IBV strives to empower local resilience while designed and delivered with consideration for communities at their core. Through transparent supports its mission to create a greener future through renewable energy solutions.



Clean Energy for Cumbria | Clean energy for over 50,000 homes and a brighter future

# Introducing Dean Moor Solar Farm

We are at the early stages of preparing our proposals for a solar farm incorporating a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Dean Moor between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in Cumbria.

Dean Moor solar farm would assist in tackling the joint climate and biodiversity crisis and help the UK to meet its obligation for net zero emissions by 2050.

Dean Moor Solar Farm would generate approximately 150 megawatts (MW) of clean energy. This is equivalent to meeting the energy needs of more than 50,000 typical family homes.\* Additionally, the solar farm would include battery storage for up to 100 MW, which would reinforce the power generated by the solar farm and provide balancing services to maintain grid stability.

This proposed project encompasses the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays, battery storage, and associated infrastructure. The solar farm would connect into the existing overhead lines on the site with no new overhead lines or off-site grid connection works required.

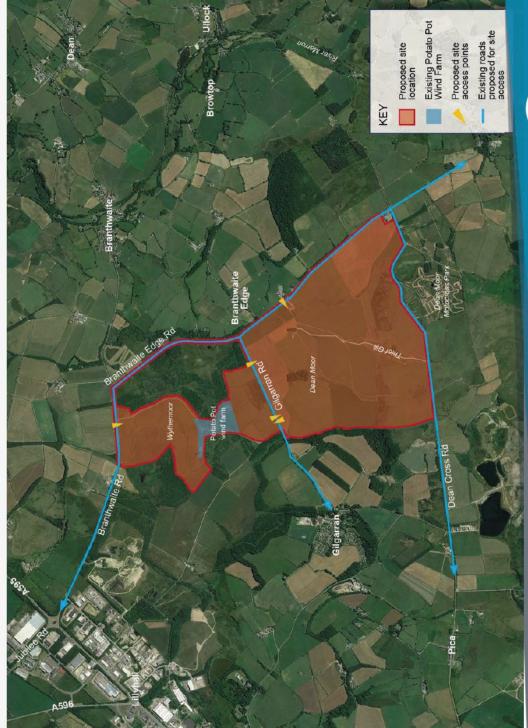
The site currently under consideration comprises approximately 279.5 hectares (691 acres) of land at Dean Moor. The solar farm infrastructure would not occupy the entire site; significant areas would also be dedicated to landscape and ecological enhancement.

\* bassed upon wearings downstancelectricity consumptions pet norms (sampsiana consecus) as per Enelgy consumption the UK (published September 2022, Table C9 of ECUK: Consumption data tables).



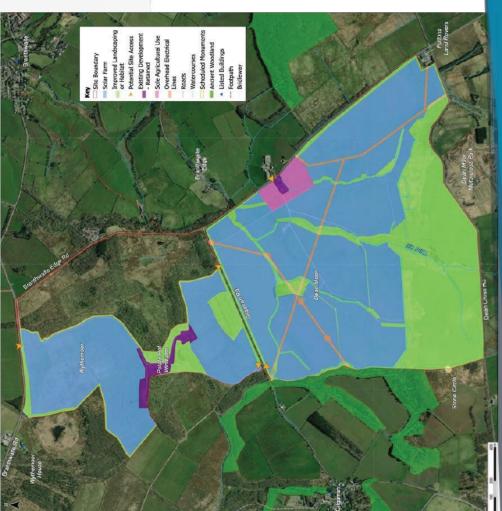


# Proposed Site Location





# Preliminary Layout Design





# **Benefits**

# Why do we need solar?

committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions energy projects like Dean Moor solar farm to help The UK has declared a Climate Emergency and by 2050. To achieve this, we need renewable reduce the UK's reliance on fossil fuels and improve our energy security.

and the Council's aim to "help the most vulnerable stated its commitment to the environment and to forefront of everything we do – working to create emerging Cumberland Council Plan (2023-2027), a more sustainable future for all at Cumberland". Dean Moor Solar Farm would help support the The recently formed Cumberland Council has fighting climate change, by putting it "at the with issues such as fuel poverty".

