Rosefield Solar Farm

Consultation Report
Appendices A-1 to A-4

EN010158/APP/5.2
September 2025
Rosefield Energyfarm Limited

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)
Planning Act 2008
Infrastructure Planning
(Applications: Prescribed Forms
and Procedure) Regulations
2009

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Appendix A-1 – Launch materials and advertising

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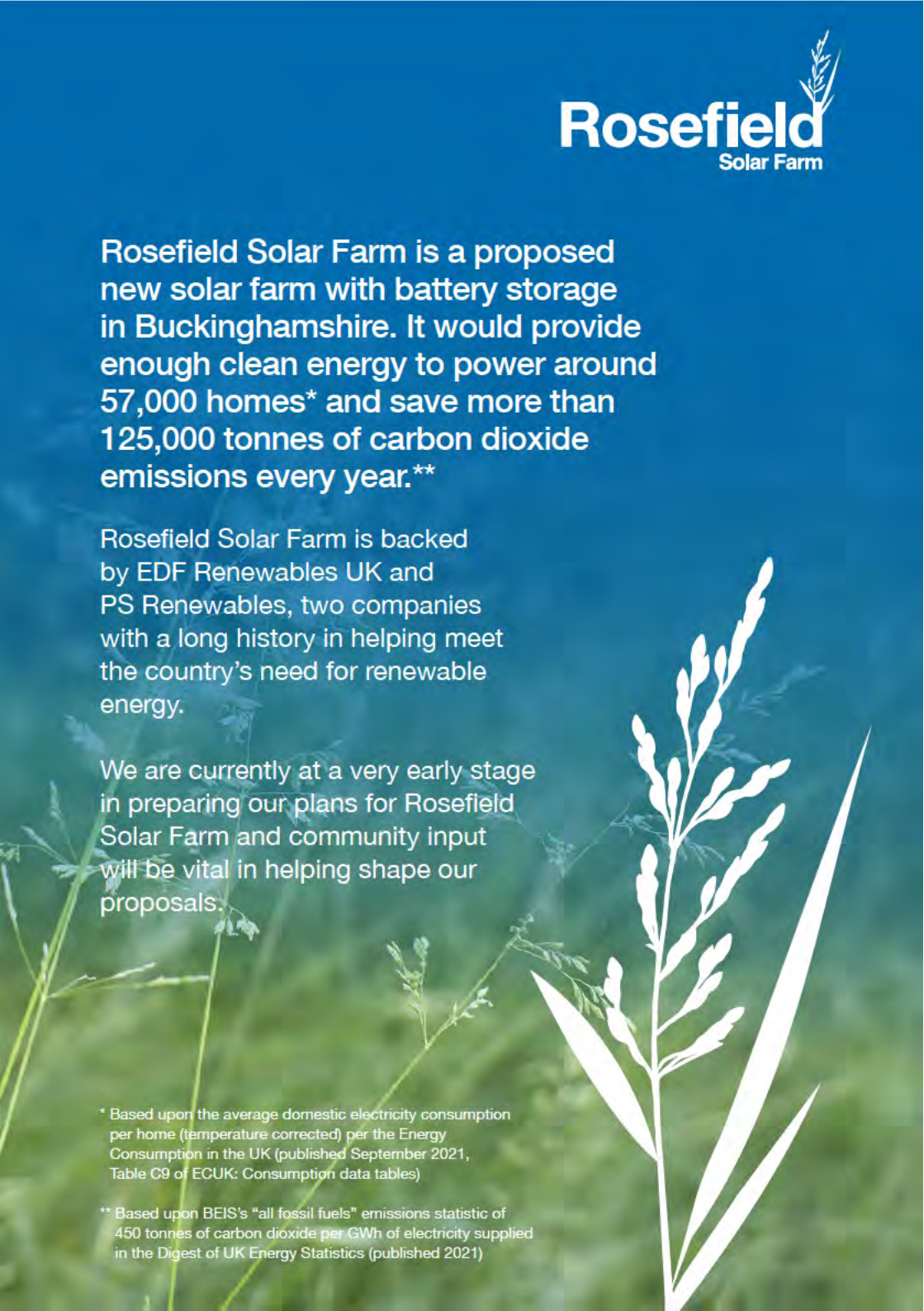
Appendix A-1.1- Launch leaflet

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Rosefield Solar Farm is a proposed new solar farm with battery storage in Buckinghamshire. It would provide enough clean energy to power around 57,000 homes* and save more than 125,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions every year.**

Rosefield Solar Farm is backed by EDF Renewables UK and PS Renewables, two companies with a long history in helping meet the country's need for renewable energy.

We are currently at a very early stage in preparing our plans for Rosefield Solar Farm and community input will be vital in helping shape our proposals.



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

** Based upon BEIS's "all fossil fuels" emissions statistic of 450 tonnes of carbon dioxide per GWh of electricity supplied in the Digest of UK Energy Statistics (published 2021)

Location plan

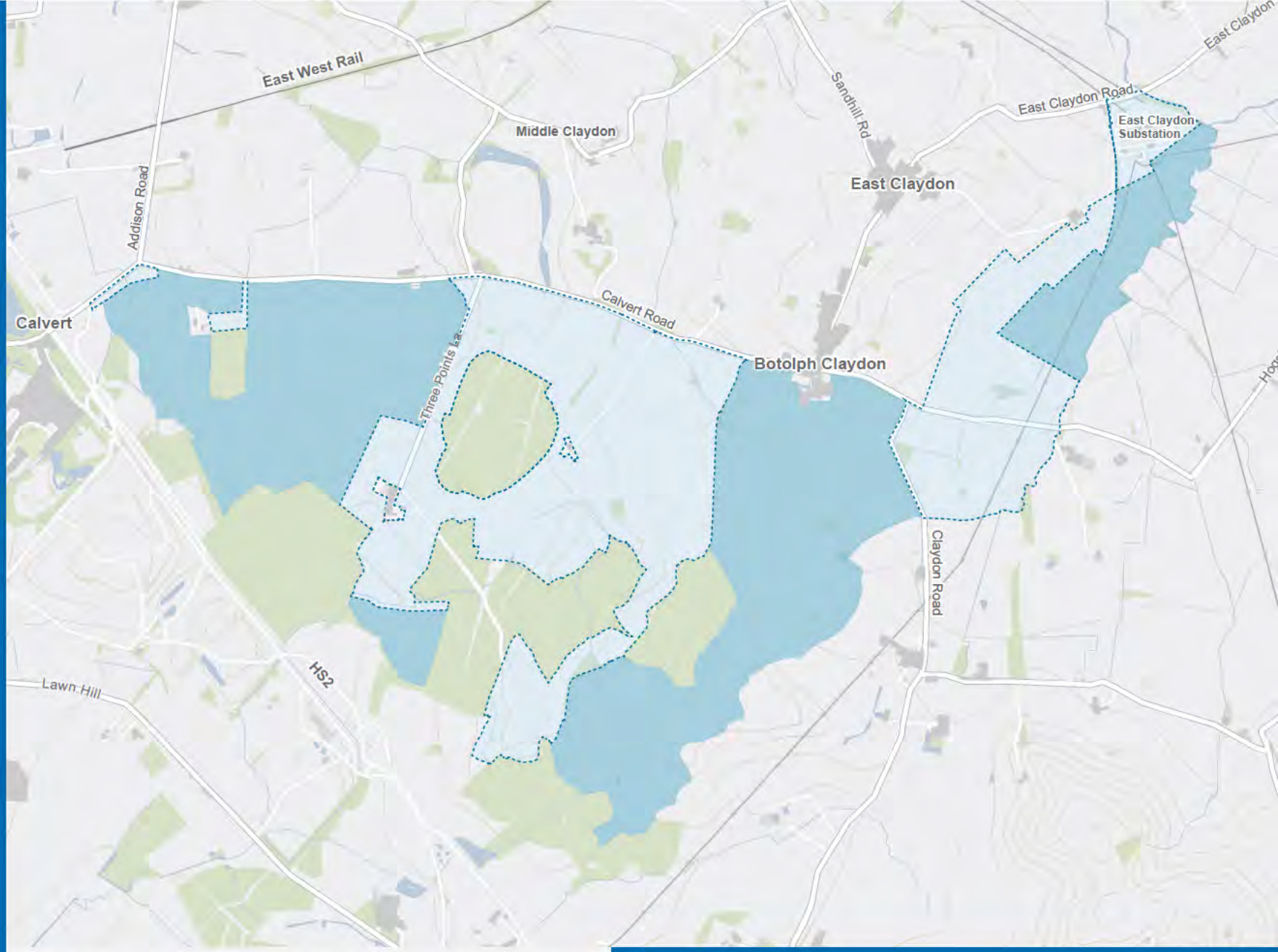
The plan on this page shows the area we are considering for Rosefield Solar Farm.

We expect to use only around half of the site for energy generation and storage.

We will also be looking for opportunities to boost biodiversity and provide environmental mitigation, such as planting new habitats to support local wildlife.

In other areas, we are working to find the most appropriate locations for the underground cabling that will connect the site to the grid. We will also use some of these areas temporarily during construction.

We will share more information about Rosefield Solar Farm, including our early design, during our consultation which will start on Thursday, 28 September 2023.



Working with local landowners

The land is predominantly owned by Claydon Estate. Rosefield Solar Farm will play an important role in supporting the estate's vision for a sustainable future.

Next steps

Consultation will start on Thursday, 28 September 2023 and include more details about the Rosefield Solar Farm site, our design process, how we plan to assess potential environmental effects, and the benefits to the community that our proposals could bring.

All of the consultation information will be on our website, and we will also hold a series of public events where you can talk to us about the proposals and give us your feedback. The dates and locations are:

Wednesday, 4 October 2023
(2:30pm - 6:30pm)
Calvert Green Village Hall
and Brickworx Bar
Cotswolds Way, Calvert
Buckingham MK18 2FJ

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(10am - 2pm)
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Queen Catherine Road
Steeple Claydon
Buckingham MK18 2PY

Planning process

Rosefield Solar Farm would make an important contribution to increasing Britain's clean energy capacity and meeting the government's target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

The size of this development means we will apply for a type of planning consent called a Development Consent Order (DCO), which is decided by the government. Consultation forms a key part of the DCO process, both before we submit the application and as part of the examination process. For more information about the planning process, visit the Planning Inspectorate website:

infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/

Get in touch

For further information, please contact us on **0800 8611097**
or **info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk**
You can also visit our website, **rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk**, for updates throughout the process.

Appendix A-1.2 - Stakeholder launch email

From: Rosefield Solar Farm
To: [redacted]
Subject:
Attachments: Rosefield Solar Farm Leaflet.pdf

Dear Councillor,

I am writing to introduce our proposals for Rosefield Solar Farm, a proposed new solar farm with battery storage located in Buckinghamshire. Rosefield Solar Farm would be capable of providing enough clean energy to power around 57,000 homes and save more than 125,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions every year.

I have attached a leaflet to this email, which provides a location plan and sets out what happens next.

As a representative of the local community, we wanted to provide you with this information as early as possible. We also wanted to provide our contact details, so that you have an opportunity to meet with us and to learn more about the proposals.

We are currently at a very early stage in preparing our plans for Rosefield Solar Farm and community input will be vital in helping shape our proposals.

Our first public consultation will start on Thursday, 28 September 2023 and will include more details about the Rosefield Solar Farm site, our design process, how we plan to assess potential environmental effects, and the benefits to the community that our proposals could bring.

All of the consultation information will be published on our website, and we will also hold a series of public events where community members can talk to us about the proposals and provide their feedback. Details of the locations and times of our public events are in the attached leaflet.

We would very much appreciate an opportunity to meet with you to discuss the proposals in more detail. Please do get in touch if you are able to attend one of the consultation events or if you would like to meet separately.

If you have any other questions, please contact us on 0800 8611097 or info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk.

You can also visit our website, rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk, for updates throughout the process.

Yours faithfully

[redacted]

Rosefield Solar Farm

From:	Rosefield Solar Farm
To:	Rosefield Solar Farm
Subject:	Introducing Rosefield Solar Farm
Date:	18 September 2023 08:10:03
Attachments:	Rosefield Solar Farm Leaflet.pdf

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to introduce our proposals for Rosefield Solar Farm, a proposed new solar farm with battery storage located in Buckinghamshire, and to provide advance notice of our non-statutory consultation process that will commence on 28 September 2023. I have attached a leaflet to this email that provides some information about Rosefield Solar Farm.

Rosefield Solar Farm would be capable of providing enough clean energy to power around 57,000 homes and save more than 125,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions every year.

We are currently at a very early stage in preparing our plans for Rosefield Solar Farm and local input will be vital in helping shape our proposals.

As part of our consultation process, we will publish more detail about the Rosefield Solar Farm site, our design process, how we plan to assess potential environmental effects, and the benefits to the community that our proposals could bring. We will also hold a series of public events where you can talk to us about the proposals and provide your feedback. Details of the locations and times of these events are in the attached leaflet.

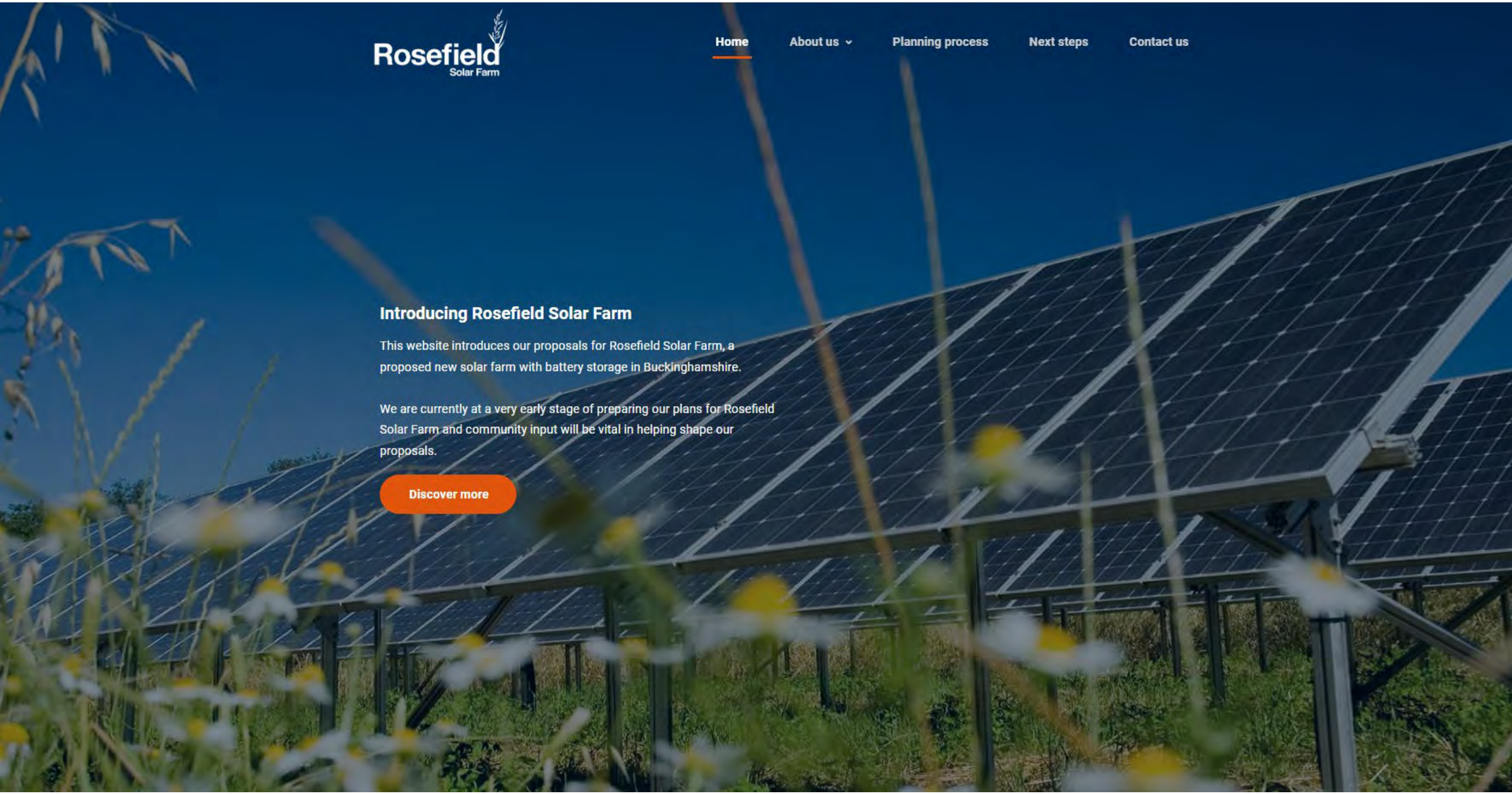
If you have any questions, please contact us on 0800 8611097 or info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk.

You can also visit our website, rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk, for updates throughout the process.

Yours faithfully,

[redacted]
Project Manager

Appendix A-1.3 - Screenshot of launch Rosefield Solar Farm website


Rosefield
Solar Farm
Home
About us
Planning process
Next steps
Contact us
Introducing Rosefield Solar Farm
This website introduces our proposals for Rosefield Solar Farm, a proposed new solar farm with battery storage in Buckinghamshire.
We are currently at a very early stage of preparing our plans for Rosefield Solar Farm and community input will be vital in helping shape our proposals.
Discover more

What is Rosefield Solar Farm

Rosefield Solar Farm is a proposed new solar farm with battery storage in Buckinghamshire that would provide enough clean energy to power more than 57,000 homes* and save more than 125,000 tonnes of carbon** every year.

Like all solar farms, Rosefield Solar Farm would have a lifespan of around 40 years. Once the panels are removed, the land could be returned to agricultural use.

With input from communities, local authorities and other organisations as well as outputs from our environmental surveys, we will continue to refine our proposals over the coming months.

We will share our early thoughts about the design of Rosefield Solar Farm during our consultation which will start on Thursday, 28 September 2023.

Read more

Why is Rosefield Solar Farm needed?

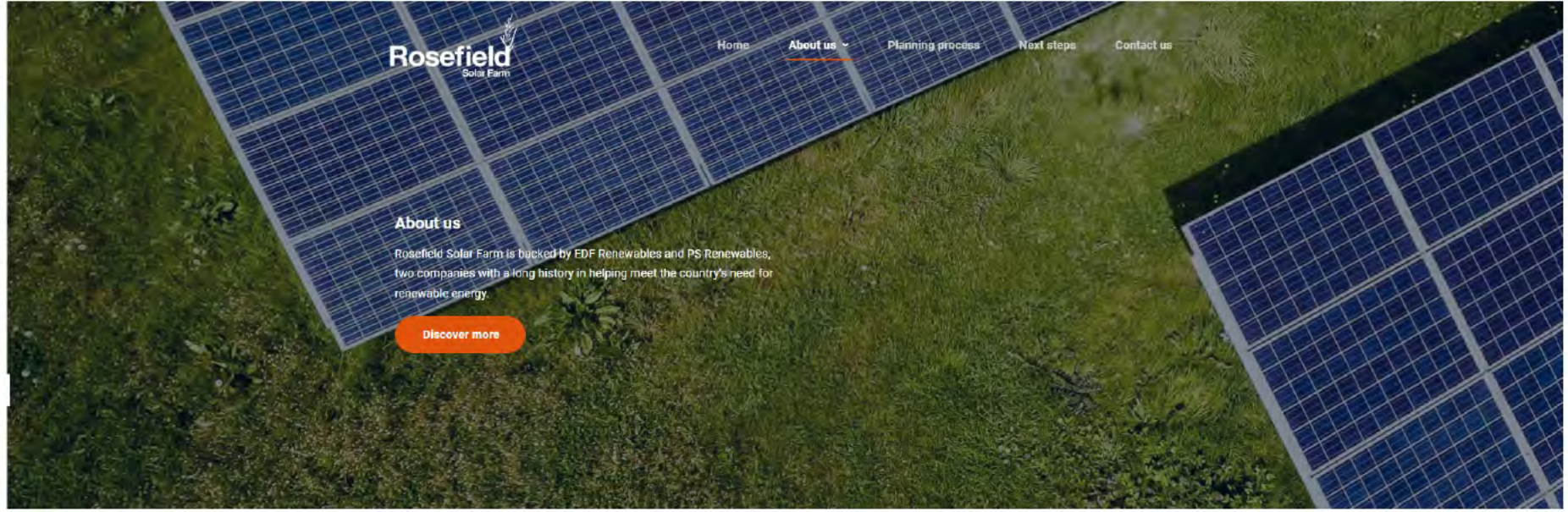
Rosefield Solar Farm will help the UK build a cleaner, more secure energy system and will make an important contribution to meeting the government's target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

The UK is undergoing a major change in the way it meets its energy needs. In 2019, the government legislated to commit the country to achieving 'net zero' carbon emissions by 2050 against 1990 levels.

Read more

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

** Based upon BEIS's "all fossil fuels" emissions statistic of 450 tonnes of carbon dioxide per GWh of electricity supplied in the Digest of UK Energy Statistics (published 2021).



EDF Renewables UK and Ireland is a subsidiary of EDF Group, one of the world's largest low carbon electricity companies. We have an operating portfolio of 41 renewable energy sites, totalling more than 1.5 GW of electricity, across battery, onshore and offshore wind. Our contribution to the UK's energy supply is set to expand further with almost 14 GW of projects in planning and development, including wind, battery and solar.

EDF Renewables invests for the long-term in the projects and communities where we operate. We remain involved in and committed to projects over their lifetime from development, construction and operation, all the way through to decommissioning.

We're pleased to be working with PS Renewables, an established UK-based renewable energy development and construction company, with an existing solar portfolio totalling more than 850MW of electricity.

We have a strong track record of working jointly on solar projects and are also working closely with the Claydon Estate, the main owner of the land needed for Rosefield Solar Farm. Rosefield Solar Farm will play an important role in supporting the estate's vision for a sustainable future.