# EV charging points Assisting low-income Support for community through local partners £500,000 financial contribution to the local community solar panels Approximately the council to invest business rates for households with energy saving Increase in measures locally

# A eleaner Gumbria

Sun powered local prosperity



have the capacity to Battery storage will store up to

to power over **50,000** 

family homes

per year

Enough energy

**MW** 00 of energy



dimate goals the Council achieve its Helping

Support for

Ensure Britain leads the international push for Net Zero C02

Government's goal to

Support The

increase the UK's

solar capacity

Creation of

local jobs

call for twelve-fold electricity storage increase in

energy and storage for Rapidly deploy clean

a carbon-free power system by 2035

Achieve National Grid's

# To help Britteth lead the way

 $\frac{\langle \hat{\mathbf{D}} \rangle_{\Phi}}{\langle \hat{\mathbf{D}} \rangle}$  To bring back Britain's biodiversity  $\langle \hat{\mathbf{D}} \rangle_{0}$ 



New habitats for wildlife

sheep Maintained site for

the government's net gain beyond 10% target A biodiversity

Clean Energy for Cumbria | Clean energy for over 50,000 homes and a brighter future



# **NSIP Planning Process & Timeline**

We will be holding two rounds of public consultation prior to submitting the DCO application. This first non-statutory round in Autumn 2023, followed by a second statutory consultation in early 2024.

Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). NSIP projects are determined by the Secretary of State, rather than a local the Planning Act 2008. Anyone intending to construct an approval for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under NSIP must first apply to the Planning Inspectorate for a As this site is over 50MW, it is classified as a Nationally planning authority, and the application is seeking

makes the decision. Further details on this process may be provides a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy, who ultimately The Planning Inspectorate reviews the application and found on the Planning Inspectorate website at

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/applica tion-process/the-process/

# Indicative Timeline

Summer 2023

Project Inception

Ongoing

Non-Statutory Consultation

Statutory Consultation

Winter 2024

**Early 2024** 

Planning Inspectorate



Examination overseen by Planning Inspectorate



Clean Energy for Cumbria | Clean energy for over 50,000 homes and a brighter future

# **Environmental Benefits**



in the future, once the solar farm has soil quality to improve, but does not prevent the land from being farmed been decommissioned at the end of can have a negative impact on the allows native species to thrive and intensive farming practices, which environment. This development opportunity to move away from Solar development provides an its operational lifetime.

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For the Project, a biodiversity net-

We anticipate that these measures Bann unac significantly exceeds une would result in a biodiversity net Government's 10% target.



Cultivating wildflower meadow for pollinators



Improving grazing meadows and expanding acid grasslands.



Enhancing hedgerows, planting native species.



Installing bird, bat, invertebrate boxes, and hibernacula. Protecting watercourses, planting

waterside vegetation.



Introducing native trees, expanding woodlands.



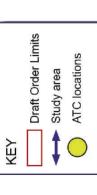
Managing grassland with lowintensity sheep grazing.

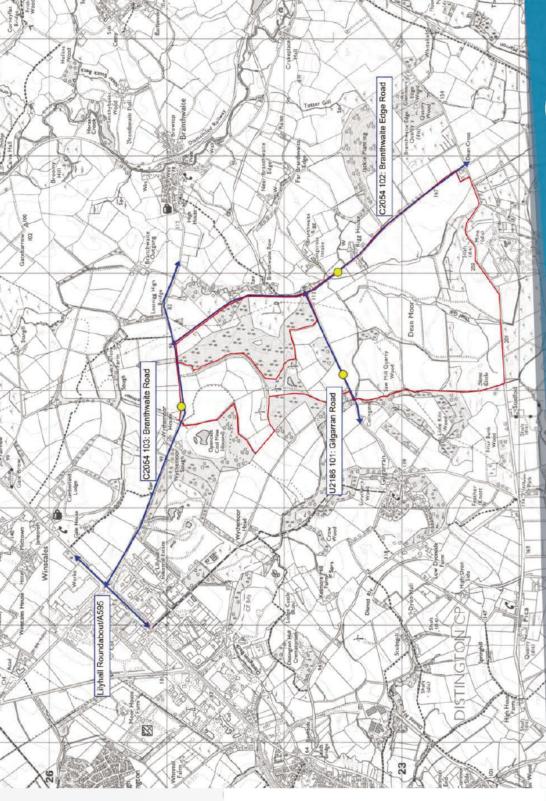




# Construction Traffic

During construction and operation of the solar farm, it is anticipated that there would be some traffic impacts along the three roads identified above as Branthwaite Road, Branthwaite Edge Road and Gilgarran Road. We are currently engaging with National Highways and Cumberland Council as the highway authority to ensure that any potential impacts from traffic on local residents will be appropriately mitigated.