You can find out more about both organisations at: www.edf-re.uk and www.psrenewables.com

EDF renewables

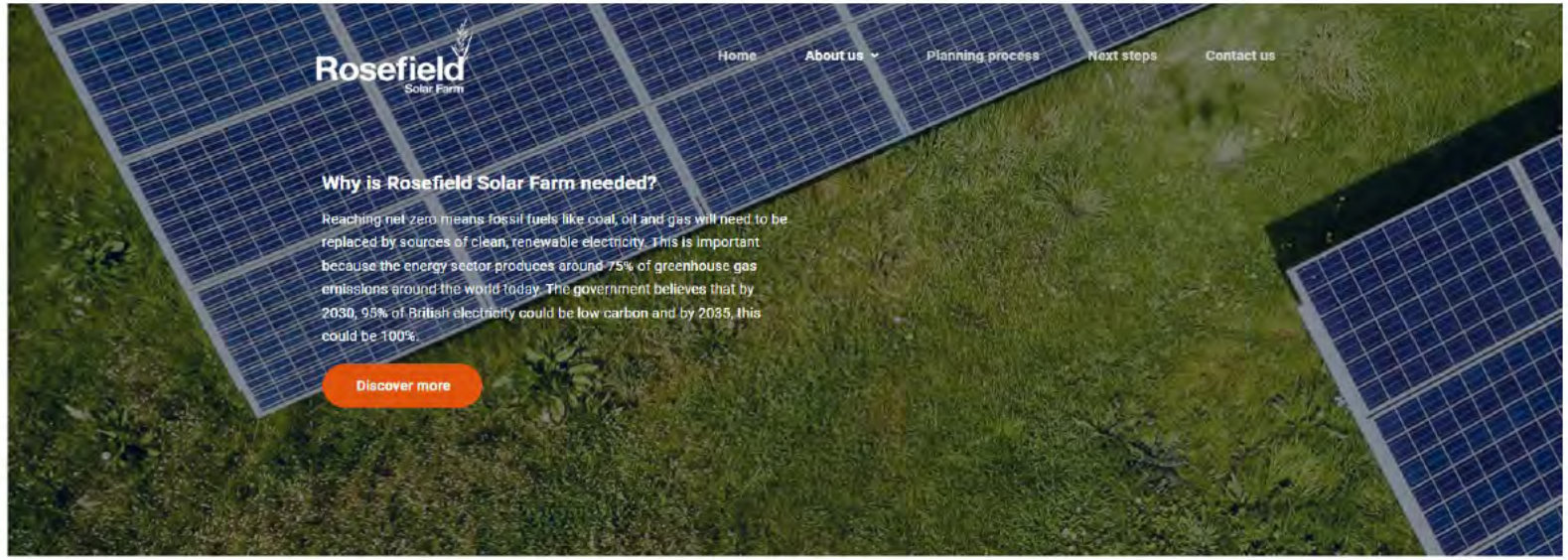
PS Renewables
Green Energy Investments

We are expecting to use only around half of the site for energy generation and storage. In the remaining areas, we will be looking at opportunities for boosting biodiversity and providing environmental mitigation or burying underground cables that will connect the solar farm to the grid. Some areas will also be used temporarily during construction.

With input from communities, local authorities and other organisations as well as outputs from our environmental surveys, we will continue to refine the proposals over the coming months.

More information on the early proposed design and layout of Rosefield will be available during the consultation which starts on Thursday, 28 September 2023.

We are working closely with the Claydon Estate, the main owner of the land needed for Rosefield Solar Farm. Rosefield Solar Farm will play an important role in supporting the estate's vision for a sustainable future.



In the future, electricity will have a much larger role to play in our energy system. As the UK transitions to net zero, our whole economy will switch over to cleaner forms of electricity – to heat our homes and power our future transport systems, buildings and industries. This means we need to produce a lot more electricity than we currently do. In fact, electricity demand is set to double by 2050.

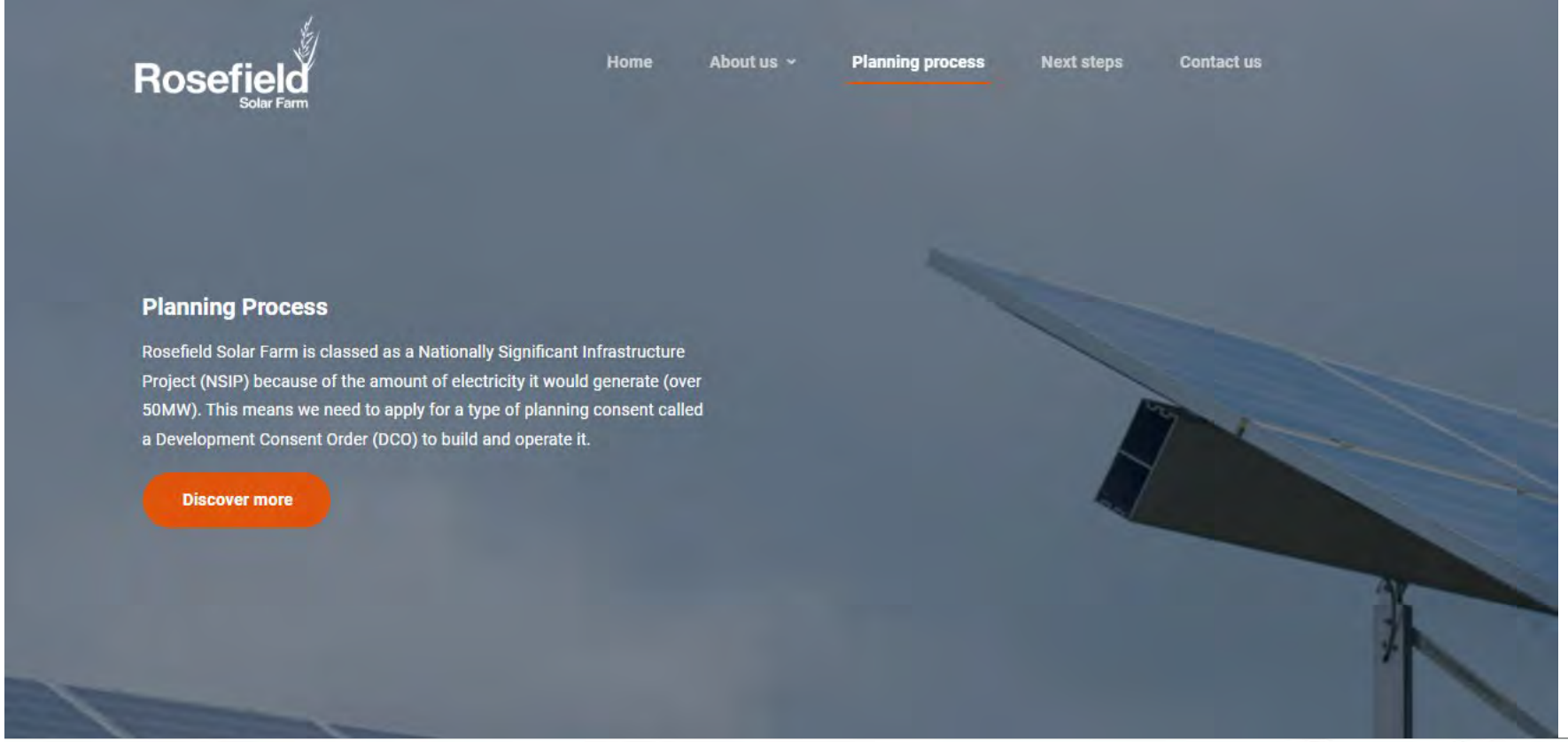
All of this means we need to increase the amount of clean electricity we produce by increasing the sources of renewable energy we have in the UK. Having multiple sources of electricity will help the UK boost its domestic supply of clean energy and create a reliable and secure energy network.

Solar is an important part of the way we meet this need – it is the most affordable source of renewable energy in the UK*, it is reliable and can be built quickly compared to other renewable technologies.

It is also low-impact – the amount of solar we need to reach our net-zero target would use just 0.3 per cent of land in the UK. Solar lasts around 40 years and once it is removed, the land can be returned to its original use.

Rosefield Solar Farm will make an important contribution to helping the UK build a cleaner, more secure energy system and reaching our net-zero target.

* Department for Energy Security & Net Zero, *Electricity Generation Costs Report 2023*, 2023



Planning Process

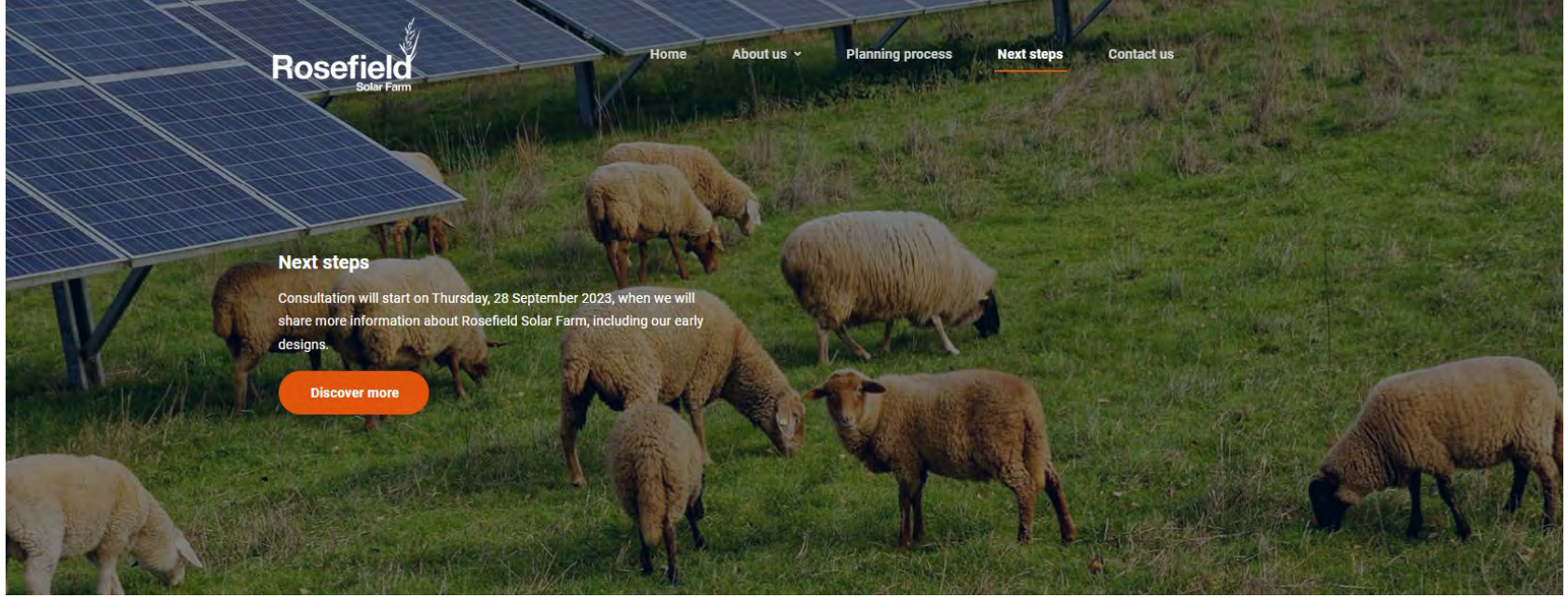
Rosefield Solar Farm is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) because of the amount of electricity it would generate (over 50MW). This means we need to apply for a type of planning consent called a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build and operate it.

Discover more

Consultation is an important part of the DCO process as it enables everyone to comment on the proposals. The feedback received, along with further technical work and environmental studies, will inform the development of our proposals ahead of the submission of our DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate.

For more information about the planning process, please visit the Planning Inspectorate website here:

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/



All the consultation information will be shared here on our website, and we will also hold a series of public events, where you can come and talk to us about the proposals and provide your feedback. The dates and locations of these sessions are:

Wednesday, 4 October 2023 (2:30pm – 6:30pm)
Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar
Cotswolds Way, Calvert, Buckingham MK18 2FJ

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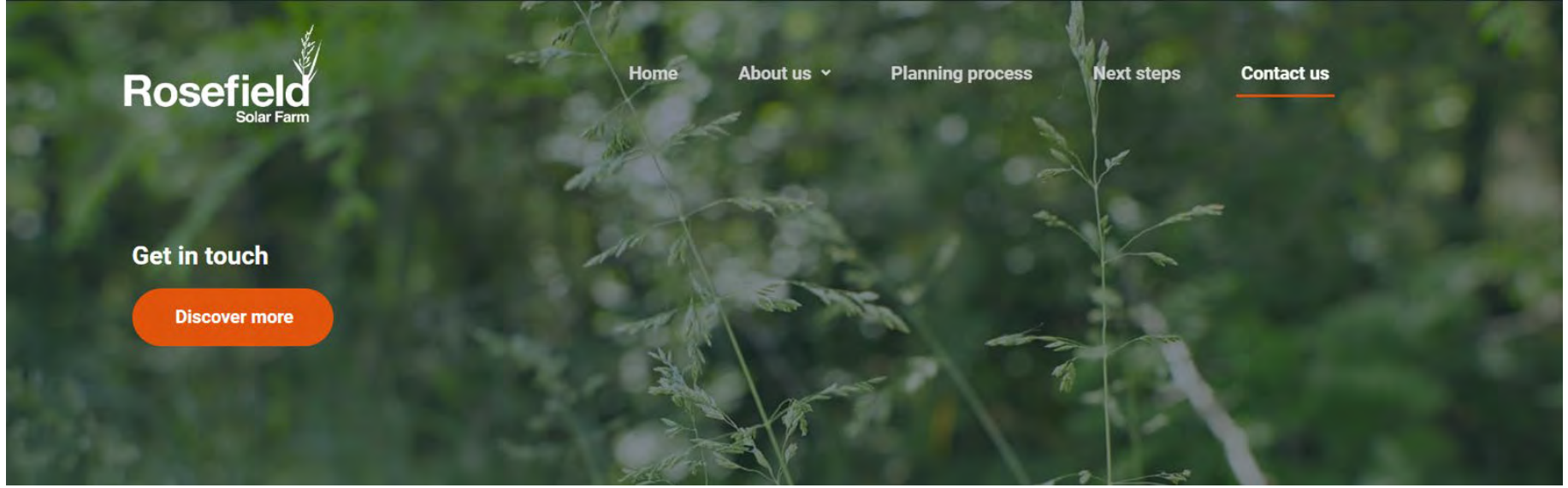

Your name *

Your email *

Subject

Your message (optional)

Submit

For further information, please contact us on 0800 8611097 or info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

By submitting a contact form, you agree to our terms and conditions and that you have read our privacy policy. You may receive email updates from Rosefield Solar Farm and you can opt out at any time.

Appendix A-1.4 – Launch advertising

Have your say

Rosefield Solar Farm

28 September 2023 – 10 November 2023

We will shortly be sharing our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm, a proposed new solar farm with battery storage in Buckinghamshire.

We are keen for as many people as possible to share their feedback during our consultation, which begins on Thursday 28 September 2023.

Find out more

Come along to a public exhibition

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NEW EVENT

Visit rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

Pick up a copy of our consultation booklet

Aylesbury Library County Hall, Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire Council Walton Street Offices, Walton Street, Aylesbury
Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar Cotswolds Way, Calvert
East and Botolph Claydon Village Hall Botyl Road, Botolph Claydon
Steeple Claydon Library 48 Queen Catherine Rd, Steeple Claydon
Winslow Community Library Park Rd, Winslow

Get in touch

For further information or to request a copy of our consultation materials, please get in touch:

0800 861 1097 (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday)

info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

Rosefield Solar Farm
FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL
(no stamp required)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

14 September 2023

Consultation announced on new solar farm which could power over 57,000 homes

Buckinghamshire (14 September 2023) – Plans for a new solar farm with battery storage in Buckinghamshire are being announced today by EDF Renewables UK and PS Renewables.

Rosefield Solar Farm could power more than 57,000 homes* and save around 125,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions** every year – the equivalent of taking approximately 72,000 petrol cars off our roads.

Located between Buckingham and Aylesbury, Rosefield Solar Farm is expected to make a significant contribution to increasing Britain's clean energy supply, powering the equivalent of around a quarter of all homes in Buckinghamshire.

Details of our early plans will be published for consultation on Thursday, 28 September 2023. The consultation will run for six weeks, with feedback from the community helping to shape the plans for Rosefield Solar Farm and identify potential benefits for the local area.

EDF Renewables UK's Director of Solar, Storage and Private Wire, [redacted] said, "At EDF Renewables UK, we're passionate about creating a future where clean energy powers our lives. Rosefield Solar Farm would produce much-needed low-carbon electricity here in the UK, helping to power thousands of homes and businesses every year.

"We are currently at a very early stage in developing our plans for Rosefield Solar Farm and look forward to hearing the views of the local community. Consultation is a vital part of the design process, and we encourage everyone to get in touch, meet the team and share their views."

[redacted] Co-Owner & Director at PS Renewables said, "PS Renewables has supported the UK's transition to net zero for more than a decade. We look forward to working with the community to deliver a scheme that provides substantial benefits for the environment and local area to enjoy for generations to come."

The consultation on Rosefield Solar Farm will include a series of events, enabling members of the public to view the plans, meet the project team, ask questions, and provide feedback. These events will take place at:

- Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar on Wednesday, 4 October 2023 between 2:30 pm - 6:30 pm
- Quainton Memorial Hall on Friday, 6 October 2023 between 2 pm - 6 pm
- East and Botolph Claydon Village Hall Saturday, 7 October 2023 between 10 am - 2 pm
- Steeple Claydon Village Hall on Monday, 9 October 2023 between 10 am - 2 pm

For more information, please visit the project website: www.rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk which will also host the consultation materials from Thursday, 28 September 2023.

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** Based upon BEIS's "all fossil fuels" emissions statistic of 450 tonnes of carbon dioxide per GWh of electricity supplied in the Digest of UK Energy Statistics (published 2021)

ENDS

Notes to editors

About EDF Renewables UK

EDF Renewables UK and Ireland is a subsidiary of EDF Group, one of the world's largest low carbon electricity companies. With our operating portfolio of 41 renewable energy sites including battery, onshore and offshore wind (together totalling more than 1.5 GW) we are providing much needed low carbon electricity. We have an expanding portfolio with almost 14 GW of projects in planning and development, including wind, battery and solar PV.

Find out more at www.edf-re.uk

About PS Renewables

PS Renewables is an established UK-based renewable energy development and construction company, with an existing solar portfolio producing more than 850MW of electricity.

Find out more at www.psrenewables.com

EDF Renewables and PS Renewables have a strong track record of working jointly, previously developing the Longfield Solar Farm application together.

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects

Rosefield Solar Farm is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) because of its generating capacity (over 50MW). NSIPs require planning permission to be granted by the relevant Secretary of State through a Development Consent Order (DCO).

Further information about the DCO process is available at the Planning Inspectorate's website: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/

For further information, please contact:

info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

0800 8611097

[redacted]

[redacted]

Have your say

Rosefield Solar Farm

28 September 2023 – 10 November 2023

We will shortly be sharing our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm, a proposed new solar farm with battery storage in Buckinghamshire.

We are keen for as many people as possible to share their feedback during our consultation, which begins on Thursday 28 September 2023.

Find out more

Come along to a public exhibition

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Visit rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

Pick up a copy of our consultation booklet

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Get in touch

For further information or to request a copy of our consultation materials, please get in touch:

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info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

Rosefield Solar Farm
FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL
(no stamp required)

1 Bucks Herald
URN: NMC6267314 Date: 20/09/2023 Section: ROP

Have your say

Rosefield Solar Farm

28 September 2023 – 10 November 2023

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NEWS

[redacted]

Have your say

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28 September 2023 – 10 November 2023

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Rosefield Solar Farm
FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL
(no stamp required)

Appendix A-2 - Phase One Consultation materials and advertising

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Appendix A-2.1 - Phase One Consultation newsletter

Rosefield
Solar Farm

We are now consulting on our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm.

Rosefield Solar Farm is a proposed new solar farm with battery storage located in Buckinghamshire. It would provide enough clean energy to power more than 57,000 homes* and save around 125,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions** every year.

This newsletter sets out how you can get involved in the consultation, where you can get more information and how you can send us your feedback.

Consultation will run from 28 September until 10 November 2023.

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

** Based upon BEIS's "all fossil fuels" emissions statistic of 450 tonnes of carbon dioxide per GWh of electricity supplied in the Digest of UK Energy Statistics (published 2021)

How to get involved

You can find out more about Rosefield Solar Farm by:

- Phoning **0800 861 1097**, emailing **info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk** or writing to our Freepost (no stamp required) address:

  Rosefield Solar Farm
  FREEPOST SEC NEWGATE UK LOCAL

- Visiting our project website: **www.rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk** where you can view and download our consultation materials, and visit our virtual exhibition.

- Coming along to the public exhibitions we are holding:

Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar		**Wednesday, 4 October 2023 (2:30pm - 6:30pm)**
Quainton Memorial Hall		**Friday, 6 October 2023 (2pm - 6pm)**
East and Botolph Claydon Village Hall		**Saturday, 7 October 2023 (10am - 2pm)**
Steeple Claydon Village Hall		**Monday, 9 October 2023 (10am - 2pm)**
Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar	NEW EVENT	**Wednesday, 1 November 2023 (5pm - 8pm)**

- Post, email or phone to request a copy of our consultation booklet, which we will send free of charge to your address.

- Collecting a copy of our consultation booklet from the following locations:

Aylesbury Library
County Hall, Aylesbury

Buckinghamshire Council
Walton Street Offices, Walton Street, Aylesbury

Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar
Cotswolds Way, Calvert

East and Botolph Claydon Village Hall
Botyl Road, Botolph Claydon

Steeple Claydon Library
48 Queen Catherine Rd, Steeple Claydon

Winslow Community Library
Park Rd, Winslow

You can share your views on Rosefield Solar Farm by:

- Completing an online questionnaire at: **www.rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk**

- Emailing a questionnaire to: **info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk**

- Posting (no stamp required) a questionnaire to:

  Rosefield Solar Farm
  FREEPOST SEC NEWGATE UK LOCAL

- Submitting your comments by email to **info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk** or in writing to the above Freepost address.

All responses must be received by the consultation deadline of 11:59pm on 10 November 2023.

Following this consultation, we will consider all of the feedback that we receive and continue to develop our plans for Rosefield Solar Farm ahead of the next stage of consultation.

Appendix A-2.2 - Phase One Consultation stakeholder email and letter

From: [redacted]
To:
Cc:
Subject:
Date:
Attachments: ROSEFIELD SOLAR FARM CONSULTATION LEAFLET.pdf

Dear Councillo [redacted]

I hope you have been well.

I am emailing to let you know that the Rosefield Solar Farm consultation has now started.

We have posted the attached letter to you, along with a copy of our consultation booklet. I have also attached our newsletter that was sent to local residents today.

You can find all our consultation materials on our website, www.rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk, along with our virtual exhibition.

As mentioned during our meeting last week, we are consulting on our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm until Friday, 10 November 2023.

As a representative of the local community, we would like to invite you to a preview of the public exhibition events at Calvert Green Village Hall on Wednesday, 4 September 2023 between 1pm-2pm.

If you are unable to make the preview session, you are also welcome to attend any of our public events. The details of each event are in the attached materials.

Now that we have published more information about Rosefield Solar Farm, we would also like to provide another briefing to answer any questions you may have about our early design. If you would like to arrange a meeting, please let me know.

As promised, I have also attached an image of the anticipated application timeline, which is also included in our consultation materials. Please note that this is an indicative timeline and is subject to change.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me on 0800 8611097.

Kind regards,

[redacted]

Rosefield Solar Farm

[redacted]

[redacted]

28 September 2023

Dear Councill [redacted]

Share your views on Rosefield Solar Farm

We are now consulting on our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm, a proposed new solar farm with battery storage capable of providing enough clean, secure energy to meet the needs of more than 57,000 homes[1] and save around 125,000 tonnes of carbon[2] dioxide emissions every year.

You can find out more information about Rosefield, and view our initial design, in the consultation booklet enclosed with this letter. We have also launched a Rosefield website, www.rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk where you can view and download our consultation materials, and explore our virtual exhibition.

The consultation

We are consulting on our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm until Friday, 10 November 2023. We are seeking feedback at this stage to make sure we can consider it while we're still developing our plans and carrying out our assessments.

As Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing and Ward Member for Grendon Underwood, we would like to invite you to a preview of the public exhibition events we are holding in the local area during the consultation. This would be an opportunity for you to meet the wider team and discuss the plans in more detail.

- Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar on Wednesday, 4 October 2023 between 1 pm-2 pm

[1] Based upon the average domestic electricity consumption per home (temperature corrected) per the Energy Consumption in the UK (published September 2021, Table C9 of ECUK: Consumption data tables)
[2] Based upon BEIS's "all fossil fuels" emissions statistic of 450 tonnes of carbon dioxide per GWh of electricity supplied in the Digest of UK Energy Statistics (published 2021)

[redacted]

If you are unable to make the preview session, you are also welcome to attend any of the public exhibitions we are holding at:

- Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar on Wednesday, 4 October 2023 between 2:30 pm-6:30 pm
- Quainton Memorial Hall on Friday, 6 October 2023 between 2 pm-6 pm
- East and Botolph Claydon Village Hall on Saturday, 7 October 2023 between 10 am-2 pm
- Steeple Claydon Village Hall on Monday, 9 October 2023 between 10 am-2 pm
- Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar on Wednesday, 1 November 2023 between 5 pm-8 pm

In addition, we would be very happy to meet with you again to discuss the proposals and our consultation plans in more detail. To arrange a meeting, please call us on 0800 8611097 or email info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

Share your views

Alternatively, you can share your thoughts on our proposals by:

- Completing a consultation questionnaire online at: www.rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk
- Emailing a questionnaire to info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk
- Posting a questionnaire (no stamp required) to:

  Rosefield Solar Farm

  FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL
- Submitting your response in writing by email to info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk or in writing to the above Freepost address

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Project Manager

EDF Renewables UK

Appendix A-2.3 – Phase One Consultation booklet

PHASE ONE CONSULTATION

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Early plans and proposals

Thursday, 28 September – Friday, 10 November 2023

Contents

? This icon means there is a question on this topic in our feedback questionnaire.

[redacted]Foreword

Climate change is a challenge we must all play our part in addressing – from the small changes in our everyday lives to the transformational changes we need to make across our whole economy, particularly the way we power our homes, businesses and transport systems. Over the next decade, we'll need to replace the fossil fuels that once powered our economy with sources of low-carbon electricity.

Solar is an important part of the way we can meet this challenge – it is reliable and can be built quickly. This is particularly important as the UK focuses on boosting its domestic supply of clean energy.

At EDF Renewables, we are passionate about creating a net-zero future where clean energy powers our lives. We're already one of the UK and Ireland's leading renewable energy companies, developing, building, operating and maintaining wind, solar and battery storage projects. Together with PS Renewables, an established UK-based renewable energy development and construction company, we are delighted to introduce our plans for Rosefield Solar Farm.

Rosefield Solar Farm would make an important contribution to our future energy network by producing enough clean and secure energy to power more than 57,000 homes – that's the equivalent of around a quarter of all the homes in Buckinghamshire.*

We are currently at the earliest stages of the development of Rosefield Solar Farm, with local views vital to helping us shape our plans. I encourage everyone to get involved in this consultation and share your views. I hope we will see you at one of our consultation events and we look forward to hearing your feedback.

[redacted]
Director of Solar, Storage and Private Wire
EDF Renewables UK

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

1 Introduction

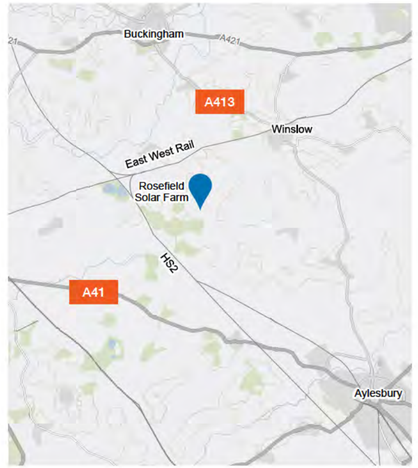
Introduction

Rosefield Solar Farm is a proposed new solar farm with battery storage. It is located in Buckinghamshire and would be capable of providing enough clean, secure energy to meet the needs of more than 57,000 homes, while saving around 125,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions* every year.

Like most solar farms, Rosefield Solar Farm would have a lifespan of around 40 years and could be built and operated with limited impact to the land beneath it. This means that once the panels are removed, the land could be returned to agricultural use.

Rosefield Solar Farm would include battery storage which would store electricity at times when demand is lower and release it to the grid when it is needed most.

Rosefield Solar Farm could also benefit the local area throughout its lifetime. We will work with the community to identify opportunities to support local initiatives.



* Based upon BEIS's "all fossil fuels" emissions statistic of 450 tonnes of carbon dioxide per GWh of electricity supplied in the Digest of UK Energy Statistics (published 2021)

Who are we?

Rosefield Solar Farm is backed by EDF Renewables UK and PS Renewables.

EDF Renewables UK is a subsidiary of EDF Group, one of the world's largest low carbon electricity companies. We are providing much needed low carbon electricity, with an operating portfolio of 41 renewable energy sites totalling more than 1.5 GW of electricity across battery, onshore and offshore wind. Our contribution to the UK's energy supply is set to expand with almost 14 GW of projects in planning and development, including wind, battery and solar.

EDF Renewables invests for the long-term in the projects and communities where we operate. We remain involved in and committed to projects over their lifetime – from development, construction and operation, all the way through to decommissioning.

We're pleased to be working with PS Renewables, an established UK-based renewable energy development and construction company, with an existing solar portfolio totalling more than 850MW of electricity. We have a strong track record of working jointly on solar projects.

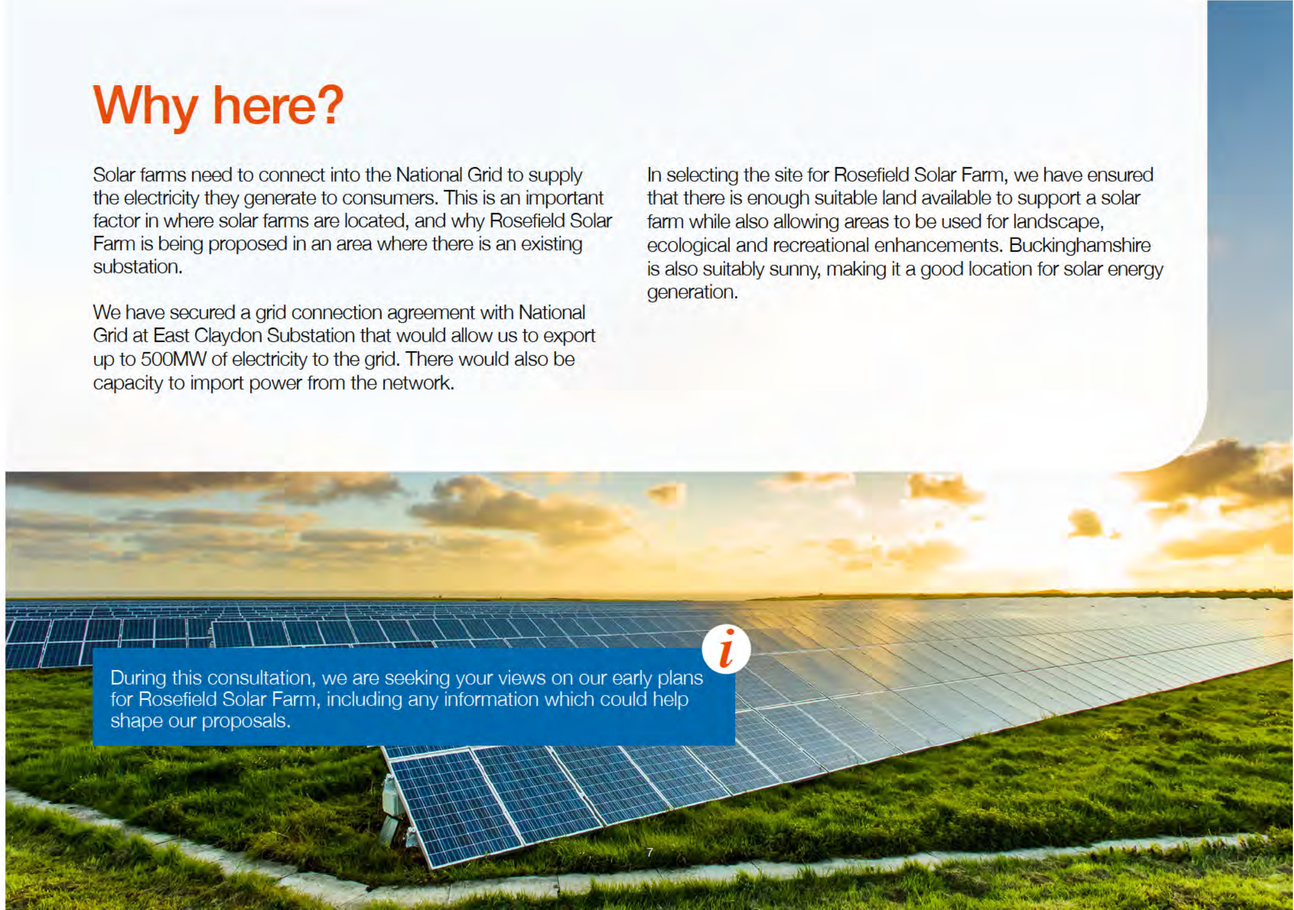
We are also working closely with the Claydon Estate, the main owner of the land needed for Rosefield Solar Farm. Rosefield Solar Farm will play an important role in supporting the estate's vision for a sustainable future.

Why here?

Solar farms need to connect into the National Grid to supply the electricity they generate to consumers. This is an important factor in where solar farms are located, and why Rosefield Solar Farm is being proposed in an area where there is an existing substation.

We have secured a grid connection agreement with National Grid at East Claydon Substation that would allow us to export up to 500MW of electricity to the grid. There would also be capacity to import power from the network.

In selecting the site for Rosefield Solar Farm, we have ensured that there is enough suitable land available to support a solar farm while also allowing areas to be used for landscape, ecological and recreational enhancements. Buckinghamshire is also suitably sunny, making it a good location for solar energy generation.



During this consultation, we are seeking your views on our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm, including any information which could help shape our proposals.

What's happening now?

We are now consulting on our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm, with community input vital in helping shape our proposals.

Alongside explaining our early proposals, the rest of this booklet sets out what we need to do for the application process and explains how we will carry out our environmental assessments that will inform the design of Rosefield Solar Farm.

It also sets out the different ways you can get involved and share your views.

The outcomes of the environmental assessments and technical work we will carry out, along with the consultation feedback we receive, will help inform the development of our proposals.

Throughout the booklet, you will see this icon ? which means there is a question on this topic in our feedback questionnaire.

2

The planning process

The Development Consent Order process

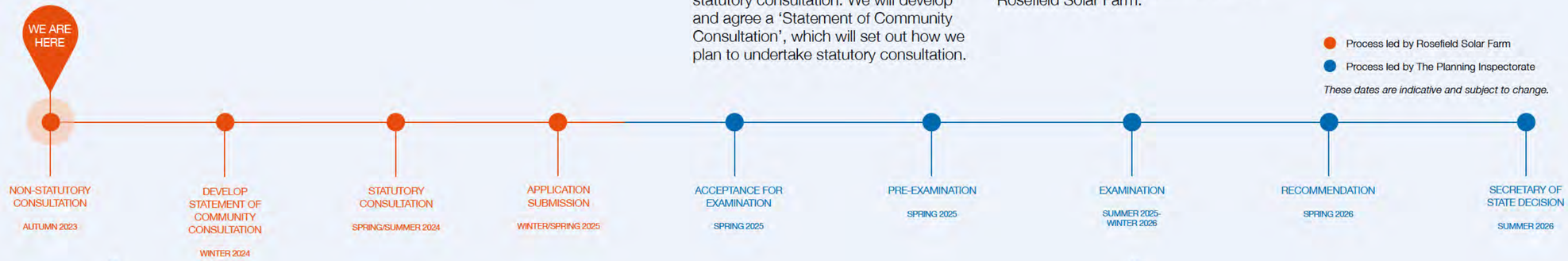
Rosefield Solar Farm is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) because of the amount of electricity it would generate (over 50MW). This means we need to apply for a type of planning consent called a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build and operate it.

Consultation is an important part of the DCO process as it enables everyone to comment on the proposals. The feedback received, along with further technical work and environmental studies, will inform the development of our proposals before we submit our DCO application.

The Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, will then review and examine the application, including encouraging submission of views from communities and other interested parties. Following the examination, the Planning Inspectorate will make a recommendation to the Secretary of State, who will make the final decision on whether or not to grant consent.

For more information on the DCO planning process, please visit:

infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk



The role of consultation

We are carrying out this consultation to introduce our plans and gain early feedback from communities, local government and other interested parties. This is called a 'non-statutory consultation'. It is in addition to the statutory consultation that we will carry out as part of the DCO process.

Local councils play a very important role in this process and we will be working closely with them at every stage, including on how we will conduct our statutory consultation. We will develop and agree a 'Statement of Community Consultation', which will set out how we plan to undertake statutory consultation.

We will also consult a wide range of stakeholders, including local organisations, technical experts and government bodies, throughout the development of our proposals.

The statutory consultation will show how our plans have evolved in response to the feedback we have received from this consultation. It will also include the outputs of our preliminary environmental assessment work, along with more detail about the proposed layout and design of Rosefield Solar Farm.

This will be a further opportunity to share your views and feedback with us. If there is anything you think we should include in our statutory consultation, please let us know in your feedback.

3 Our approach to design

The early design for Rosefield Solar Farm will continue to be refined as our plans evolve.

Understanding the landscape, along with how it supports the local community and wildlife, is key to our approach.

Our early design principles will help to shape the plans for Rosefield Solar Farm. These include providing buffers from residential properties and villages, protecting existing sensitive habitats and respecting heritage and environmentally sensitive sites, such as Claydon House and existing woodlands.

We will also use areas within Rosefield Solar Farm to create new habitats for wildlife to flourish and consider options for recreational enhancements.

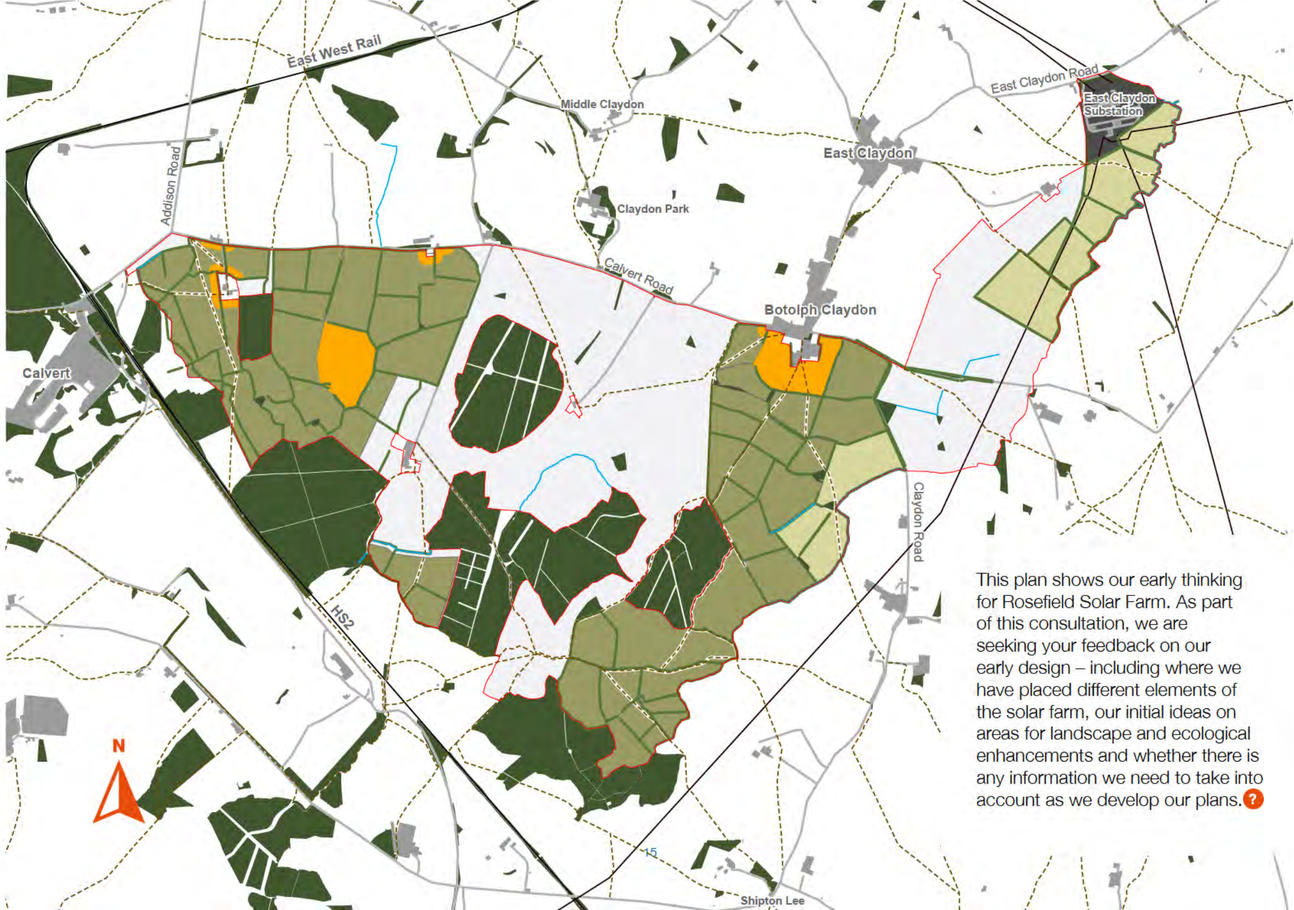
Our approach to design

We have developed some early principles that will guide the design of Rosefield Solar Farm as our plans evolve.

- Protect the amenity of homes and villages, such as Botolph Claydon, with buffers separating them from solar panels.
- Respect the history and settings of historical and cultural sites, such as Claydon House, and respond to the distinctive character of the local environment.
- Retain existing local woodlands and include buffers from solar development.
- Use a main construction access route that would bypass Quainton, Calvert, Steeple Claydon, Middle Claydon, Botolph Claydon and East Claydon. Our current thinking is that this route would be from the southwest via the M40 corridor, A41, Station Road and Claydon Road.
- Enhance established landscape features and access to the site.
- Consider opportunities for enhancing the existing network of Public Rights of Way within the site and establishing new routes for people to enjoy.
- Ensure the substation and battery storage elements are located sensitively, considering local residents and the environment.
- Enhance the existing hedgerow and ditch network, and deliver a biodiversity net gain.

KEY:

- Indicative Rosefield Solar Farm boundary
- Existing woodland
- Existing hedgerows retained and enhanced
- Existing watercourses
- Existing power lines
- Existing Public Rights of Way
- Existing National Grid Substation
- Potential area for solar development
- Potential area for solar development, project substation and/or battery storage
- Potential main areas for landscape and/or ecological enhancements (e.g habitat creation)
- Potental area for underground cable routes, access tracks and temporary construction compounds (locations to be determined)



This plan shows our early thinking for Rosefield Solar Farm. As part of this consultation, we are seeking your feedback on our early design – including where we have placed different elements of the solar farm, our initial ideas on areas for landscape and ecological enhancements and whether there is any information we need to take into account as we develop our plans.

Enhancing the local environment

Parts of the Rosefield Solar Farm site would be used for ecological, landscape and recreational enhancements. Our early design shows the areas we are considering for landscape and ecological enhancements, which could include complementary habitats and planting.

We are also considering ways that we could improve the existing footpath network to create a better experience for users. This could include providing links between existing Public Rights of Ways in and around Rosefield Solar Farm or creating new routes, for example, to neighbouring woodlands.

We are keen to hear your thoughts on what we could include and where these could be. ?

Construction

We are in the process of developing a detailed construction plan. During the next stage of consultation, we will share more detail on the construction process, including how we propose to limit the effects of construction on local communities.

Our current thinking is that our main access to the site will come from the southwest via the M40 corridor, A41, Station Road and Claydon Road. We will work closely with Buckinghamshire Council to develop and confirm the best access strategy.

To protect local roads and the amenity of the surrounding villages, our main construction access route for Rosefield Solar Farm would bypass Quainton, Calvert, Steeple Claydon, Middle Claydon, Botolph Claydon and East Claydon.

We will provide more detail about construction and how traffic will be managed at the next stage of consultation.