Clean Energy for Cumbria | Clean energy for over 50,000 homes and a brighter future

# **Community Benefit**

FVS Dean Moor is committed to supporting the communities in the vicinity of the Dean Moor solar farm. We have begun working with local partners in the community to help identify local projects that we may be able to contribute towards. This could include the following:

- A scheme to assist local households with energy saving measures, particularly low-income households;
- Support for local energy efficiency and renewable energy generation projects across west Cumbria, including community solar panels and EV charging points for local schools and community organisations;
- the provision of jobs during the construction and operational phases and financial contributions to benefit the local economy during the operation of the solar farm.

We are also currently working with local partners to facilitate the delivery of a £500,000 community benefit fund, to be used on projects across the local area.





# Any Questions?

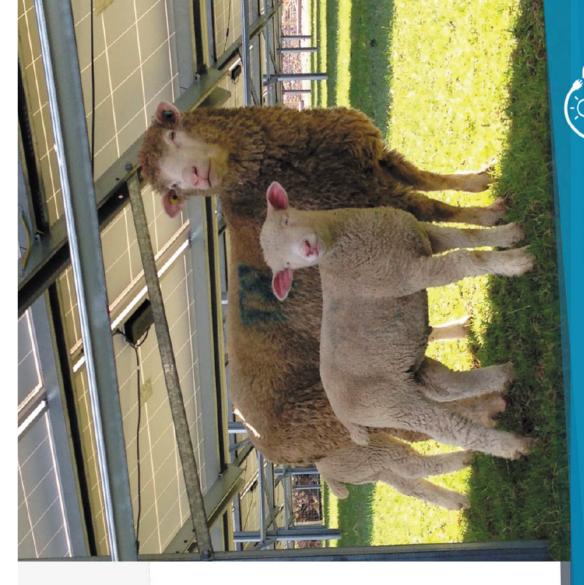
We would love to hear your views on the proposals. Please do not hesitate to get in touch by the following ways.

info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com

FREEPOST - DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM

(no additional address or postage necessary)

www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com







# 2.15 Press release sent ahead of non-statutory consultation

# Firma Vogt Solar announces public consultation for 150MW Dean Moor Solar Farm NSIP

Firma Vogt Solar has announced the start of their informal consultation process for the Dean Moor Solar Farm and co located battery energy storage, a proposed Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria. It is anticipated that Dean Moor Solar Farm would have a capacity of up to 150MW of renewable energy – enough to power over 50,000 typical family homes every year. The 100MW battery facility will reinforce the power generated by the solar farm and provide balancing services to maintain grid stability.

The informal public consultation will be made up of two in-person events, with the first held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October (2pm-7pm) at Dean Kirkstile Hall, CA14 4TH, and the second on Wednesday 18th October (2pm-7pm) in the Solway Lounge at Hunday Manor, CA14 4JF. They will also be holding two online webinars on Thursday 19th October (6pm-7pm) and Monday 30th October (6pm-7pm), which you can sign qu here: www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/public-consultation.

Dean Moor Solar Farm is a joint venture between Firma Energy Ltd and ib vogt UK Ltd, coming together under Firma Vogt Solar. It will be situated between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria on approximately 300 hectares (741 acres) in Cumbria.

The UK Government and Cumberland Council have both declared Climate Emergencies in response to the climate crisis. In April 2022 the Government's British Energy Security Strategy set an ambition to increase the UK's solar capacity from 14GW to 70GW by 2035. National Grid also estimates that this will require a twelve-fold increase in storage capacity by 2050. Dean Moor Solar Farm will play a role in helping the UK achieve energy independence, meet our Net Zero obligations, and combat the current energy crisis, while providing energy storage and investment in local energy infrastructure.

Firma Vogt Solar will be using feedback received during the public consultation to inform their proposals, before the start of the formal statutory consultation period in early 2024.

Firma Vogt Solar will work with local communities to maximise the local benefits delivered by the project and has offered a £500,000 benefit fund which, subject to receiving planning consents, will be utilised for the local community enhancement. Firma Vogt Solar are currently engaging with local partners to identify potential projects they can assist with.

find out more about Dean Moor Solar farm please visit the website: www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com.

## Rufus Salter, Director at Firma Vogt Solar

"Firma Vogt Solar is dedicated to shaping a greener future and supporting the UK's mission to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. We're keen to hear from the public as part of the informal public consultation process, as we firmly believe that solar energy, a clean and renewable resource, should play a key role in addressing the current energy challenges faced by the UK. Dean Moor Solar Farm exemplifies our commitment in action, as it is set

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to play a significant role in advancing these important goals, creating a positive impact for both the environment and the country's energy landscape".

## **END**

## Note to Editors

# Firma Energy

Founded in 2021 by Rufus Salter and Andrew Jones, Firma is an independent management owned business, based in Leeds. The business has a focus on creating and delivering value from renewable energy developments with environmental and social benefits.

Across the UK Firma currently has projects totalling over 1800 MW in development, including 300 MW of solar.

# lb vogt

ib vogt (IBV) is a leading developer specialising in utility-scale infrastructure for solar photovoltaic (PV) farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). With a 20-year history of global expertise, we have been a significant player in the UK solar industry, holding the position of the second-largest solar developer in the country from 2012 to 2017 and with over 40GW of development projects in the pipeline globally.

At ib vogt we are committed to sustainable energy and high-quality local development, a commitment solidified by our participation in the UN Global Compact. With over 490MWp of solar operations in the UK our projects are designed and delivered with consideration for communities at their core. Through transparent communication and investment in local employment, we strive to empower local resilience while addressing the global challenges of climate change. Our focus on development and engineering excellence supports our mission to create a greener future through renewable energy solutions.

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# 2.16 Non-statutory consultation Meta Facebook/Instagram adverts

2.16.1 The below advert was placed to advertise the non-statutory consultation, using the Meta Suite (Facebook, Instagram) from 11th October 2023 – 31st October 2023. The advert linked viewers to the project website at www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com.

> "PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS FOR DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM

Tuesday 17 October 2pm-7pm Dean Kirkstile Hall, Workington CA14 4TH

Wednesday 18 October 2pm-7pm Solway Lounge, Hunday Manor, Winscales CA14 4JF

WEBINARS:

Thursday 19 October 6pm-7pm Monday 30 October 6pm-7pm

Please sign up for our webinars via the website below!"



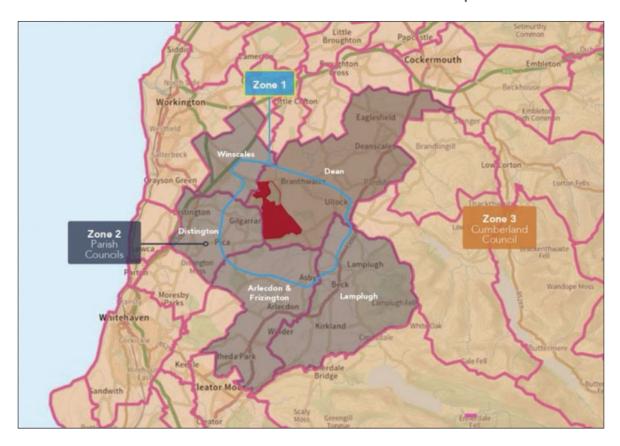
Dean Moor Solar Farm: Consultation Report

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# 2.17 Non-statutory consultation Meta Facebook/Instagram consultation zone

2.17.1 Meta adverts covered the Zone 1 and Zone 2 of the map below.



Appendices: Ref 5.2

March 2025



# 2.18 Example of invitations to local groups and organisations

Dean Moor Solar Farm: Consultation Report

Appendices: Ref 5.2

Subject: Dean Moor Solar Farm Consultation Invitation

Date: Tuesday, 3 October 2023 at 11:09:31 British Summer Time

From:

To: @cumberland.gov.uk

cc: info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com

Attachments: dean\_moor\_brochure\_FINAL2.pdf

Dear XXX

I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing to you on behalf of FVS Dean Moor Ltd to invite you to our public consultation events for our proposals for a solar farm with battery energy storage at Dean Moor, between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria. We would like to provide you with some background information and explain how you can find out more.