Operation

Solar farms are relatively quiet neighbours and once operational, require minimal upkeep. Rosefield Solar Farm would be managed throughout its lifetime by a team of permanent staff who would ensure all elements of the solar farm are monitored and maintained, including the solar panels, battery storage and any landscape and ecological enhancements.

Battery storage makes use of tried and tested technology, much of which we use in our day-to-day lives, including in electric cars. While battery storage at Rosefield Solar Farm would be larger in scale, we would build safety measures into the battery design, including, for example, self-contained units for each battery. This is something we already do at the battery storage sites we manage around the country.

We will work with Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service and the Health and Safety Executive, along with other relevant statutory bodies, throughout the development of the battery proposals for Rosefield Solar Farm.

Decommissioning

Rosefield Solar Farm would have a lifespan of around 40 years. At the end of its operational lifetime, we will dismantle all above-ground material and recycle where practicable, in line with the best practice at that time and a decommissioning plan.

Like any other electrical items, solar panels need to be disposed of responsibly and safely. Solar panels are up to 99% recyclable, and the major panel components including the glass, aluminium and copper can all be recovered.

4

How solar farms work

Connecting to the grid

Large amounts of electricity are transported around the country every day by a transmission network called the National Grid. The electricity you use in your home is supplied from your local network which takes electricity from the National Grid and feeds it through to homes and businesses.

It's helpful to think of our electricity system like our road network. The National Grid is the high-speed route (the motorway) which transfers electricity over a large area while the local networks connect into it to distribute electricity to local areas, acting like 'B roads'. To get the electricity generated by Rosefield Solar Farm to homes and businesses, we need to connect into the National Grid.

We have secured a grid connection agreement with National Grid which would allow us to export up to 500MW of electricity through its East Claydon Substation. There would also be capacity to import power from the network. Rosefield Solar Farm will connect to the East Claydon Substation via underground cabling.

How solar farms work

Solar farms use **energy from the sun (1)** to generate electricity, with battery storage and a substation feeding it into the National Grid.

Security fencing (2) encloses the operational areas to keep the site secure and the community safe. Deer fencing is usually used where solar panels are located, with more robust fencing near the project substation and battery storage. While a number of security measures, such as a CCTV system, would be used at Rosefield Solar Farm, the site will not be lit up at night.

The solar panels (3) are set up in rows, connected to each other by cables to transfer the electricity generated by the panels to inverters. Once mounted, the panels at Rosefield Solar Farm would be 3.5m at their highest point.

Our current thinking is that we would use fixed panels, however, we may explore the potential for using 'tracking panels' (which follow the sun as it moves through the sky) in limited areas. Tracking panels would be 5m at their highest point.

Inverters (4) are needed to convert the direct current (DC) electricity generated by the solar panels into alternating current (AC) electricity, which is suitable for use in homes and businesses.

Inverters can be located underneath the solar panels or in areas sometimes referred to as 'Balance of Solar System'. The 'Balance of Solar System' (which would be up to 4m in height) also includes switchgears (which control the electrical equipment), and transformers (which 'step up' the voltage to the required level for sending to the solar farm substation).

Over the lifetime of Rosefield Solar Farm, we would work to enhance **landscape and biodiversity areas (5)** across the site, for example, by planting new habitats to support local wildlife.

Collector compounds (6) can be used to reduce the amount of underground cabling that is needed by collecting electricity from a number of inverters. The maximum height of the equipment within the compounds at Rosefield Solar Farm would be up to 6m.

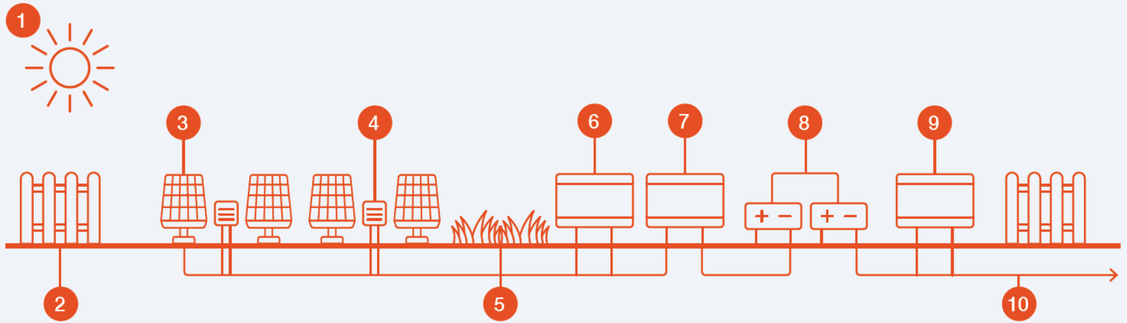
The solar farm substation (7) receives all the electricity generated by the solar farm, then raises the voltage, before sending it on to the **National Grid substation (9)** to enter the network. The solar farm substation would be 15m at its highest point.

The main role of **battery storage (8)** is to store electricity at times when demand is lower and release it to the National Grid when it is most needed. The height of the battery units at Rosefield Solar Farm will be no more than 7.6m.

We have identified two broad areas where the battery storage for Rosefield Solar Farm could be located. The battery storage element would only take up a portion of the area identified, with consultation feedback and environmental assessment work helping to define the most appropriate location.

Underground cables (10) connect the various components of a solar farm and transport the electricity to the National Grid substation.

This diagram shows the main elements that typically make up a solar farm. It is not to scale and for indicative purposes only.



Battery storage is important because renewable technologies like wind and solar do not generate electricity at a constant rate, and the times electricity is generated are not always when electricity demand is highest. Batteries store energy for when it is most needed, ensuring homes and businesses can be powered by renewable energy.

Solar panels don't need direct sunlight to work and can produce power all year round. Even in winter, solar technology is powerful and effective. At one point in February 2022, solar provided more than 20% of the UK's electricity.

1. Solar energy
2. Fencing
3. Solar panels
4. Inverters
5. Landscape and biodiversity areas
6. Collector compounds
7. Solar farm substation
8. Battery storage
9. National Grid substation
10. Underground cables

5 Assessing environmental effects

Assessing environmental effects

We will carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as part of the DCO process.

This will assess the potential effects, both positive and negative, that the proposals would have on the environment.

These assessments will look at a range of topics such as cultural heritage, landscape and visual impact, flood risk and ecology, for the construction, operation and decommissioning of Rosefield Solar Farm.

We will present our early findings in a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) at the next stage of consultation.

The final results of these assessments will be presented in an Environmental Statement (ES) which will accompany our DCO application.

This process will also help us identify how best we can reduce the potential environmental effects of Rosefield Solar Farm. Where significant adverse effects are identified, we will also explain the measures we would take to avoid, mitigate or compensate for them.

We have outlined some of the topics and how we will approach our assessment on the following pages.

i

In the coming months, we will submit a report to the Planning Inspectorate (called a 'Scoping Report') which sets out our proposed approach to assessing environmental effects and shows our early environmental assessment work.

These assessments cover all of the land within Rosefield Solar Farm – more than we would use for solar development. This is to make sure we identify which areas are most suitable for solar panels and battery storage and where we could provide recreational, landscape and ecological enhancements.

The findings from our initial assessments have helped shape our thinking on the early design for Rosefield Solar Farm.

Natural environment and ecology

As well as contributing to the UK's net-zero goal, Rosefield Solar Farm has the potential to make a positive impact on the local environment.

Using feedback from the consultation, the results of our environmental assessments and our ongoing work with stakeholders, we will design a detailed biodiversity plan for Rosefield Solar Farm to deliver a 'net gain' in biodiversity.

Our proposals will ensure woodlands, habitats and corridors for existing wildlife are retained and, where possible, enhanced. New habitats suitable for the area will also be created, aiming to increase the site's biodiversity value.

Much like the use of fallow periods in farming to rest and regenerate soil, the land between and beneath the solar panels would be managed throughout Rosefield Solar Farm's operational lifetime to help support local wildlife and improve the condition of the soil.

What is biodiversity net gain?

Biodiversity net gain is the term used to describe the process of increasing the overall biodiversity value of a given site. It is calculated by using the difference between pre-development and post-development habitat data. From 2023, all new developments are required to deliver at least 10% biodiversity net gain on site.

EDF Renewables has partnered with Nature Positive, an environmental consultancy, to help researchers carry out academic research to look at how all our solar farms can be managed to boost biodiversity, improve wildlife habitats and soil health.

Land use

At the moment, solar farms occupy less than 0.1% of the UK's land. Government plans to significantly scale up solar in line with its net-zero target are expected to bring this up to just 0.3%.

Our preliminary assessments indicate that the Rosefield Solar Farm site is a suitable location to build a solar farm as it is almost entirely located on agricultural land that the government does not define as 'best and most versatile'.

Climate change

Rosefield Solar Farm would make an important contribution to tackling climate change by reducing our reliance on more carbon-intensive forms of electricity generation, providing new, clean energy to power homes and businesses across the UK.

The government has also recognised that climate change is the biggest medium to long term risk to our domestic food supply, making the delivery of sources of new renewable energy important.

Reducing visual impact

While solar farms are low-lying in nature, we recognise that they represent a change to what is currently there. Our aim is to design Rosefield Solar Farm in a way that reduces its visual impacts and protects the amenity of its neighbours.

As part of our environmental assessments, we will examine the effect Rosefield Solar Farm could have on the landscape from a range of public viewpoints around the site. Where appropriate, we will propose mitigation such as new planting to help screen the site.

Community benefit

We recognise that the construction and operation of solar farms can affect the communities around them. As long-term investors in our projects and the communities where we operate, we are committed to being good neighbours.

Wherever we operate, we also give something back to the local community. All our onshore wind and solar sites in the UK have a dedicated community fund to spend on improvements in the local area.

We welcome suggestions from the community as to how we can make a positive local contribution, whether that's through funding, employment and training, or environmental programmes.

We are also interested in hearing about existing community funds or organisations that might be interested in partnering with Rosefield Solar Farm.

We're always looking for new ways we can make a difference locally. We have funded a range of local community projects across the UK – from improving footpaths and cycleways, to delivering wildlife projects and providing electric vehicle charging infrastructure. We have also partnered with schools and further education colleges on skills programmes to help prepare young people for the future green jobs market.

6 Get in touch

Responding to our consultation

We are keen for as many people as possible to get in touch, meet with us and share their feedback during our consultation.

This consultation is running between Thursday, 28 September and Friday, 10 November 2023.

Finding out more

You can find out more about Rosefield Solar Farm by:

- Coming along to the public exhibitions we are holding
- Visiting rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk, where you can visit our virtual exhibition
- Contacting us on 0800 8611097 or info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk.

Public exhibitions

Wednesday, 4 October 2023 (2:30pm – 6:30pm)

Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar
Cotswolds Way, Calvert,
Buckingham MK18 2FJ

Monday, 9 October 2023 (10am – 2pm)

Steeple Claydon Village Hall
Queen Catherine Road,
Steeple Claydon,
Buckingham MK18 2PY

Friday, 6 October 2023 (2pm – 6pm)

Quainton Memorial Hall
Station Road, Quainton,
Aylesbury HP22 4BW

Wednesday, 1 November 2023 (5pm – 8pm)

Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar
Cotswolds Way, Calvert,
Buckingham MK18 2FJ

Saturday, 7 October 2023 (10am – 2pm)

East and Botolph Claydon Village Hall
65 St Marys Road,
Botolph Claydon,
Buckingham MK18 2LS

7 Share your views

Consultation questionnaire

Thank you for taking the time to understand our early plans and proposals for Rosefield Solar Farm. Our consultation questionnaire is available both online and in hard copy. At the back of this booklet, we have set out the ways you can get in touch and share your views, and listed the locations where you can pick up a hard copy questionnaire.

Early plans

At this early stage of the process, we have developed principles which will guide the design of Rosefield Solar Farm.

Q1. Do you have any comments on our early plans and proposals for:

a. the potential locations of the solar energy generation element of Rosefield Solar Farm?

b. the areas we are considering for the battery storage element of Rosefield Solar Farm?

c. any other elements of Rosefield Solar Farm?

Please specify the proposals to which your comments refer.

Enhancing the local environment

Our early design shows the areas we are considering for landscape and ecological enhancements. We are also considering ways that we could improve the existing footpath network.

Q2. Are there any landscape or ecological enhancements you think we should include as part of the proposals?

Q3. Do you have any suggestions for how we could improve the current network of Public Rights of Way to create a better experience for users?
Please specify the locations of the Public Rights of Way to which your comments refer.

Q4. Do you have any further information about the area and local environment which you think we should take into account?

Communities

We recognise that the construction and operation of solar farms can affect the communities around them. Wherever we operate, we also give something back to the local community. All our onshore wind and solar sites in the UK have a dedicated community fund to spend on improvements in the local area.

Q5. Do you have any ideas you would like to share about how Rosefield Solar Farm could support local community initiatives?

Q6. Are you aware of any existing community funds and organisations that might be interested in partnering with Rosefield Solar Farm?

Q7. Please leave any further comments or suggestions you have, including any areas that you would like to know more about.

Sharing your views

You can share your views on our proposals for Rosefield Solar Farm by:

- Completing a consultation questionnaire online at: **rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk**
- Emailing a questionnaire to: **info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk**
- Posting a questionnaire (no stamp required) to:
  Rosefield Solar Farm
  FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL
- Submitting your comments by email to: **info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk** or in writing to the above Freepost address
- Picking up a copy of our consultation booklet from:

- **Aylesbury Library** County Hall, Aylesbury
- **Buckinghamshire Council** Walton Street Offices, Walton Street, Aylesbury
- **Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar** Cotswolds Way, Calvert
- **East and Botolph Claydon Village Hall** Botyl Road, Botolph Claydon
- **Steeple Claydon Library** 48 Queen Catherine Rd, Steeple Claydon
- **Winslow Community Library** Park Rd, Winslow

Next Steps

All responses must be received by the consultation deadline of 11:59 pm on Friday, 10 November 2023.

Following this consultation, we will consider all of the feedback that we receive and continue to develop our plans for Rosefield Solar Farm ahead of the next stage of consultation.

Our DCO application will include a Consultation Report setting out how we have had regard to the responses received during all phases of the consultation.

Get in touch

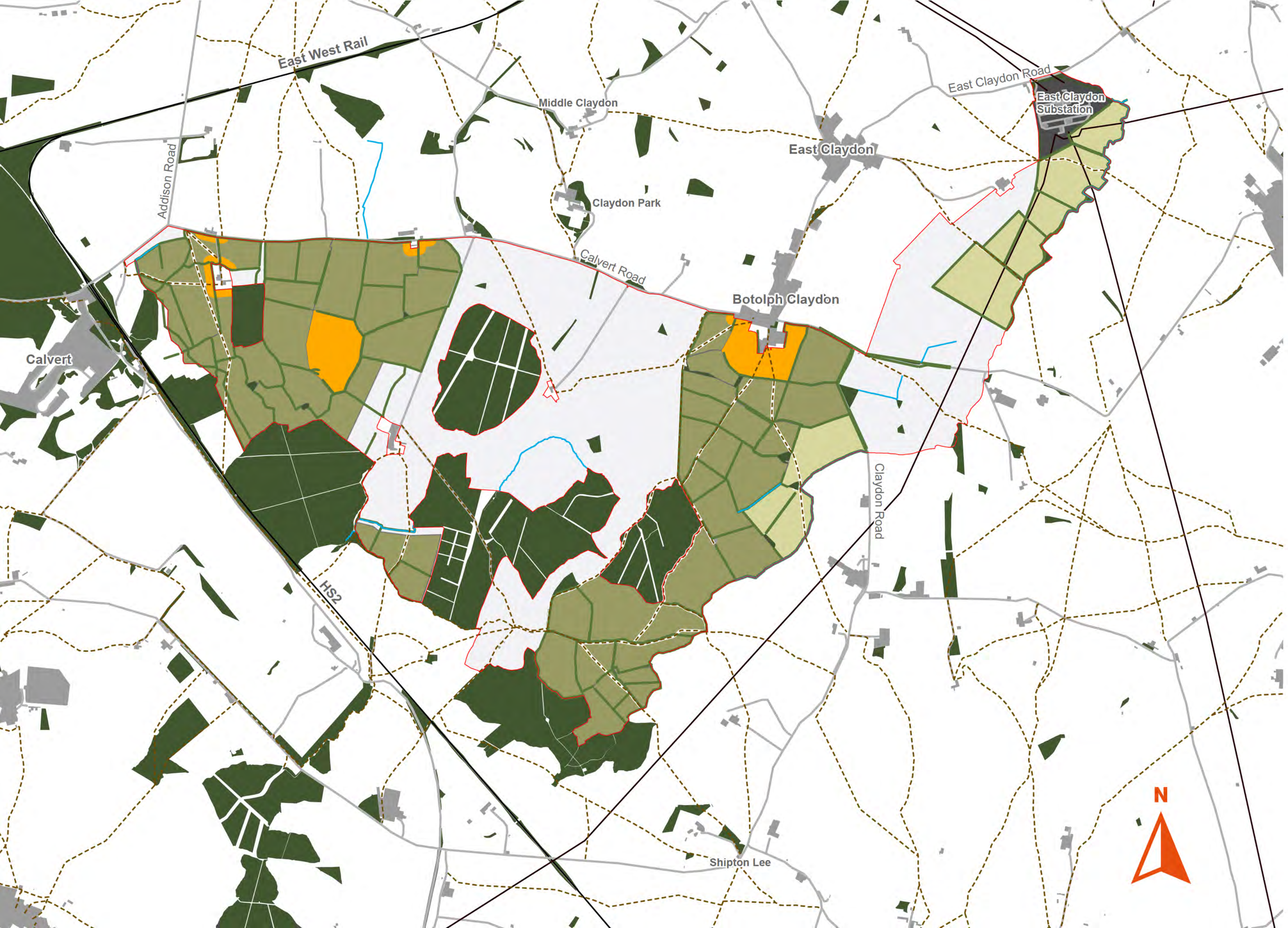
Phone: **0800 8611097**

Email: **info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk**

Website: **rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk**

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Appendix A-2.4 - Phase One Consultation map



KEY:

- Indicative Rosefield Solar Farm boundary
- Existing woodland
- Existing hedgerows retained and enhanced
- Existing watercourses
- Existing power lines
- Existing Public Rights of Way
- Existing National Grid Substation
- Potential area for solar development
- Potential area for solar development, project substation and/or battery storage
- Potential main areas for landscape and/or ecological enhancements (e.g habitat creation)
- Potental area for underground cable routes, access tracks and temporary construction compounds (locations to be determined)

Appendix A-2.5 - Phase One Consultation questionnaire

PHASE ONE CONSULTATION

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Share your feedback

Thursday, 28 September – Friday, 10 November 2023

Thank you for taking the time to share your views on our early plans and proposals for Rosefield Solar Farm.

How to respond to our consultation

We are currently at a very early stage in preparing our plans for Rosefield Solar Farm and community input will be vital in helping shape our proposals.

This questionnaire is designed to be used having read about our proposals in the consultation booklet.

You can answer as many or as few questions as you like and are welcome to use the additional space at the end of the questionnaire to provide further information. You can respond to the consultation by:

- Completing this questionnaire online:
  www.rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

- Emailing a copy of this questionnaire to:
  info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

- Posting this questionnaire (no stamp required) to:

  Rosefield Solar Farm
  FREEPOST SEC NEWGATE UK LOCAL

- Submitting your comments by email to:
  info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

All responses must be received by the consultation deadline of **11:59pm** on **Friday, 10 November 2023.**

Following this consultation, we will consider all the feedback that we receive and continue to develop our plans for Rosefield ahead of the next stage of consultation.

Early Plans

At this early stage of the process, we have developed principles which will guide the design of Rosefield Solar Farm.

Q1: Do you have any comments on our early plans and proposals for:

a. The potential locations of the solar energy generation element of Rosefield Solar Farm?
Please specify the proposals to which your comments refer.

b. The potential areas we are considering for the battery storage element of Rosefield Solar Farm?
Please specify the proposals to which your comments refer.

c. Any other elements of Rosefield Solar Farm?

Enhancing the local environment

Our early design shows the areas we are considering for landscape and ecological enhancements. We are also considering ways that we could improve the existing footpath network.

Q2: Are there any landscape or ecological enhancements you think we should include as part of the proposals?

Q3. Do you have any suggestions for how we could improve the current network of Public Rights of Way to create a better experience for users?

Please specify the locations of the Public Rights of Way to which your comments refer.

Q4. Do you have any further information about the area and local environment which you think we should take into account?

Communities

We recognise that the construction and operation of solar farms can affect the communities around them. Wherever we operate, we also give something back to the local community. All our onshore wind and solar sites in the UK have a dedicated community fund to spend on improvements in the local area.

Q5: Do you have any ideas you would like to share about how Rosefield Solar Farm could support local community initiatives?

Q6: Are you aware of any existing community funds or organisations that might be interested in partnering with Rosefield Solar Farm?

Q7: Please leave any further comments or suggestions you have, including any areas that you would like to know more about.

Please use this space to expand on any answers you have given or provide additional information.

Please use this space to expand on any answers you have given or provide additional information.

Please use this space to expand on any answers you have given or provide additional information.

Please use this space to expand on any answers you have given or provide additional information.

If you would like to be kept up to date, please provide your contact details below:

Name:

Address:

Email:

Are you responding on behalf of an organisation? Yes No

If yes, please provide the name of the organisation and your role within it.

Organisation:

Role:

Any comments received will be analysed by Rosefield Energyfarm Ltd and any of its appointed agents. Copies may be made available in due course to the Secretary of State, the Planning Inspectorate and other relevant statutory authorities so that feedback can be considered as part of the DCO process. We will request that any personal details are not placed on public record and will be held securely by Rosefield Energyfarm Ltd and its agents in accordance with the data protection law and will be used solely in connection with the consultation process and subsequent DCO application and, except as noted above, will not be passed to third parties.

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Appendix A-2.6 - Phase One Consultation advertising

Have your say

Rosefield Solar Farm

28 September 2023 – 10 November 2023

We are now sharing our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm, a proposed new solar farm with battery storage in Buckinghamshire.

We are keen for as many people as possible to share their feedback during our consultation, which ends Friday 10 November 2023.

Find out more

Come along to a public exhibition

Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar Cotswolds Way, Calvert, Buckingham MK18 2FJ	Wednesday, 4 Oct 2023 (2:30pm – 6:30pm)
Quainton Memorial Hall Station Rd, Quainton, Aylesbury HP22 4BW	Friday, 6 Oct 2023 (2pm – 6pm)
East and Botolph Claydon Village Hall Botyl Road Botolph Claydon, Buckingham MK18 2LR	Saturday, 7 Oct 2023 (10am – 2pm)
Steeple Claydon Village Hall Queen Catherine Rd, Steeple Claydon, Buckingham MK18	Monday, 9 Oct 2023 (10am – 2pm)
Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar Cotswolds Way, Calvert, Buckingham MK18 2FJ	Wednesday, 1 Nov 2023 (5pm – 8pm) **NEW EVENT**

Visit rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

Pick up a copy of our consultation booklet

Aylesbury Library County Hall, Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire Council Walton Street Offices, Walton Street, Aylesbury
Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar Cotswolds Way, Calvert
East and Botolph Claydon Village Hall Botyl Road, Botolph Claydon
Steeple Claydon Library 48 Queen Catherine Rd, Steeple Claydon
Winslow Community Library Park Rd, Winslow

Get in touch

For further information or to request a copy of our consultation materials, please get in touch:

0800 861 1097 (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday)

info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

Rosefield Solar Farm
FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL
(no stamp required)

Consultation begins on new solar farm in Buckinghamshire which could power over 57,000 homes

Buckinghamshire (28 September 2023) – Consultation is underway on plans for Rosefield Solar Farm, a proposed new solar farm with battery storage located between Buckingham and Aylesbury. The project is jointly owned by EDF Renewables UK and PS Renewables.

Rosefield Solar Farm would make a significant contribution to the UK's future energy mix by providing enough clean, secure energy to power more than 57,000 homes* every year – the equivalent of around a quarter of all homes in Buckinghamshire. As well as delivering vital clean energy and the proposals would also save around 125,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions** each year.

Parts of the Rosefield site would be used for recreational, landscape and ecological enhancements, with consultation seeking feedback on these as well as on the early layout proposals.

The consultation will run for six weeks, closing on Friday, 10 November 2023. Feedback from local communities will help shape the proposals for Rosefield Solar Farm and identify potential benefits that it could support in the local area.

EDF Renewables UK's Director of Solar, Storage and Private Wire, [redacted] said, "We are currently at the earliest stages of the development of Rosefield Solar Farm, with local views vital to helping us develop our plans. We encourage everyone to get in touch, meet with us and share their views during the consultation.

"Climate change is a challenge we must all play our part in addressing – from the small changes in our everyday lives to the transformational changes we need to make across our whole economy. Solar is an important part of the way we can meet this challenge – it is reliable and can be built quickly compared to other types of renewable technologies. This is particularly important as the UK focuses on boosting its domestic supply of clean energy."

As part of the consultation, members of the public are invited to a series of public events to meet with the team and share their feedback. The exhibitions will take place on the following dates and locations:

- Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar on Wednesday, 4 October 2023 between 2:30 pm-6:30 pm
- Quainton Memorial Hall on Friday, 6 October 2023 between 2 pm-6 pm
- East and Botolph Claydon Village Hall on Saturday, 7 October 2023 between 10 am-2 pm
- Steeple Claydon Village Hall on Monday, 9 October 2023 between 10 am-2 pm
- Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar on Wednesday, 1 November 2023 between 5 pm-8 pm

Copies of the consultation materials can also be picked up at the following locations:

- Aylesbury Library County Hall, Aylesbury
- Buckinghamshire Council Walton Street Offices, Walton Street, Aylesbury

- Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar Cotswolds Way, Calvert
- East and Botolph Claydon Village Hall Botyl Road, Botolph Claydon
- Steeple Claydon Library 48 Queen Catherine Rd, Steeple Claydon
- Winslow Community Library Park Rd, Winslow

All responses must be received by the consultation deadline of 11:59pm on Friday, 10 November 2023.

For further information, please contact:
info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk
0800 8611097

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

** Based upon BEIS's "all fossil fuels" emissions statistic of 450 tonnes of carbon dioxide per GWh of electricity supplied in the Digest of UK Energy Statistics (published 2021)

---- ENDS ----

Notes to editors

About EDF Renewables UK

EDF Renewables UK and Ireland is a subsidiary of EDF Group, one of the world's largest low carbon electricity companies. With our operating portfolio of 41 renewable energy sites including battery, onshore and offshore wind (together totalling more than 1.5 GW) we are providing much needed low carbon electricity. We have an expanding portfolio with almost 14 GW of projects in planning and development, including wind, battery and solar PV.

Find out more at www.edf-re.uk

About PS Renewables

PS Renewables is an established UK-based renewable energy development and construction company, with an existing solar portfolio producing more than 850MW of electricity.

Find out more at www.psrenewables.com

EDF Renewables and PS Renewables have a strong track record of working jointly, previously developing the Longfield Solar Farm application together.

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects

Rosefield is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) because of its generating capacity (over 50MW). NSIPs require planning permission to be granted by the relevant Secretary of State through a Development Consent Order (DCO).

Further information about the DCO process is available at the Planning Inspectorate's website: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/

For further information, please contact:

info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

0800 8611097

[redacted]

Have your say

Rosefield Solar Farm

28 September 2023 – 10 November 2023

We are now sharing our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm, a proposed new solar farm with battery storage in Buckinghamshire.

We are keen for as many people as possible to share their feedback during our consultation, which ends Friday 10 November 2023.

Find out more

Come along to a public exhibition

Calvert Green Village Hall and Brickworx Bar Cotswolds Way, Calvert, Buckingham MK18 2FJ	Wednesday, 4 Oct 2023 (2:30pm – 6:30pm)
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Visit rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

Pick up a copy of our consultation booklet

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info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

Rosefield Solar Farm
FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL
(no stamp required)

[redacted]

EDF Renewables UK & Ireland
93,222 followers
1yr • Edited •

We're excited to launch plans for a new solar farm in Buckinghamshire with PS Renewables.

Rosefield Solar Farm could power more than 57,000 homes and save around 125,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions* every year.

Located between Buckingham and Aylesbury, the site will also include battery storage.

*Read more about our plans and consultation meetings at https://lnkd.in/e6Stqng8

.

#Solar #DCO #AcceleratingCleanEnergy

200 17 reposts

Appendix A-2.7 – Phase One Consultation exhibition banners

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Welcome

Thank you for visiting our public exhibition about Rosefield Solar Farm.

This consultation is running between **Thursday, 28 September and Friday, 10 November 2023.**

Rosefield Solar Farm is backed by EDF Renewables UK and PS Renewables, two companies with a long history in helping meet the country's need for renewable energy.

We are currently at the earliest stages of the development of Rosefield Solar Farm, with local views vital to helping us shape our plans.

This exhibition includes information about our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm, the process we need to follow to apply for planning consent and the different ways you can get involved and share your views.

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Introducing Rosefield Solar Farm

Rosefield Solar Farm is a proposed new solar farm with battery storage in Buckinghamshire. It would be capable of providing enough clean, secure energy to meet the needs of more than 57,000* homes – that's the equivalent of around a quarter of all homes in Buckinghamshire.

Why is it needed?

Climate change is a challenge we must all play our part in addressing – from the small changes in our everyday lives to the transformational changes we need to make across our whole economy, particularly the way we power our homes, businesses and transport systems.

Over the next decade, we'll need to replace the fossil fuels that once powered our economy with sources of low-carbon electricity.

Solar is an important part of the way we can meet this challenge. It is reliable and can be built quickly. This is particularly important as the UK focuses on boosting its domestic supply of clean energy.

Rosefield Solar Farm would make an important contribution to helping the UK build a cleaner energy system and reach our net-zero targets.

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

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Why here?

The electricity you use in your home is supplied from your local network which takes electricity from the National Grid.

Solar farms need to connect into the National Grid to supply the electricity they generate to homes and businesses. This is an important factor in where solar farms are located, and why Rosefield Solar Farm is being proposed in an area where there is an existing substation.

We have secured a grid connection agreement with National Grid at East Claydon Substation that would allow us to export up to 500MW of electricity to the grid. There would also be capacity to import power from the network.

Buckinghamshire is also suitably sunny, making it a good location for solar energy generation.

In selecting the site for Rosefield Solar Farm, we have ensured that there is enough suitable land available to support a solar farm while also allowing areas to be used for landscape, ecological and recreational enhancements.

Rosefield Solar Farm

The consenting process

Rosefield Solar Farm is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).

This is because of the amount of electricity it would generate (over 50MW). We need to apply for a type of planning consent called a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build and operate Rosefield Solar Farm.

Consultation is an important part of the DCO process, as it enables everyone to comment on the proposals. The feedback received, along with further technical work and environmental studies, will inform the development of our proposals before we submit our DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate.

The Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, will then review and examine the application, including encouraging submission of views from communities and other interested parties. Following the examination, the Planning Inspectorate will make a recommendation to the Secretary of State, who will make the final decision on whether or not to grant consent.

For more information on the DCO planning process, please visit:

infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Our design principles

Understanding the landscape, along with how it supports the local community and wildlife, is key to our approach. We have developed some early principles that will guide the design of Rosefield Solar Farm as our plans evolve.

- Protect the amenity of homes and villages, such as Botolph Claydon, with buffers separating them from solar panels.
- Respect the history and settings of historical and cultural sites, such as Claydon House, and respond to the distinctive character of the local environment.
- Retain existing local woodlands and include buffers from solar development.
- Use a main construction access route that would bypass Quainton, Calvert, Steeple Claydon, Middle Claydon, Botolph Claydon and East Claydon. Our current thinking is that this route would come from the southwest via the M40 corridor, A41, Station Road and Claydon Road.
- Enhance established landscape features and access to the site.
- Consider opportunities for enhancing the existing network of Public Rights of Way within the site and establishing new routes for people to enjoy.
- Ensure the substation and battery storage elements are located sensitively, considering local residents and the environment.
- Enhance the existing hedgerow and ditch networks, and deliver a biodiversity net gain.

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Enhancing the local environment

Parts of Rosefield Solar Farm would be used for landscape, ecological and recreational enhancements.

Our early design shows the areas that we are considering for landscape and ecological enhancements, which could include complementary habitats and planting.

We are also considering ways that we could improve the existing footpath network to create a better experience for users. These could include providing links between existing Public Rights of Ways in and around Rosefield Solar Farm or creating new routes, for example, to neighbouring woodlands.

We are keen to hear your thoughts on the enhancements we could include and where these could be.

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Construction, operation & decommissioning

Construction

We are in the process of developing a detailed construction plan. During the next stage of consultation, we will share more detail on the construction process, including how we propose to limit the effects of construction on local communities.

Our current thinking is that our main access to the site will come from the southwest via the M40 corridor, A41, Station Road and Claydon Road. We will work closely with Buckinghamshire Council to develop and confirm the best access strategy.

To protect local roads and the amenity of the surrounding villages, our main construction access route for Rosefield Solar Farm would bypass Quainton, Calvert, Steeple Claydon, Middle Claydon, Botolph Claydon and East Claydon.

We will provide more detail about construction and how traffic will be managed at the next stage of consultation.

Operation

Solar farms are relatively quiet neighbours and once operational, require minimal upkeep. Rosefield Solar Farm would be managed throughout its lifetime by a team of permanent staff who would ensure all elements of the solar farm are monitored and maintained, including the solar panels, battery storage and any landscape and ecological enhancements.

Battery storage makes use of tried and tested technology, much of which we use in our day-to-day lives, including in electric cars. While battery storage at Rosefield Solar Farm would be larger in scale, we would build safety measures into the battery design, including, for example, self-contained units for each battery. This is something we already do at the battery storage sites we manage around the country.

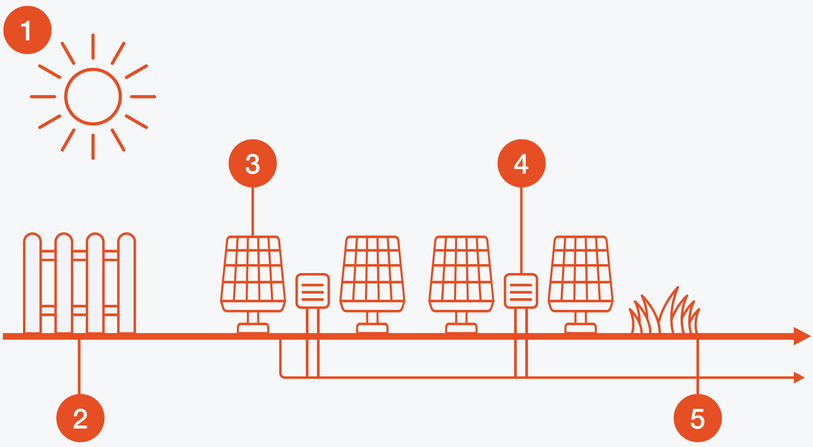
Decommissioning

Rosefield Solar Farm would have a lifespan of around 40 years. At the end of its operational lifetime, we will dismantle all above-ground material and recycle where practicable, in line with the best practice at that time and a decommissioning plan.

Like any other electrical items, solar panels need to be disposed of responsibly and safely. Solar panels are up to 99% recyclable, and the major panel components including the glass, aluminium and copper can all be recovered.

Rosefield
Solar Farm

How does a solar farm work?



Not to scale and for indicative purposes only.

Solar farms use energy from **the sun** 1 to generate electricity, with battery storage and a substation feeding it into the National Grid.

Security fencing 2 encloses the operational areas to keep the site secure and the community safe. Deer fencing is usually used where solar panels are located, with more robust fencing near the project substation and battery storage.

The solar panels 3 are set up in rows, connected to each other by cables to transfer the electricity generated by the panels to inverters. Once mounted, the panels at Rosefield Solar Farm would be 3.5m at their highest point.

Inverters 4 are needed to convert the direct current (DC) electricity generated by the solar panels into alternating current (AC) electricity, which is suitable for use in homes and businesses.

Inverters can be located underneath the solar panels or in areas sometimes referred to as 'Balance of Solar System'. The 'Balance of Solar System' (which would be up to 4m in height) also includes switchgears (which control the electrical equipment), and transformers (which 'step up' the voltage to the required level for sending to the solar farm substation).

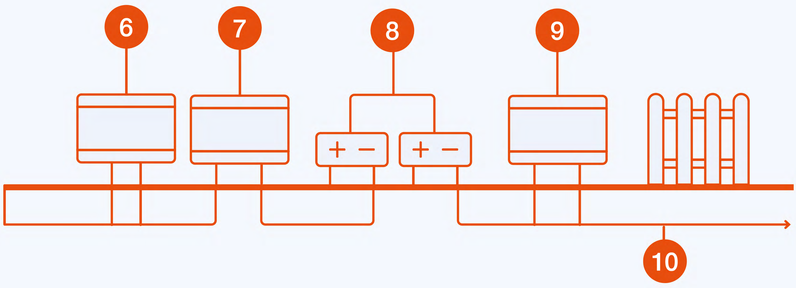
Over the lifetime of Rosefield Solar Farm, we would work to enhance **landscape and biodiversity areas** 5 across the site, for example, by planting new habitats to support local wildlife.

i

Our current thinking is that we would use fixed solar panels, however, we may explore the potential for using 'tracking panels' (which follow the sun as it moves through the sky) in limited areas. Tracking panels would be 5m at their highest point.

Rosefield
Solar Farm

How does a solar farm work?



Not to scale and for indicative purposes only.

Collector compounds 6 can be used to reduce the amount of underground cabling that is needed by collecting electricity from a number of inverters. The maximum height of the equipment within the compounds at Rosefield Solar Farm would be up to 6m.

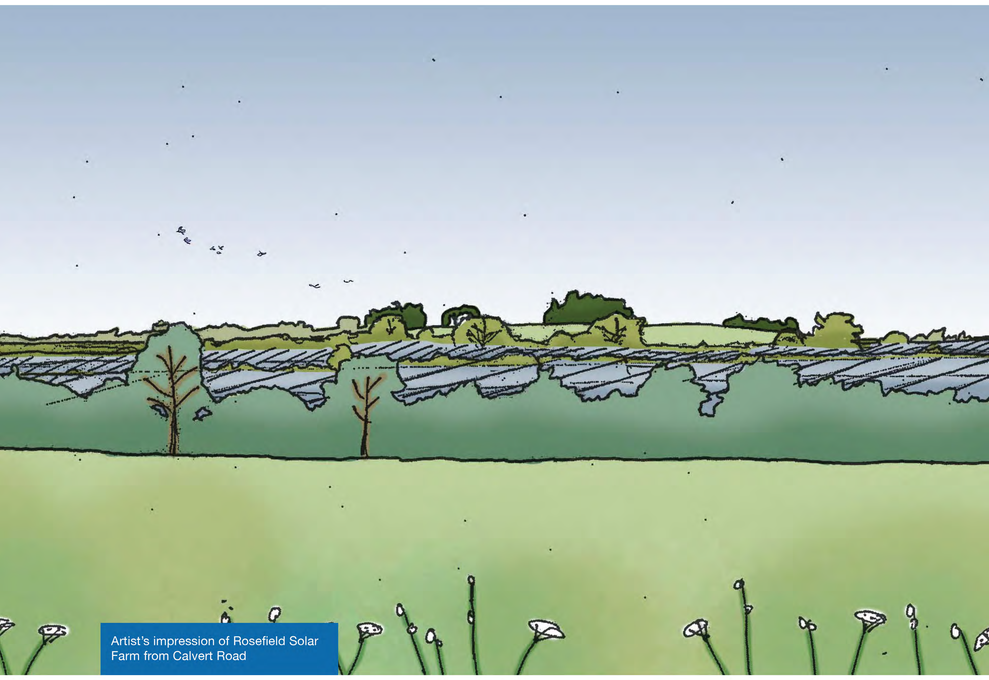
The solar farm substation 7 receives all the electricity generated by the solar farm, then raises the voltage, before sending it on to the **National Grid substation** 9 to enter the network. The solar farm substation would be 15m at its highest point.

The main role of battery storage 8 is to store electricity at times when demand is lower and release it to the National Grid when it is most needed. The height of the battery units at Rosefield Solar Farm will be no more than 7.6m.

Underground cables 10 connect the various components of a solar farm and transport the electricity to the National Grid substation.

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Assessing environmental effects



Artist's impression of Rosefield Solar Farm from Calvert Road

We will carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for Rosefield Solar Farm. This will assess the potential effects, both positive and negative, that it would have on the environment and ensure that these are considered in the design process.

These assessments will look at a range of topics such as cultural heritage, landscape and visual impact, flood risk and ecology, for the construction, operation and decommissioning of Rosefield Solar Farm.

We will present our early findings in a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) at the next stage of consultation. The final results of these assessments will be presented in an Environmental Statement (ES), which will accompany our DCO application.

This process will help us identify how best we can reduce the potential environmental effects of Rosefield Solar Farm. Where significant adverse effects are identified, we will explain the measures we would take to avoid, mitigate or compensate for them.

i

In the coming months, we will submit a report to the Planning Inspectorate (called a 'Scoping Report') which sets out our proposed approach to assessing environmental effects and shows our early environmental assessment work.

These assessments cover all of the land within Rosefield Solar Farm – more than we would use for solar development. This is to make sure we identify which areas are most suitable for solar panels and battery storage and where we could provide recreational, landscape and ecological enhancements.

The findings from our initial assessments have helped shape our thinking on the early design for Rosefield Solar Farm.

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Assessing environmental effects

Natural environment and ecology

As well as contributing to the UK's net-zero goal, Rosefield Solar Farm has the potential to make a positive impact on the local environment.

Using feedback from this consultation, the results of our environmental assessments and our ongoing work with stakeholders, we will design a detailed biodiversity plan for Rosefield Solar Farm to deliver a 'net gain' in biodiversity.

Our proposals will ensure woodlands, habitats and corridors for existing wildlife are retained and, where possible, enhanced. New habitats suitable for the area will also be created, aiming to increase the site's biodiversity value.

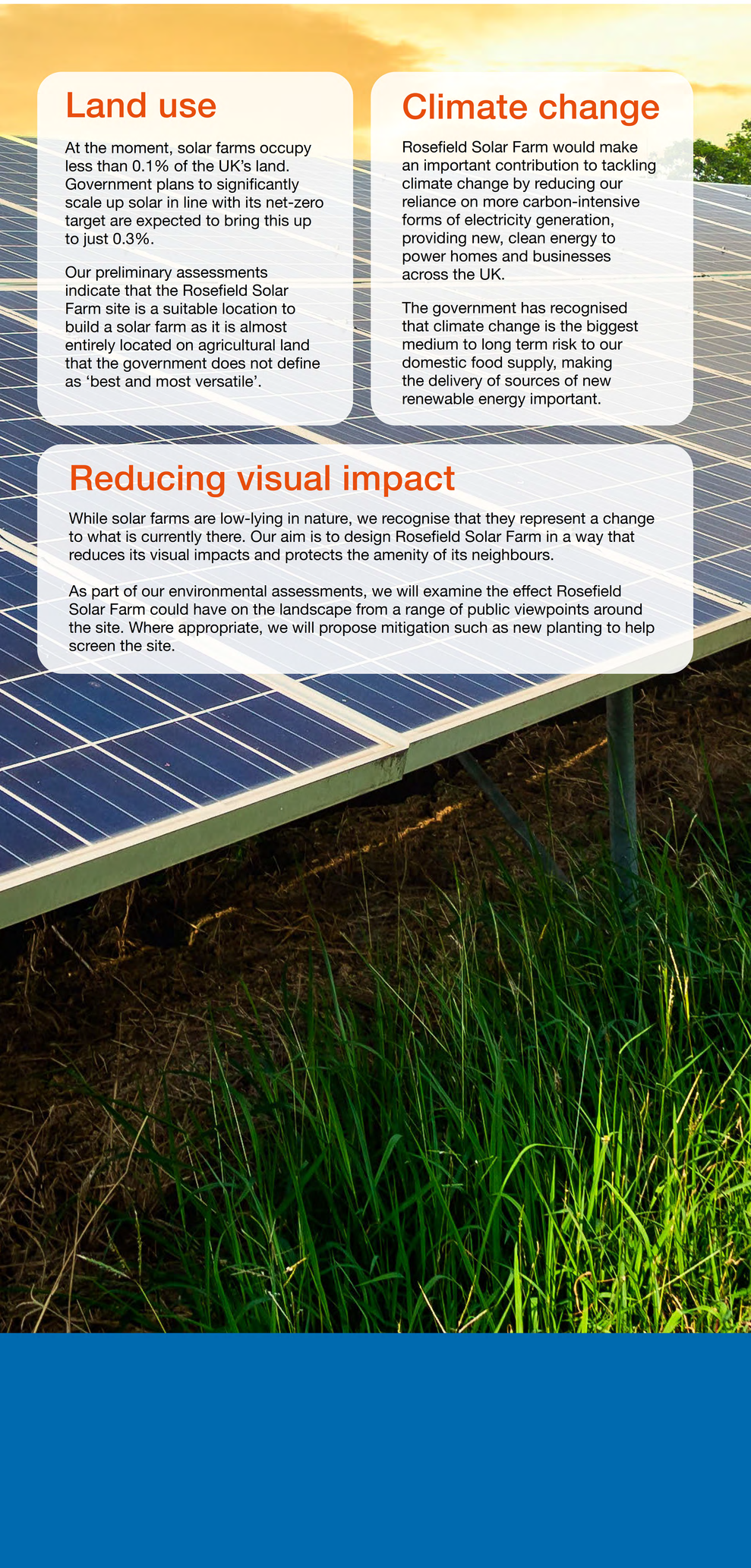
Much like the use of fallow periods in farming to rest and regenerate soil, the land between and beneath the solar panels would be managed throughout Rosefield Solar Farm's operational lifetime to help support local wildlife and improve the condition of the soil.