I have attached a copy of the invitation brochure which will shortly be sent to local residents, which contains further information on our proposals. We are very keen to ensure that local residents are able to gain all the information that they need about the project.

We are currently holding our first phase of non-statutory, informal public consultation, where local residents will have the opportunity to learn more about the proposals and ask any questions they may have. The feedback we receive at this stage will help inform our proposals, before our statutory public consultation in early 2024 – more details of which we will circulate closer to the time.

We would therefore like to invite you to attend our public consultation events this month. We will be holding two in-person events on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October (2pm-7pm) at Dean Kirkstile Hall, CA14 4TH, and on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October (2pm-7pm) in the Solway Lounge at Hunday Manor, CA14 4JF. We will also be holding two online webinars on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October (6pm-7pm) and Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October (6pm-7pm), the links to which may be found here: <a href="www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/public-consultation">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/public-consultation</a>.

We would also be happy to arrange a personal call or a meeting to provide further information about the proposals. Please do let us know if this is something that would be of interest.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any questions; enquiries may be directed via our phone at 0800 041 8643, via email at <a href="mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com">info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com</a>, or via our website at <a href="mailto:www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com</a>.



A108 1 of 1

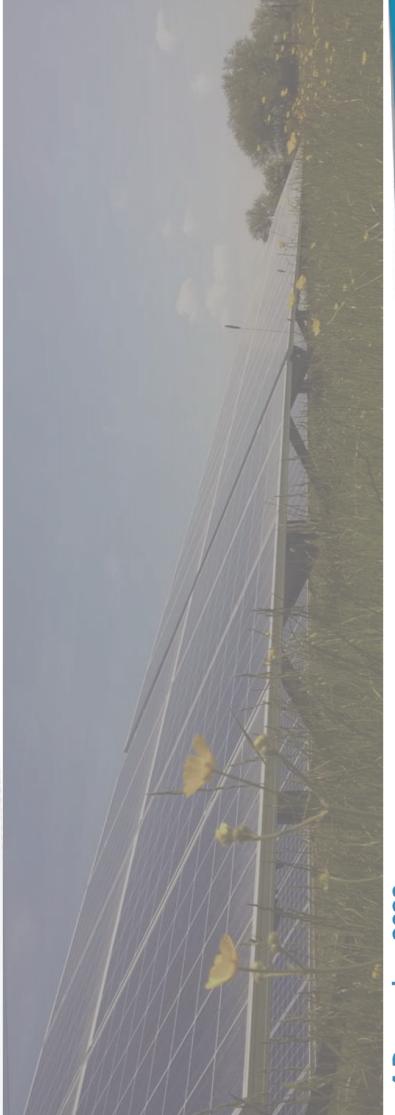


### 2.19. December 2023 presentation to Cumberland Council **Climate and Nature Advisory Group**

Dean Moor Solar Farm: Consultation Report A109

Appendices: Ref 5.2

## Dean Moor Solar Farm



4 December 2023



### About us

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addressing the global challenges of climate change. IBV's focus on development and engineering excellence participation in the UN Global Compact. With over 490MWp of solar operations in the UK IBV projects are IBV is committed to sustainable energy and high-quality local development, a commitment solidified by communication and investment in local employment, IBV strives to empower local resilience while designed and delivered with consideration for communities at their core. Through transparent supports its mission to create a greener future through renewable energy solutions.