What is biodiversity net gain?

Biodiversity net gain is the term used to describe the process of increasing the overall biodiversity value of a given site. It is calculated by using the difference between pre-development and post-development habitat data. From 2023, all new developments are required to deliver at least 10% biodiversity net gain on site.

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Assessing environmental effects



Land use

At the moment, solar farms occupy less than 0.1% of the UK's land. Government plans to significantly scale up solar in line with its net-zero target are expected to bring this up to just 0.3%.

Our preliminary assessments indicate that the Rosefield Solar Farm site is a suitable location to build a solar farm as it is almost entirely located on agricultural land that the government does not define as 'best and most versatile'.

Climate change

Rosefield Solar Farm would make an important contribution to tackling climate change by reducing our reliance on more carbon-intensive forms of electricity generation, providing new, clean energy to power homes and businesses across the UK.

The government has recognised that climate change is the biggest medium to long term risk to our domestic food supply, making the delivery of sources of new renewable energy important.

Reducing visual impact

While solar farms are low-lying in nature, we recognise that they represent a change to what is currently there. Our aim is to design Rosefield Solar Farm in a way that reduces its visual impacts and protects the amenity of its neighbours.

As part of our environmental assessments, we will examine the effect Rosefield Solar Farm could have on the landscape from a range of public viewpoints around the site. Where appropriate, we will propose mitigation such as new planting to help screen the site.

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Community benefit

As long-term investors in our projects and the communities where we operate, we are committed to being good neighbours.

We recognise that the construction and operation of solar farms can affect the communities around them.

Wherever we operate, we give something back to the local community. All our onshore wind and solar sites in the UK have a dedicated community fund to spend on improvements in the local area.

We welcome suggestions from the community as to how we can make a positive local contribution, whether that's through funding, employment and training, or environmental programmes.

We are also interested in hearing about existing community funds or organisations that might be interested in partnering with Rosefield.

We're always looking for new ways we can make a difference locally. We have funded a range of local community projects across the UK – from improving footpaths and cycleways, to delivering wildlife projects and providing electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

We have also partnered with schools and further education colleges on skills programmes to help prepare young people for the future green jobs market.

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Share your views

Next steps

All responses must be received by the consultation deadline of 11:59 pm on Friday, 10 November 2023.

Following this consultation, we will consider all of the feedback that we receive and continue to develop our plans for Rosefield Solar Farm ahead of the next stage of consultation.

Our DCO application will include a Consultation Report setting out how we have had regard to the responses received during all phases of the consultation.

How to respond

You can share your views on our proposals for Rosefield Solar Farm by providing feedback here today. Alternatively, you can:

- Complete a questionnaire online at: **www.rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk**
- Email a questionnaire to: **info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk**
- Post a questionnaire (no stamp required) to:

  Rosefield Solar Farm
  FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL

- Submit your comments by email to: **info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk** or in writing to the above Freepost address.

Get in touch

0800 861 1097

info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

Appendix A-3 - Screenshots of Phase One Consultation website and virtual exhibition

Rosefield
Solar Farm

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Introducing Rosefield Solar Farm

This website introduces our proposals for Rosefield Solar Farm, a proposed new solar farm in Buckinghamshire.

We are now consulting on our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm, with community input vital in helping shape our proposals.

Our consultation is running from 28 September to 10 November 2023.

All the consultation materials can be found here on our website, where you can read and download our consultation materials, visit our virtual exhibition and share your feedback.

Discover more

What is Rosefield Solar Farm

Rosefield Solar Farm is a proposed new solar farm with battery storage in Buckinghamshire that would provide enough clean energy to power more than 57,000 homes* and save more than 125,000 tonnes of carbon** every year.

Like most solar farms, Rosefield Solar Farm would have a lifespan of around 40 years. Once the panels are removed, the land could be returned to agricultural use.

We are now consulting on our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm. With input from communities, local authorities and other organisations as

more than 57,000 homes* and save more than 125,000 tonnes of carbon** every year.

Like most solar farms, Rosefield Solar Farm would have a lifespan of around 40 years. Once the panels are removed, the land could be returned to agricultural use.

We are now consulting on our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm. With input from communities, local authorities and other organisations as well as outputs from our environmental surveys, we will continue to refine our proposals over the coming months.

Read more

Why is Rosefield Solar Farm needed?

Rosefield Solar Farm will help the UK build a cleaner, more secure energy system and will make an important contribution to meeting the government's target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

The UK is undergoing a major change in the way it meets its energy needs. In 2019, the government legislated to commit the country to achieving 'net zero' carbon emissions by 2050 against 1990 levels.

Read more

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

** Based upon BEIS's "all fossil fuels" emissions statistic of 450 tonnes of carbon dioxide per GWh of electricity supplied in the Digest of UK Energy Statistics (published 2021).

About us

Rosefield Solar Farm is backed by EDF Renewables and PS Renewables, two companies with a long history in helping meet the country's need for renewable energy.

Discover more

EDF Renewables UK and Ireland is a subsidiary of EDF Group, one of the world's largest low carbon electricity companies. We have an operating portfolio of 41 renewable energy sites, totalling more than 1.5 GW of electricity, across battery, onshore and offshore wind. Our contribution to the UK's energy supply is set to expand further with almost 14 GW of projects in planning and development, including wind, battery and solar.

EDF Renewables invests for the long-term in the projects and communities where we operate. We remain involved in and committed to projects over their lifetime from development, construction and operation, all the way through to decommissioning.

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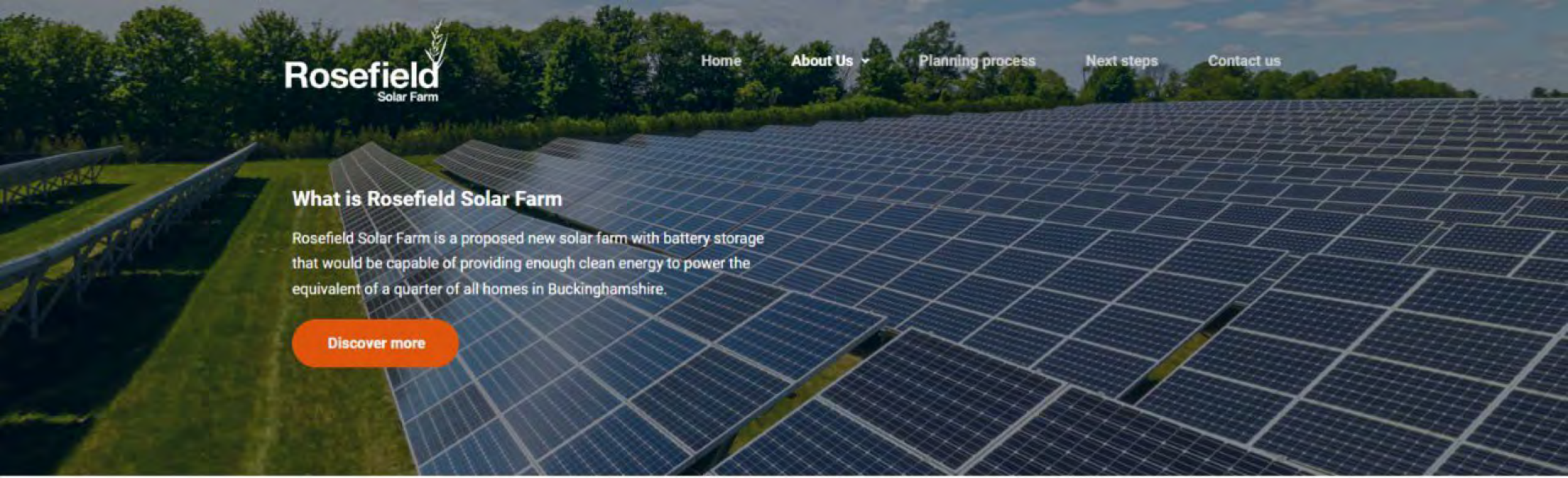
We're pleased to be working with PS Renewables, an established UK-based renewable energy development and construction company, with an existing solar portfolio totalling more than 850MW of electricity.

We have a strong track record of working jointly on solar projects and are also working closely with the Claydon Estate, the main owner of the land needed for Rosefield Solar Farm. Rosefield Solar Farm will play an important role in supporting the estate's vision for a sustainable future.

You can find out more about both organisations at: www.edf-re.uk and www.psrenewables.com

EDF renewables

PS Renewables
Green Energy Investments



What is Rosefield Solar Farm

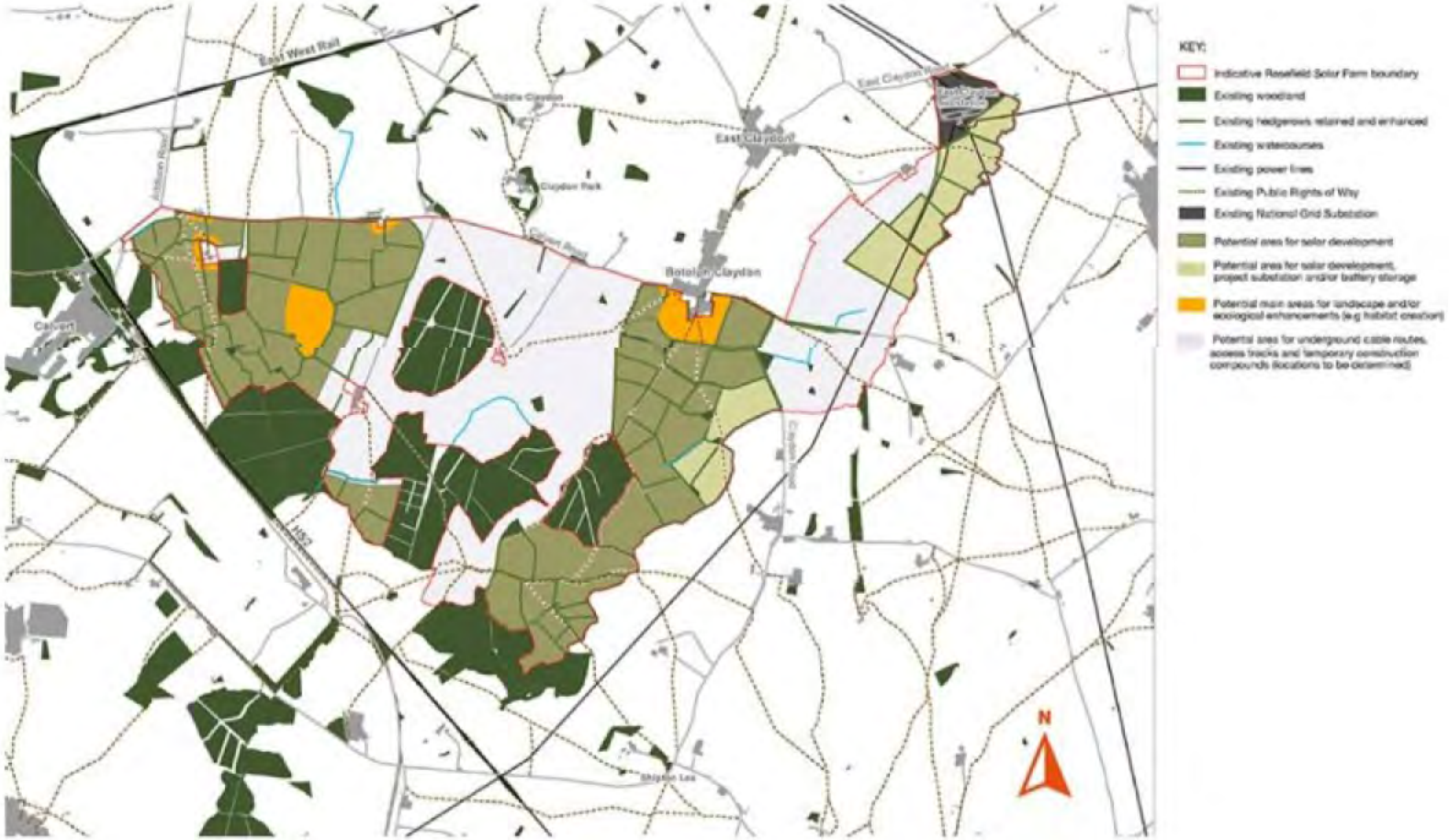
Rosefield Solar Farm is a proposed new solar farm with battery storage that would be capable of providing enough clean energy to power the equivalent of a quarter of all homes in Buckinghamshire.

Discover more

This plan shows our early thinking for Rosefield Solar Farm. As part of this consultation, we are seeking your feedback on our early design – including where we have placed different elements of the solar farm, our initial ideas on areas for landscape and ecological enhancements, and whether there is any information we need to take into account as we develop our plans.

We are also considering ways that we could improve the existing footpath network to create a better experience for users. This could include providing links between existing Public Rights of Ways in and around Rosefield Solar Farm or creating new routes, for example, to neighbouring woodlands. We are keen to hear your thoughts on what we could include and where these could be.

Understanding the landscape, along with how it supports the local community and wildlife, is key to our approach – that's why your feedback is so important.



We are working closely with the Claydon Estate, the main owner of the land needed for Rosefield Solar Farm. Rosefield Solar Farm will play an important role in supporting the estate's vision for a sustainable future.

Why is Rosefield Solar Farm needed?

Reaching net zero means fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas will need to be replaced by sources of clean, renewable electricity. This is important because the energy sector produces around 75% of greenhouse gas emissions around the world today. The government believes that by 2030, 95% of British electricity could be low carbon and by 2035, this could be 100%.

Discover more

In the future, electricity will have a much larger role to play in our energy system. As the UK transitions to net zero, our whole economy will switch over to cleaner forms of electricity – to heat our homes and power our future transport systems, buildings and industries. This means we need to produce a lot more electricity than we currently do. In fact, electricity demand is set to double by 2050.

All of this means we need to increase the amount of clean electricity we produce by increasing the sources of renewable energy we have in the UK. Having multiple sources of electricity will help the UK boost its domestic supply of clean energy and create a reliable and secure energy network.

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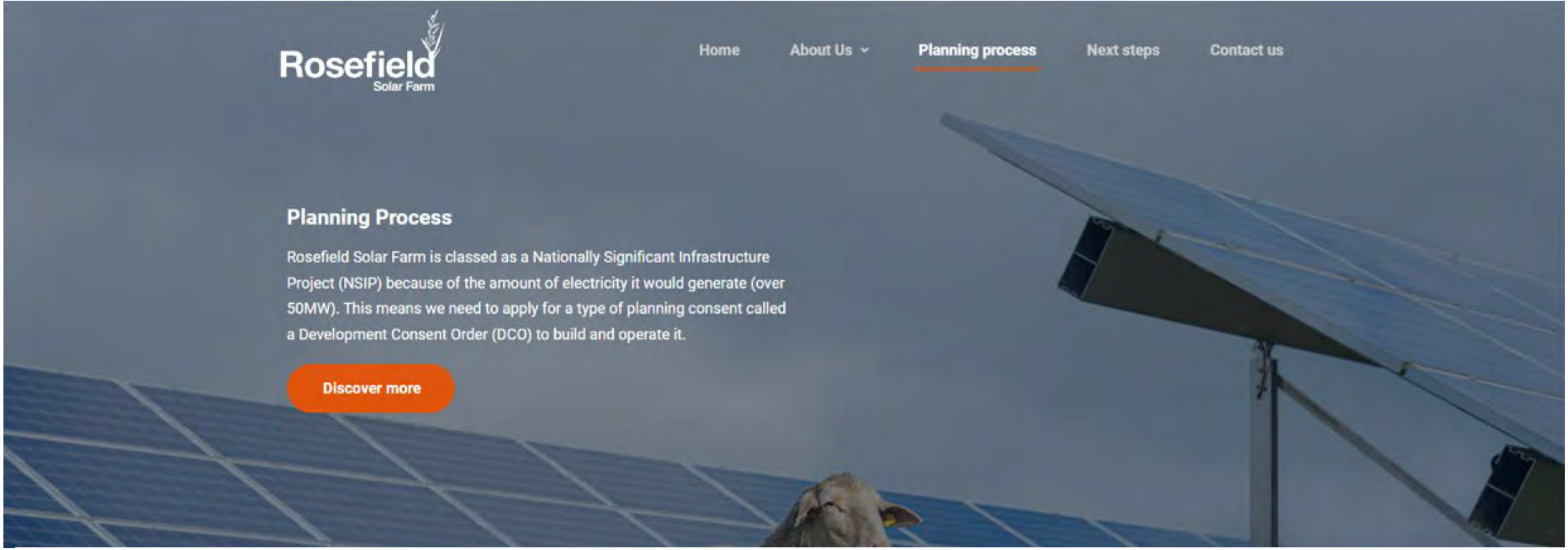
All of this means we need to increase the amount of clean electricity we produce by increasing the sources of renewable energy we have in the UK. Having multiple sources of electricity will help the UK boost its domestic supply of clean energy and create a reliable and secure energy network.

Solar is an important part of the way we meet this need – it is the most affordable source of renewable energy in the UK*, it is reliable and can be built quickly compared to other renewable technologies.

The amount of solar we need to reach our net-zero target would use just 0.3 per cent of land in the UK. Solar farms last around 40 years and once they are removed, the land can be returned to its original use.

Rosefield Solar Farm will make an important contribution to helping the UK build a cleaner, more secure energy system and reaching our net-zero target.

* Department for Energy Security & Net Zero, *Electricity Generation Costs Report 2023*, 2023



Planning Process

Rosefield Solar Farm is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) because of the amount of electricity it would generate (over 50MW). This means we need to apply for a type of planning consent called a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build and operate it.

Discover more

Consultation is an important part of the DCO process as it enables everyone to comment on the proposals. The feedback received, along with further technical work and environmental studies, will inform the development of our proposals ahead of the submission of our DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate.

For more information about the planning process, please visit the Planning Inspectorate website here:

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/

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For more information about the planning process, please visit the Planning Inspectorate website here:

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/

Document Library

You can view and download all our consultation materials for Rosefield solar Farm here.

Discover more

Non-statutory consultation (28 September – 10 November 2023)

Consultation booklet

Our early design

Questionnaire

Consultation newsletter

Launch (14 September 2023)

Rosefield Solar Farm Launch leaflet

Non-statutory consultation (28 September – 10 November 2023)

Consultation booklet

Our early design

Questionnaire

Consultation newsletter

Launch (14 September 2023)

Rosefield Solar Farm Launch leaflet

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Public consultation

We are now consulting on our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm, with community input vital in helping shape our proposals.

Discover more

We are keen for as many people as possible to get in touch, meet with us and share their feedback during our consultation, which is running between Thursday, 28 September and Friday, 10 November 2023.

All the consultation information can be found here on our website, where you can download our consultation materials, visit our virtual exhibition and share your feedback with us.

and share their feedback during our consultation, which is running between Thursday, 28 September and Friday, 10 November 2023.

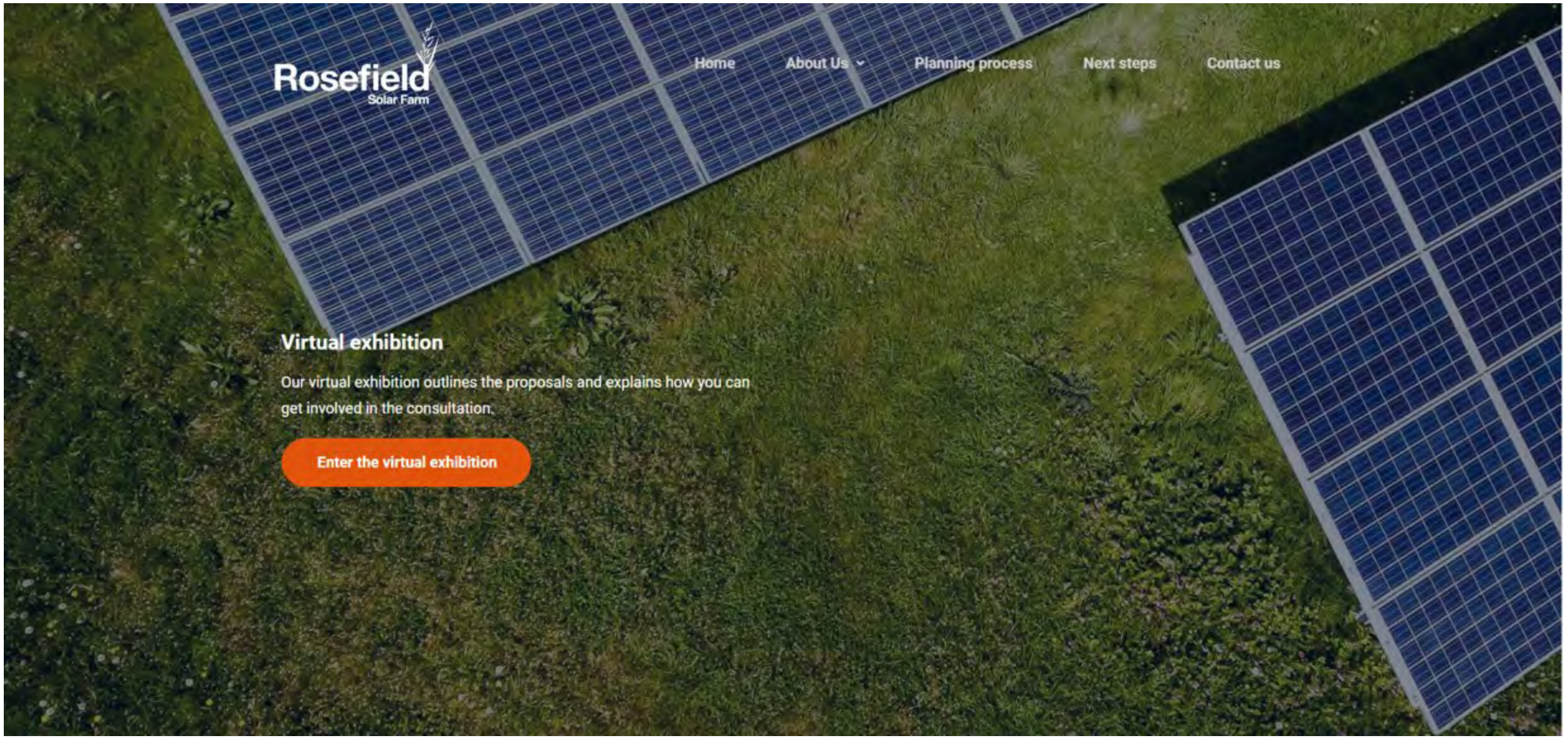
All the consultation information can be found here on our website, where you can download our consultation materials, visit our virtual exhibition and share your feedback with us.

You can also request a copy of these materials, posted free of charge to your address, by getting in touch using the contact form, or using our contact details.

You can share your views on Rosefield Solar Farm by:

- Completing an online questionnaire
- Emailing a questionnaire to info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk
- Posting (no stamp required) a questionnaire to:
  Rosefield Solar Farm
  FREEPOST SEC NEWGATE UK LOCAL
- Submitting your comments by email to info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk or in writing to the above Freepost address.

All responses must be received by the consultation deadline of **11:59pm on 10 November 2023**.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Virtual exhibition
Our virtual exhibition outlines the proposals and explains how you can get involved in the consultation.
Enter the virtual exhibition

We are seeking your feedback at this stage to make sure we can consider it while we are still developing our plans. This questionnaire is designed to be used having read about our proposals in the consultation booklet, which can be found here.

To complete the questionnaire, please click below:

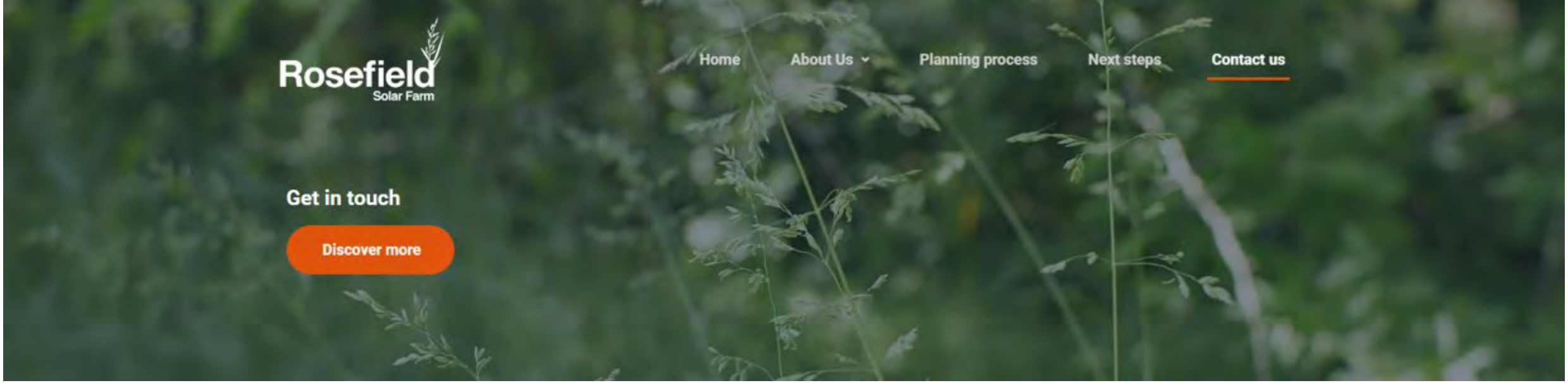
Fill in the questionnaire

We are now consulting on our early proposal for Rosefield. We're seeking feedback at this stage so it can inform our plans while they are still being developed.

This booklet explains our early proposals, the process we need to follow to get planning consent, and explains how we will carry out our assessments. It also sets out the different ways you can get involved and share your views.

To view and download our booklet, please click below.

Read the booklet



Your name *

Your email *

Subject

Your message (optional)

Submit

For further information, please contact us on 0800 8611097 or info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk

By submitting a contact form, you agree to our terms and conditions and that you have read our privacy policy. You may receive email updates from Rosefield Solar Farm and you can opt out at any time.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Welcome
Introducing
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Why here?
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Welcome
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our public exhibition about
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Why is it needed?
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Why here?
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The application process
Our approach to design
Project Plans
Enhancing the local environment
Construction, operation & decomissioning
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The consenting process
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Our design principles
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Construction, operation & decommissioning
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Connecting to the grid
Assessing environmental effects
Assessing environmental effects
Assessing environmental effects
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How does a solar farm work?
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Reducing visual impact
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Working with communities
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Consultation Questionnaire
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Community benefit
As long-term investors in our projects and the communities where we operate, we are committed to being good neighbours.
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Next steps
How to respond
Get in touch
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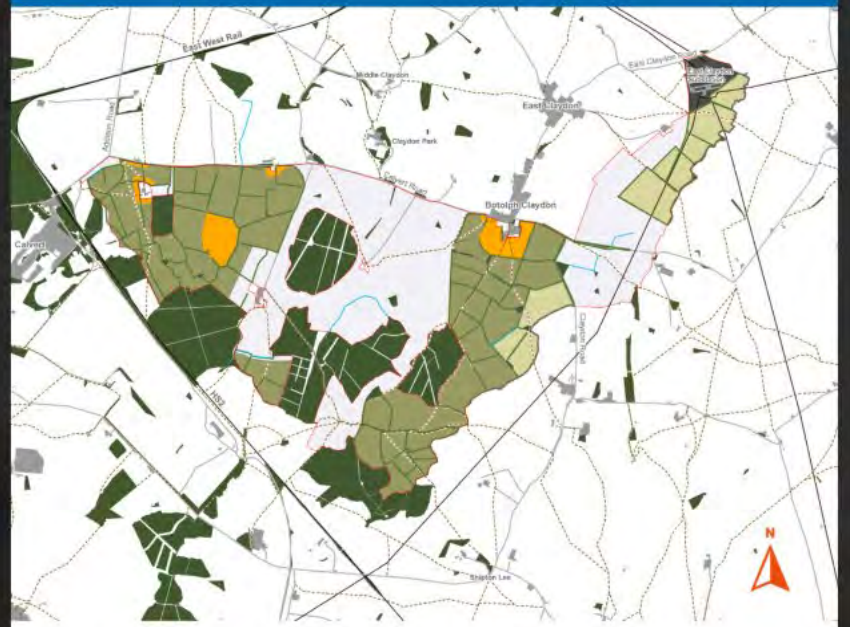
Welcome
Thank you for visiting our public exhibition about Rosefield Solar Farm.
This consultation is running between Thursday, 28 September and Friday, 10 November 2023.
Rosefield Solar Farm is backed by EDF Renewables UK and PS Renewables, two companies with a long history in helping meet the country's need for renewable energy.
We are currently at the earliest stages of the development of Rosefield Solar Farm, with local views vital to helping us shape our plans.
This exhibition includes information about our early plans for Rosefield Solar Farm, the process we need to follow to apply for planning consent and the different ways you can get involved and share your views.

Our early proposals



This plan shows our early thinking for Rosefield Solar Farm. As part of this consultation, we are seeking your feedback on our early design – including where we have placed different elements of the solar farm, our initial ideas on areas for landscape and ecological enhancements and whether there is any information we need to take into account as we develop our plans.

KEY:

- Indicative Rosefield Solar Farm boundary
- Existing woodland
- Existing hedgerows retained and enhanced
- Existing watercourses
- Existing power lines
- Existing Public Rights of Way
- Existing National Grid Substation
- Potential area for solar development
- Potential area for solar development, project substation and/or battery storage
- Potential main areas for landscape and/or ecological enhancements (e.g habitat creation)
- Potential area for underground cable routes, access tracks and temporary construction compounds (locations to be determined)

Rosefield
Solar Farm

Appendix A-4 - Summary of responses from Phase One Consultation and consideration by topic

Appendix A-4: Summary of responses to Phase One Consultation and consideration by topic[1]

Table A-1: Summary of responses to Phase One Consultation and consideration by topic

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
Alternatives			
Location	Comment that there are more suitable locations for and scales of solar development, including rooftops, smaller ground-mounted solar farms, brownfield land and poorer quality land.	To meet national targets for energy, current policy calls for a variety of renewable energy sources including rooftop installations and smaller ground-mounted solar farms. On their own, however, these would not produce enough energy to meet future energy needs. Large scale solar is needed to generate significant capacity and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. The Applicant has considered the availability of brownfield and similar land in identifying the Site, of which no land of similar scale and proximity to the grid connection was identified. See **Appendix 1: Site Selection Report** of the **Planning Statement [EN010158/APP/5.7]** for further information.	N

[1] Abbreviations and defined terms are included within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 00: Glossary [EN010158/APP/6.1]**