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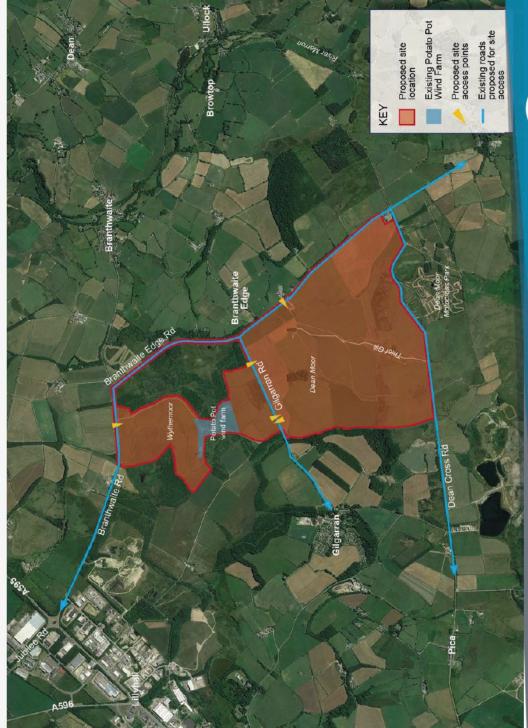
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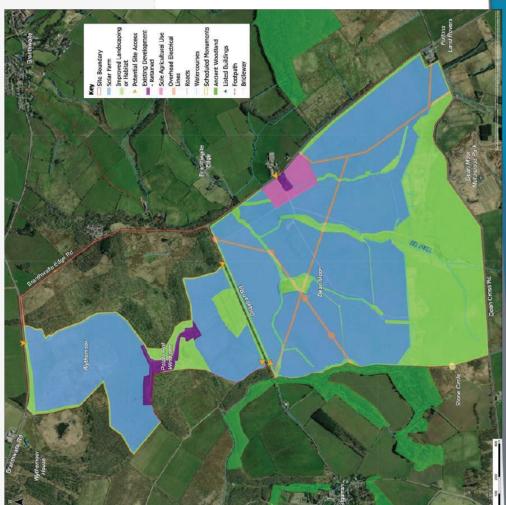


### Proposed Site Location





### Preliminary Layout Design





### **Benefits**

### Why do we need solar?

committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions energy projects like Dean Moor solar farm to help The UK has declared a Climate Emergency and by 2050. To achieve this, we need renewable reduce the UK's reliance on fossil fuels and improve our energy security.

and the Council's aim to "help the most vulnerable stated its commitment to the environment and to forefront of everything we do – working to create emerging Cumberland Council Plan (2023-2027), a more sustainable future for all at Cumberland". Dean Moor Solar Farm would help support the The recently formed Cumberland Council has fighting climate change, by putting it "at the with issues such as fuel poverty".

### Assisting low-income Support for community £500,000 financial solar panels Approximately business rates for households with energy saving Increase in measures

### A eleaner Gumbria

Sun powered local prosperity

through local partners

contribution to the local community

the council to invest

locally



Battery storage will

have the capacity to **MW** 00 store up to of energy

to power over **50,000** 

family homes

per year

Enough energy

dimate goals the Council achieve its Helping

EV charging points

Support for

Ensure Britain leads the international push for Net Zero

Government's goal to

Support The

increase the UK's

solar capacity

Creation of

local jobs

C02

Achieve National Grid's call for twelve-fold electricity storage increase in

> energy and storage for Rapidly deploy clean

a carbon-free power system by 2035

### To help Britteth lead the way

 $\frac{\langle \hat{\mathbf{D}} \rangle_{\Phi}}{\langle \hat{\mathbf{D}} \rangle}$  To bring back Britain's biodiversity  $\langle \hat{\mathbf{D}} \rangle_{0}$ 

Maintained site for

New habitats for

wildlife

sheep

the government's net gain beyond 10% target A biodiversity



# **NSIP Planning Process & Timeline**

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### Indicative Timeline

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Non-Statutory Consultation

**Early 2024** 

Ongoing

Statutory Consultation

Winter 2024

Planning Inspectorate



Examination overseen by Planning Inspectorate



# **Environmental Benefits**



in the future, once the solar farm has soil quality to improve, but does not prevent the land from being farmed been decommissioned at the end of can have a negative impact on the allows native species to thrive and intensive farming practices, which environment. This development opportunity to move away from Solar development provides an its operational lifetime.

aside ecological enhancement areas, For the Project, a biodiversity netgain would be achieved by setting incorporating new native species planting, providing new wildlife improvement measures would habitats. The environmental

We anticipate that these measures Bann unac significantly exceeds une would result in a biodiversity net Government's 10% target.



Cultivating wildflower meadow for pollinators



Improving grazing meadows and expanding acid grasslands.



Enhancing hedgerows, planting native species.



Installing bird, bat, invertebrate boxes, and hibernacula.



Protecting watercourses, planting

Introducing native trees, expanding woodlands. waterside vegetation.



Managing grassland with lowintensity sheep grazing.

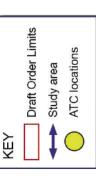


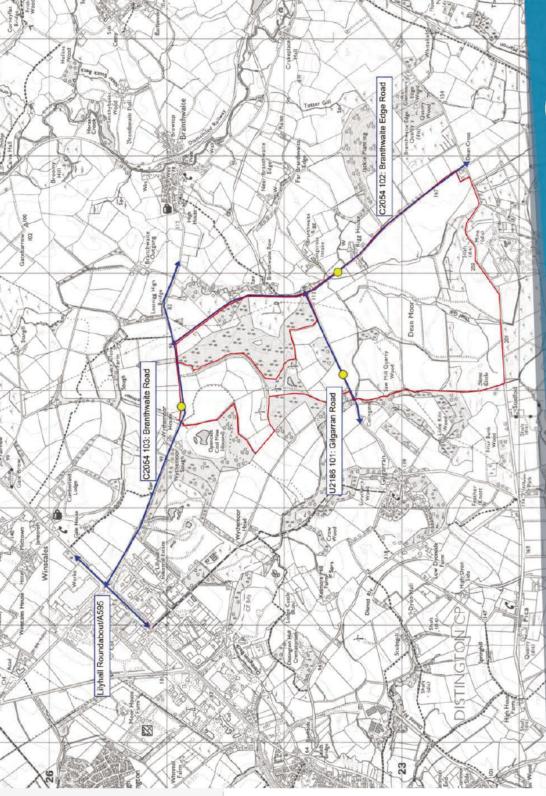




### Construction Traffic

During construction and operation of the solar farm, it is anticipated that there would be some traffic impacts along the three roads identified above as Branthwaite Road. Branthwaite Edge Road and Gilgarran Road. We are currently engaging with National Highways and Cumberland Council as the highway authority to ensure that any potential impacts from traffic on local residents will be appropriately mitigated.







## **Community Benefit**

FVS Dean Moor is committed to supporting the communities in the vicinity of the Dean Moor solar farm. We have begun working with local partners in the community to help identify local projects that we may be able to contribute towards. This could include the following:

- A scheme to assist local households with energy saving measures, particularly low-income households;
- Support for local energy efficiency and renewable energy generation projects across west Cumbria, including community solar panels and EV charging points for local schools and community organisations;
- the provision of jobs during the construction and operational phases and financial contributions to benefit the local economy during the operation of the solar farm.

We are also currently working with local partners to facilitate the delivery of a £500,000 community benefit fund, to be used on projects across the local area.





### Any Questions?

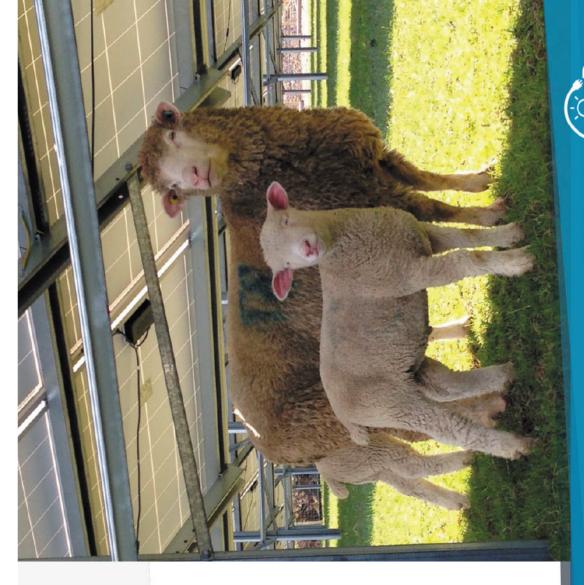
We would love to hear your views on the proposals. Please do not hesitate to get in touch by the following ways.

info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com

FREEPOST - DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM

(no additional address or postage necessary)

www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com







### 3 Appendix 3

3.1 All appendices referenced in Chapter 3: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Consultation can be found in the ES [REF: 6.1].

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