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
Technologies	Statement of support for other forms of energy generation, including wind, nuclear, tidal.	The current national policy calls for a mix of renewable energy sources in order to meet future energy demands. The starting point for the Proposed Development was the grid connection at East Claydon, and then the Applicant sought nearby land that would be suitable. This area is suitable for solar production, which is why solar is being pursued. See also **ES Volume 1, Chapter 4: Reasonable Alternatives Considered [EN010158/APP/6.1]** and the **Planning Statement [EN010158/APP/5.7]**.	N
Approach to EIA			
Validity	Comment that the ecological assessments are being undertaken by a consultant paid for by the Applicant which could affects its validity.	The Applicant has instructed technical EIA specialists (RSK) to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment, prepare the Environmental Statement and undertake the environmental surveys **[EN010158/APP/6.1- 6.4].** RSK is held to the same high standards of professionalism as all EIA consultants, including through its registration with the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) EIA Quality Mark. The scheme includes independent review of RSKs EIA work as well as its delivery against seven 'EIA commitments'. The ES identifies a range of possible impacts of the Proposed Development, including both beneficial and adverse, together with mitigation measures to prevent,	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		reduce or, if possible, offset adverse effects. Given the approach to assuming a reasonable worst case, rather than understating the likely effects of the Proposed Development, if anything, the adverse effects may be slightly over-stated given the precautionary approach taken to ensure that the effects can be properly considered.	
Battery safety			
Fire safety	Comments expressing concern about the potential fire risk of the BESS element of the Proposed Development.	The Applicant has designed the BESS in line with industry best practice, applicable guidance and ongoing dialogue with stakeholders such as the UK Health Security Agency and Buckinghamshire Fire Authority. This includes the layout of the assets to limit the ability for a thermal runaway event to spread to adjacent enclosures, as well as suitable preventative measures and response to any thermal runaway event. For example, as per NFCC guidance, two independent access points have been included in the design of the Proposed Development (see **Illustrative Layout Plans and Sections [EN10158/APP/2.6])** to ensure safe access and egress for any emergency services that may need to respond to an event. The Applicant also investigated BESS safety – including fire risk – and adopted suitable mitigation measures that are secured within the **Outline Battery Safety**	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		Management Plan [EN010158/APP/7.9] and **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010158/APP/7.13]**. These documents set out the very low likelihood of such an event, the worst-case impacts that could occur and confirms that in, such an event, this would not pose significant risks to nearby human health, including to the closest residential receptors to the proposed BESS compound (approx. 400 metres to Borshaw Farm). A layer of protection analysis has estimated that the frequency of a cell venting event leading to thermal runaway is once every 344 years. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010158/APP/7.13]** has demonstrated that the risk to the population remains very low. The overriding approach to manage issues around firefighting water is to avoid the risks. This is through identification and assessment of the risks and consequences, followed by tailoring the mitigation to capture, contain, test and appropriately dispose of any surface water runoff, fully aligning to UK regulations for firefighting water runoff. This therefore stops a pathway linking the potential source of contamination and receptor. Along with the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan [EN010158/APP/7.9]**, the **Outline Surface Water Drainage Strategy** (appended to **ES Volume 4,**	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		Appendix 16.1: Flood Risk Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4]) sets out methods to collect, contain and manage any firefighting water runoff during a thermal runaway event. It also sets out drainage strategy for normal operation. This helps to avoid, control and mitigate the risk of contamination to nearby receptors. In the detailed design stage, the Applicant would mutually agree an Emergency Response Plan with Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Services, setting out how they would respond to any BESS event.	
Biodiversity			
Bats	Comments that the Proposed Development would impact on bats.	The full detailed assessment of the potential impacts on bats is presented in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2].** Given the sensitivity of the location, particularly for commuting and foraging bats, the layout of the Proposed Development and embedded design principles have been deliberately designed to ensure the retention, creation and enhancement of habitats. This includes field margins, woodland, hedgerows, trees, ponds, watercourses and ditches. Along with retaining existing habitats wherever possible, the locations of mitigation areas have been chosen to	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		ensure connections between the existing SSSIs and ancient woodland adjacent to the Site would be enhanced by creating species-rich grassland and arable margins along with scrub and tree planting. This would create a coherent ecological network to link the Site to the wider landscape, supporting the movement of local wildlife, particularly bats. Where key areas of bat activity, in particular *Myotis* activity have been identified, specific measures have been embedded into the design of the Proposed Development. Solar PV modules have been removed from a number of fields, including from: • Fields B17 and part of B9, located adjacent to the northern edge of Sheephouse Wood and connecting to hedgerows identified as a bat mitigation corridor between Sheephouse Wood, Shrub's Wood and Decoypond Wood. • Fields C1, C2 and C3, located between Sheephouse Wood and Greatsea Wood adjacent to the key Bechstein's bat commuting route identified by Natural England along the southern end of Three Points Lane. • Field D27, adjacent to the eastern edge of Runt's Wood.	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		• Fields D30 to D37 adjacent to the southern edge of Finemere Wood SSSI, known to support 12 maternity roosts. Instead, these areas would be used to provide mitigation areas for bats including increased foraging resources, woodland edge habitat and connectivity. Perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development would be offset at least 30m from existing woodland and hedgerows located along the boundaries of Field D29 and partially in Field D28. Additional woodland planting is proposed within these fields to strengthen the corridor between Finemere Wood and Runts Wood. Perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development would be offset at least 15m either side from existing hedgerows located within Fields B3 and B7, between fields B7 and B8/B10 and between Fields B8/B10 and B9/B11, providing a 15m wide corridor link either side of each hedgerow between Sheephouse Wood, Shrubs Wood and Decoypond Wood to reduce potential displacement effects. Perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development would be at least 20m from the top of bank of Claydon Brook in Fields E20, E11, E10 and north section of E21, where higher levels of *Myotis* activity was recorded.	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		Early planting and habitat management is proposed within Parcel 1 (hedgerows between Shrubs Wood, Decoypond Wood and Sheephouse Wood), Parcel 1a, Parcel 2 (along the boundary of fields D30, D29 and D28 and hedgerows along boundary of fields D30, D34 and D37) ahead of construction activities starting. This strategic planting is proposed to improve foraging and commuting habitat for bats between woodland blocks; improve connectivity across the Site and to the wider landscape; compensate for hedgerows lost; improve retained hedgerows; improve foraging, nesting/roosting habitat for birds and bats; and provide habitat for black hairstreak and brown hairstreak butterfly and other invertebrate species. In addition, a Collector Compound has been removed from Field B10 since Phase Two Consultation which was proposed to be located adjacent to Sheephouse Wood (see **Outline LEMP Appendix 2: Landscape and Ecological Mitigation and Enhancements [EN010158/APP/7.6]**).	
Biodiversity Net Gain	Comments that the Proposed Development should deliver a substantial Biodiversity Net Gain.	**ES Volume 4, Appendix 7.17: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4]** sets out how the Proposed Development would achieve biodiversity net gain using the latest version of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. **ES Volume 4, Appendix 7.17 - Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4]** is based on the indicative habitat creation proposals secured in	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**. On a precautionary basis, the Applicant is committing to a minimum net gain of 40% area habitat units, 17% hedgerow units and 10% watercourse units. The biodiversity design is cognisant of local biodiversity priorities already identified for the area and has been developed in consultation with Natural England, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust and Buckinghamshire Council. It focuses on compensating adverse effects on habitats and species already known and improving the Site for species that could feasibly colonise in the future given the surrounding landscape.	
Connectivity	Comments that connections between woodlands should be preserved through the design of the Proposed Development. Specific reference made to hedgerows and establishment of green corridors.	The Applicant is fully aware of the importance of these areas of woodland that are located adjacent and within close proximity of the Proposed Development. The layout of the Proposed Development and embedded design principles have been deliberately designed to ensure the retention of these sites. Significant buffers have been incorporated into the embedded design (detailed within and secured by the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**.) to ensure the retention of existing habitats including:	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		• a minimum 20m offset from HS2 woodland planting (adjacent to Parcel 1) to the fence line of the Solar PV modules; • a minimum 30m offset from all fence lines to statutorily, locally designated wildlife sites, ancient woodlands and existing woodland and hedgerows located along the boundaries of Field D29 and partially in Field D28; • a minimum 20m offset from all fence lines to existing woodlands; • a minimum 15m offset from all fence lines either side from existing hedgerows located within Fields B3 and B7, between fields B7 and B8/B10 and between Fields B8/B10 and B9/B11; • a minimum 10m offset from all fence lines to existing hedgerows; • retention of all ponds located within the Order Limits and a minimum 10 m offset from all fence lines to existing ponds; and • minimum offset of least 10m either side of Main Rivers, ditches and ordinary watercourses and offset at least 20m from the top of bank of Claydon Brook	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		in Fields E20, E11, E10 and north section of E21 to all fence lines. Along with retaining existing habitats of value, these significant buffers would allow for habitat creation and improvements to help mitigate any displacement effect of Solar PV modules on foraging and commuting bats, and avoid the risk of displacement from HS2 mitigation planting, as well as providing habitat suitable to support a range of species. The sensitivity of the location of the Proposed Development, particularly with respect to commuting and foraging bats, is fully acknowledged. Embedded (primary) environmental mitigation measures that are considered to be an inherent part of the Proposed Development have included the removal of Solar PV development within several locations across the Order Limits including: • Parcel 1a (Fields C1, C2 and C3) • Knowl Hill (Field B17) and half of Field B9 • Fields in the southern part of Parcel 2 (Fields D27 and D30 to D37) These areas have been recognised as particularly valuable for commuting and foraging bats. Instead, these areas are proposed for the creation of high-quality	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		habitats, such as a mosaic of species-rich grassland, scrub, woodland planting and pond restoration. The locations of dedicated mitigation areas have been chosen to ensure the connections between the existing SSSIs and ancient woodland adjacent to the Site would be enhanced. This would help to create a coherent ecological network that would link the Site to the wider landscape, supporting the movement of local wildlife, particularly commuting and foraging bats. These created/restored habitats would also mitigate for the loss of ground-nesting bird habitat and create a nectar source for invertebrates which in turn would provide a valuable foraging resource for bats and bird species. Since Phase One Consultation, the Applicant refined the design of the Proposed Development. The proposed cable routes between each parcel and to the point of connection have also been refined to reduce effects on green corridors, trees and ecological features. This also included treatment of green corridors, with measures proposed to protect existing corridors and create new ones between important habitats. **Appendix 1 - Green and Blue Infrastructure Parameters** and **Appendix 2 - Landscape and Ecological Mitigation and Enhancements** to the **Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010158/APP/7.6]** illustrate the green infrastructure parameters that would	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		be delivered by the Proposed Development, which would be secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010158/APP/7.6]**.	
Enhancements	Comments that enhancements would not be enough to compensate for the effects of the Proposed Development.	The majority of habitat located within the Order Limits is dominated by arable farmland and modified grassland which is considered to be of relatively low biodiversity value, with the layout of the Proposed Development deliberately designed to retain habitats of higher value, (for example, there would be no direct land take of woodland). The embedded design principles provide for the retention, creation and enhancement of habitats such as species-rich grassland, scrub, field margins, all woodland, hedgerows, trees, ponds, watercourses, ditches. Although there would be large areas of the site covered by solar panels, evidence has shown that vegetation could grow underneath solar panels, in particular the rides between the individual panels. The planting schedule would include species that are tolerant of these conditions and would improve habitat for invertebrates like pollinators, with knock on benefits for foraging bat and bird species. The biodiversity design is cognisant of local biodiversity priorities already identified for the areas and has been developed in consultation with Natural England, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust and Buckinghamshire Council. These measures focus on compensating adverse effects on habitats and species already known, and to improve the Site for species that could feasibly colonise the Site in the future given the surrounding landscape. **ES Volume 4, Appendix 7.17: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4]** sets out how the Proposed Development would achieve biodiversity net gain using the latest version of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. The assessment fully details the areas and lengths of habitats as part of the baseline conditions, and also fully quantifies the areas and lengths of habitats that would be lost, created and enhanced as part of the development proposals, including the creation of *c.*95ha of fields set aside for dedicated ecological mitigation. **ES Volume 4, Appendix 7.17 - Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4]** is based on the indicative habitat creation proposals secured in the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**. On a precautionary basis, the Applicant is committing to a minimum net gain of 40% area habitat units, 17% hedgerow units and 10% watercourse units. Measures to protect retained and newly created habitats during construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning activities will be detailed within	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		the **Outline CEMP [EN010158/APP/7.2], Outline OEMP [EN010158/APP/7.3]** and **Outline DEMP [EN010158/APP/7.4]**. These would be implemented by the principal contractor and relevant biodiversity elements would be overseen by an Ecological Clerk of Works where required.	
General comment	Comments expressing concern that the Proposed Development would negatively impact local wildlife and habitats.	A full assessment of ecological receptors is presented within **ES Volume 2, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2]**. Given the sensitivity of the location of the Proposed Development, particularly to commuting and foraging bats, the layout and embedded design principles have been deliberately designed to ensure the retention, creation and enhancement of habitats such as field margins, woodland, hedgerows, trees, ponds, watercourses and ditches through appropriate buffers. Along with retaining existing habitats wherever possible, the locations of mitigation areas have been chosen to ensure the connections between the existing SSSIs and ancient woodland adjacent to the Site would be enhanced. By creating species-rich grassland and arable margins along with scrub and tree planting, this would create a coherent ecological network that would link the Site to the wider landscape, supporting the movement of local	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		wildlife, particularly bats. The creation of species-rich grassland would also provide ground-nesting bird habitat and create a nectar source for invertebrates, which in turn provides a foraging resource for bats and bird species. A mosaic of scrub and grassland would improve foraging habitat for bats and provide habitat to support invertebrates. Restoration of defunct ponds would help to enhance the pond network in the area, provide additional bat foraging habitat and support great crested newts. In addition, these habitats would also be of benefit to species including invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, non-ground nesting birds, roosting bats, badger and otter. A detailed biodiversity design has been developed which identifies how a net gain in biodiversity will be achieved in accordance with the Environment Act 2021 and NPPF, using the most up to date Defra Statutory metric. **ES Volume 4, Appendix 7.17 - Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4]** is based on the indicative habitat creation proposals secured in the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**. On a precautionary basis, the Applicant is committing to a minimum net gain of 40% area habitat units, 17% hedgerow units and 10% watercourse units.	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		The biodiversity design is cognisant of local biodiversity priorities already identified for the areas and has been developed in consultation with Natural England, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust and Buckinghamshire Council. It focuses on compensating adverse effects on habitats and species already known and improving the Site for species that could feasibly colonise in the future given the surrounding landscape (see **ES Volume 4, Appendix 7.17: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4]** and **Outline LEMP Appendix 2: Landscape and Ecological Mitigation and Enhancements [EN010158/APP/7.6]**).	
Margins	Comments that woodland margins abrupt to neighbouring arable and pasture land should be softer to form a habitat mosaic, with the inclusion of scrub and species-rich grassland with flowering species.	The embedded mitigation detailed in **Table 7.6** of **ES Volume 2, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2]** and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010158/APP/7.6]** includes a minimum 30m offset from all ancient woodland and 20m from other woodland which exceeds Natural England's standing advice of 15m. By creating species-rich grassland and arable margins (the BNG Assessment has assumed arable margins would be 5% scrub and 95% tussock grassland) along with scrub and tree planting within these buffers that	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		would - as suggested - help to soften abrupt hard edges. This would create a coherent ecological network that would link the Site to the wider landscape, supporting the movement of local wildlife, particularly bats. This is secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010158/APP/7.6].** See also **ES Volume 4, Appendix 7.17: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4]**.	
New planting	Comments that the Applicant should plant more wildflower areas, mature trees and woodland, native habitats and hedgerows.	The embedded mitigation detailed in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2]** and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010158/APP/7.6]** include for the creation of species-rich grassland, arable margins, hedgerows, scrub and tree and woodland planting.	Y
Offsets	Requests for large buffer zones of at least 50m should be included around the woodlands, with no panels located in proximity to the ancient woodlands.	The embedded mitigation detailed in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2]** and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010158/APP/7.6]** includes a minimum 30m offset from all ancient woodland and 20m from other areas of woodland which exceeds Natural England's standing advice of 15m. As detailed in **ES Volume 2: Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2]**, following the application of additional mitigation measures, no direct adverse impacts are predicted on ancient woodlands and other	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		woodland within and adjacent to the Order Limits through the lifetime of the Proposed Development.	
Ponds	Comment that new ponds should be created within the Proposed Development.	The Applicant has proposed to establish ecological ponds (both restoration of former ponds and creation of new ponds), which would increase the number of ponds within the Order Limits and strengthen the pond network, providing additional breeding habitat for Great Crested Newt and foraging habitat for bats as well as providing suitable to habitat to support wetland bird species (see **Appendix 2: Landscape and Ecological Mitigation and Enhancements** of the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**).	Y
Runts Wood	Comment that there should be a buffer around Runts Wood	The embedded mitigation detailed in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2]** and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010158/APP/7.6]** includes a minimum 30m offset from all ancient woodland including Runt's Wood which exceeds Natural England's standing advice of 15m. In addition, the width of the offset between Finemere Wood and Runt's Wood has also been increased to 30m from 20m to enhance connectivity for bats. By creating species-rich grassland and arable margins along with scrub and tree planting within these buffers, this would create a coherent ecological network linking	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		the Site to the wider landscape, supporting the movement of local wildlife, particularly bats. Mitigation is detailed within and secured by the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**. As detailed in **ES Volume 2: Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2]**, following the application of additional mitigation measures, no direct adverse impacts are predicted on ancient woodlands (including Runt's Wood) within and adjacent to the Order Limits through the lifetime of the Proposed Development.	
Sheephouse Wood SSSI	Comments that the Proposed Development is too close to the Sheephouse Wood SSSI. Other comments note that this woodland has been damaged by HS2.	The embedded mitigation detailed in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2]** and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010158/APP/7.6]** includes a minimum 30m offset from all ancient woodland including Sheephouse Wood SSSI which exceeds Natural England's standing advice of 15m, with no direct land take proposed. As detailed in **ES Volume 2: Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2]**, following the application of additional mitigation measures, no direct adverse impacts are predicted on ancient woodlands (including Sheephouse Wood SSSI) within and adjacent to the Order Limits through the lifetime of the Proposed Development.	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
Special designations	Comments that the Proposed Development is in proximity to numerous blocks of ancient woodland and specially designated sites, including SSSIs and LWS, associated with the ancient Bernwood Forest. Request for more information about how the Proposed Development would be designed to reduce effects on biodiversity in these areas.	The embedded mitigation detailed in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2]** and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010158/APP/7.6]** includes a minimum 30m offset from all ancient woodland including SSSI's and LWS which exceeds Natural England's standing advice of 15m. As detailed in **ES Volume 2: Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2]**, following the application of additional mitigation measures, no direct adverse impacts are predicted on ancient woodlands including SSSI's and LWS within and adjacent to the Order Limits through the lifetime of the Proposed Development.	Y
Trees	Comment that hedgerow and tree loss should be avoided where practicable.	Loss of hedgerows and trees have been kept to a minimum with re-instatement of hedgerows undertaken in the majority of cases. The embedded mitigation detailed within and secured by the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]** includes a minimum standoff distance from Solar PV modules and associated infrastructure from hedgerows of between 10-15m and a minimum offset to the principal components of the Proposed Development to tree Root Protection Areas, as far as reasonably practicable for trees, resulting in the majority of hedgerows and trees being retained. However, sections of hedgerow and trees would require	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		removal to facilitate the installation of cables, internal roads and highways access including passing bays and visibility splays. Details of lengths of proposed hedgerow are included in the **Outline LEMP, Appendix 3: Vegetation Removal Parameters [EN010158/APP/7.6]**. Hedgerow would be re-instated on completion of construction works where possible. In addition, new hedgerow planting (*c*.3,420m) and tree planting would be implemented across the Site, along with improvement of existing hedgerows by bolstering with a diversity of appropriate native species and 'gapping-up' where required. Within the buffer areas, habitats would be created comprising a mosaic of species rich grassland and scrub planting as per the **Appendix 2: Landscape and Ecological Mitigation and Enhancements** of the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**.	
Birds	Comments expressing concern about the potential effects of the Proposed Development on breeding birds and wintering birds.	The Applicant has ensured a robust data set underpins the assessment set out in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2].**This includes two years' worth of survey data which is further supported with desk study data results detailed within **ES Volume 4, Appendix 7.4: Breeding Bird Survey Report (2022) [EN010158/APP/6.4], ES Volume 4, Appendix 7.12: Breeding Bird Survey Report (2024)**	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		[EN010158/APP/6.4], ES Volume 4, Appendix 7.3: Wintering Bird Survey Report (2022) [EN010158/APP/6.4] and **ES Volume 4, Appendix 7.11: Wintering Bird Survey Report (2024) [EN010158/APP/6.4]**. **ES Volume 2, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2]** provides a full assessment of the potential effects that could occur to both breeding and wintering birds at all phases of the Proposed Development**.** All woodland and the majority of hedgerow habitat would be maintained and available for breeding birds as it is now. In addition, proposed mitigation areas would see the creation of extensive areas of new flower – rich pasture habitat which would provide sufficient foraging habitat for breeding bird and wintering bird species and also provide nesting habitat for ground nesting birds, detailed within **ES Volume 2, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010158/APP/6.2]** and the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6].**	
Community benefit			
Community benefit	Comment that the Proposed Development would not benefit the local community.	The Applicant intends to provide benefits for the community through the enhancement of PRoWs and provision of new permissive paths, provision of a	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		community fund and creating direct and indirect effects associated with employment, skills and education. **ES Chapter 14: Population [EN010158/APP/6.2]** highlights benefits that the Proposed Development would bring in regard to employment, workforce spending and GVA/supply chain benefits, which are as follows: • 420 to 470 net additional FTE jobs per year of construction within the Construction Labour Market Area (CLMA), and 180 in the CLMA Focus Area; • £28.5 and £12.2m in the form of construction GVA within the CLMA and the CLMA Focus Area per year, respectively; • £1.9m on average per year in the form of construction workforce spending; • 18 net additional operational FTE jobs within Buckinghamshire; • £74,000 on average per year in the form of operational workforce spending. The **Planning Statement [EN010158/APP/5.7]** also highlights the wider benefits for the local community and the economy that the Proposed Development would bring, including:	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		• proposed permanent enhancements to connectivity within the local area through the rationalising and enhancement of the network of Public Rights of Way (PRoWs); • the creation of three permissive paths; • a Community Benefit Fund reflecting £400 per megawatt per year from the start of operation and lasting throughout the operational lifetime of the Proposed Development; and an Education and Skills Fund to increase opportunities in the renewable and sustainable development sector, with a sum of £50,000 set to be allocated annually from the Date of Commencement until the Date of Decommissioning.	
Community Fund	Comment that the Applicant should provide a community fund to fund local projects.	The Applicant is proposing a Community Fund of £400 per megawatt of installed capacity per year from the start of operation and lasting throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. This could include upgrades to community buildings in the local	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		area should this be a community priority. The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development. The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually.	
Electricity discounts	Comment that residents should be given free or discounted electricity.	The Applicant is unable to provide free or discounted electricity for residents closest to the Proposed Development. However, the Applicant is proposing a Community Fund of £400 per megawatt of installed capacity per year from the start of operation and lasting throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development. The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually.	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
Road conditions	Comment that the local roads are in poor condition and funding to ameliorate those would be welcome.	Road repairs are the responsibility of Buckinghamshire Council as the local roads authority. The Applicant cannot undertake wide area road improvements as a wider benefit to the community. Where roads on the proposed access route to the Site, as described in **Appendix 15.1: Transport Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4]** require improvements to enable the safe and efficient movement of construction materials and staff, these works would be undertaken to adoptable Council standards and could be made permanent, should the Council permit this. Works to Snake Lane/Fidlers Field would be required in the event that the Council or HS2 did not undertake the necessary works prior to the Proposed Development commencing. These would be funded by the Applicant, along with other minor works as attached to the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) [EN010158/APP/7.5].** These works could be made permanent if requested by the Council.	N
Construction			
General	Comments that there would be disruption during the construction phase which	The ES has assessed the likely significant effects on the environment (including local communities) resulting from the construction of the Proposed Development. Where	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
	would be unacceptable for local communities.	required, measures have been proposed to avoid, prevent, reduce or offset any likely significant adverse effects that have been identified. Proposed mitigation and monitoring measures are outlined within the respective environmental factor chapters of the Environmental Statement **(ES Volume 2, Chapters 6 - 17 [EN010158/APP/6.2])**. No significant traffic, air quality or noise impacts are anticipated during the construction phase of the Proposed Development. Further detail on these assessments that have been undertaken are detailed in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 6: Air Quality, Chapter 13: Noise and Vibration, Chapter 15: Traffic and Transport [EN010158/APP/6.2].** Measures to reduce impacts and disruption to the local community are outlined and secured within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010158/APP/7.2]** and **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010158/APP/7.5]** (for example, the commitment that the contractor would implement measures to control and mitigate and dust tracking onto the highway, including vehicle wheel cleaning. Additionally, a road sweeper would be deployed when required, to remove any mud and dust that has tracked onto the highway).	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
Consultation			
Information	Comments that more information needs to be presented on traffic management.	Feedback to Phase One Consultation indicated that how construction traffic was managed was an important consideration for the local community. Therefore, the Applicant published a draft version of the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan within the PEIR as part of its Phase Two Consultation, to enable respondents to comment on this plan as part of their feedback.	Y
Information	Comment that the consultation lacked information.	The Applicant included an appropriate level of information to explain and consult on the proposals at each phase of consultation. The purpose of Phase One Consultation was to gather feedback on the Applicant's early plans and proposals while also informing future phases of consultation. The Applicant published more information about the Proposed Development as part of its Phase Two Consultation, including the outputs of its early environmental assessments (see **Appendix G-2** of the **Consultation Report [EN010158/APP/5.2]**).	N
Cultural heritage			
Botolph Claydon	Comment that the Proposed Development could impact on the setting	The design of the Proposed Development has evolved to consider the potential effects of the Proposed	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
	of the Botolph Claydon Conservation Area and listed buildings within this area.	Development on the setting of Botolph Claydon Conservation Area and listed buildings within this area. Four fields closest to the Conservation Area were no longer considered for solar PV following Phase One Consultation and following Phase Two Consultation these fields were removed from the Order Limits altogether. These changes have ensured that the Proposed Development is no longer visible from the Conservation Area and that the Conservation Area would continue to be experienced within a largely agricultural setting on the approaches from the west and the north.	
Claydon House	Comments that the Proposed Development would be visible from Claydon House and Registered Park and Garden (RPG) which would adversely affect its setting.	The design of the Proposed Development has evolved to consider the potential effects of the Proposed Development on the setting of Claydon House and RPG, in consultation with National Trust, Historic England and the Buckinghamshire Council (host authority). In response to the feedback, the Applicant has removed areas of proposed solar panels from Fields B11 and B9 to reduce visibility of the Proposed Development from Claydon House and RPG, as well as reinforcement of the existing tree belt and hedgerow along Three Points Lane. The siting zone for the Satellite Collector Compound in Field B10 has been reduced to minimize the impact on these designated heritage assets.	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		Following application of the mitigation measures the Applicant anticipates a minor adverse (not significant) effect on the heritage significance of Claydon House and RPG during the lifetime of the Proposed Development. Where possible, the Applicant has also worked with stakeholders to develop potential enhancement measures. This includes a permissive footpath which would provide additional viewpoints of Claydon House and RPG form Knowl Hill with potential for interpretative measures.	
Cumulative effects			
BESS	Comments that there are multiple BESS proposals coming forward in the local area and this would have a cumulative effect.	An assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects with other existing developments and/or approved developments is presented in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects [EN10158/APP/6.2]**. This considers other developments within the 10km Zone of Influence from the Proposed Development that fall within the short list, which includes several projects including battery storage, namely, the East Claydon BESS, East Claydon Greener Grid Park, Calvert Solar Farm, Longbreach Solar Farm, Padbury Brook Solar Farm. The assessment presented in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects [EN10158/APP/6.2]** concludes that there are a number of likely significant inter-project	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		residual cumulative effects on landscape and visual and biodiversity including a potential significant effect on Bechstein bats/ Biodiversity These include a potential significant inter-project cumulative residual effect on Bechstein's bats with East Claydon BESS, East Claydon Greener Grid Park and Tuckey Solar Farm as they are anticipated to be displaced from the Claydon Brook, which is considered to be significant at the Local level as the area lies outside of the core sustenance zone. Depending on any collision risk for bats and trains, and the loss of foraging habitat, there is the potential for significant inter-project cumulative effects on bats with East West Rail. There is also potential for significant inter-project cumulative effects on foraging bats with Grendon Prison. Landscape and Visual The assessment has concluded significant inter-project cumulative effect on Local Character Area 5.7: Hogshaw Claylands, and 7.3: Claydon Bowl, Bernwood Jubilee Way and PRoW between Botolph Claydon and Runt's Wood during the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development with East Claydon BESS, East	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		Claydon Greener Grid Energy Park, Tuckey Solar Farm, East West Rail and Longbreach Solar Farm. There are significant inter-project cumulative effects anticipated on the North Buckinghamshire Way and the Midshires Way during the construction and decommissioning and at both Year 1 and Year 10 of the operation of the Proposed Development and significant inter-project cumulative effects on Sion Hill Farm at both Year 1 and Year 10 of the operational phase of the Proposed Development. There are also potential significant inter-project cumulative effects anticipated on Local Character Area 9.2: Quainton Hill and the Swan's Way/Outer Aylesbury Ring during the operational phase of the Proposed Development. During the construction and at Year 1 of operation, there are anticipated to be significant inter-project cumulative effects on Granborough, PRoW between East Claydon Road/Parcel 3 and Granborough/ Hogshaw Road and PRoW between East Claydon/East Claydon Road from the Proposed Development and the East Claydon BESS development. A summary of the landscape and visual inter-project cumulative effects is detailed in Table 17.13 of **ES**	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		Volume 2, Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects [EN010158/APP/6.2]. As detailed in the **Planning Statement [EN010158/APP/5.7]**, it is concluded that the wider benefits of the Proposed Development which include: the delivery of a significant level of low carbon energy generation; BNG and other benefits such as the provision of permissive paths (as outlined in **Section 3.3** of this Planning Statement) outweigh the residual adverse inter-project cumulative effects identified in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects [EN010158/APP/6.2].**	
Ecology	Comment that cumulative effects on ecology from the Proposed Development in combination with other projects in the local area should be considered. Specific reference made to HS2.	A detailed assessment of the cumulative effects on biodiversity has been undertaken, and this is presented in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects [EN10158/APP/6.2]**. The design has included for the creation of *c.* 95 ha of habitat creation specifically for ecological mitigation. The width of ecological buffers has been increased where appropriate, safeguarding mitigation already implemented by HS2. Mitigation measures by the Proposed Development are considered likely to maintain foraging habitat for bat species but some doubts remain as to actual mechanism of displacement of bats by solar and over	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		what distance this effect manifests itself. Potential significant inter-project cumulative residual effects are anticipated if Bechstein's bats are displaced from extensive areas of their core sustenance zone due to the Proposed Development in combination with displacement and mortality arising from HS2. However, given the mitigation measures in place from HS2 to reduce the risk of collision by bats with trains, and the habitat creation and enhancement measures by both HS2 and the Proposed Development to reduce fragmentation and minimise the effects of displacement, residual effects are considered to be minimised and Significant at the Local level only. In regards to other developments, potential significant inter-project cumulative residual effect on bats with East Claydon BESS, East Claydon Greener Grid Park and Tuckey Solar Farm are anticipated due to potential displacement from the Claydon Brook, which is considered to be significant at the Local level as the area lies outside of the core sustenance zone. Depending on any collision risk for bats and trains, and the loss of foraging habitat, there is the potential for significant inter-project cumulative effects on bats with East West Rail. There is also potential for significant inter-project cumulative effects on foraging bats with Grendon Prison.	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
General	Comments that there would be cumulative impacts from other developments in the local area which need to be taken into account.	The Applicant has undertaken an assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects with other existing developments and/or approved developments is presented in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects [EN10158/APP/6.2]**. This considers other developments within the 10km Zone of Influence from the Proposed Development that fall within the short list as detailed in Table 17.3 of **ES Volume 2, Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects [EN10158/APP/6.2]**. The assessment presented in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects [EN10158/APP/6.2]** concludes that there are a number of likely significant inter-project residual cumulative effects on biodiversity, particularly Bechstein's bats and landscape and visual. <u>Biodiversity</u> These include a potential significant inter-project cumulative residual effect on Bechstein's bats with East Claydon BESS, East Claydon Greener Grid Park and Tuckey Solar Farm as they are anticipated to be displaced from the Claydon Brook, which is considered to be significant at the Local level as the area lies outside of the core sustenance zone. Depending on any collision risk for bats and trains, and the loss of foraging habitat, there is the potential for significant inter-project cumulative effects on bats with East West Rail. There is	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		also potential for significant inter-project cumulative effects on foraging bats with Grendon Prison. Landscape and Visual The assessment has concluded significant inter-project cumulative effect on Local Character Area 5.7: Hogshaw Claylands and 7.3: Claydon Bowl, Bernwood Jubilee Way and PRoW between Botolph Claydon and Runt's Wood during the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development with East Claydon BESS, East Claydon Greener Grid Energy Park, Tuckey Solar Farm, East West Rail and Longbreach Solar Farm. There are significant inter-project cumulative effects anticipated on the North Buckinghamshire Way and the Midshires Way during the construction and decommissioning and at both Year 1 and Year 10 of the operation of the Proposed Development and significant inter-project cumulative effects on Sion Hill Farm at both Year 1 and Year 10 of the operational phase of the Proposed Development. There are also significant inter-project cumulative effects anticipated on the Local Character Area 9.2: Quainton Hill and Swan's Way/Outer Aylesbury Ring during the operational phase of the Proposed Development.	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		During the construction and at Year 1 of operation, there are anticipated to be significant inter-project cumulative effects on Granborough, PRoW between East Claydon Road/Parcel 3 and Granborough/ Hogshaw Road and PRoW between East Claydon/East Claydon Road from the Proposed Development and the East Claydon BESS development. A summary of the landscape and visual inter-project cumulative effects is detailed in **Table 17.13** of **ES Volume 2, Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects [EN010158/APP/6.2].** As detailed in the **Planning Statement [EN010158/APP/5.7]**, it is concluded that the wider benefits of the Proposed Development which include: the delivery of a significant level of low carbon energy generation; BNG and other benefits such as the provision of permissive paths (as outlined in **Section 3.3** of this Planning Statement) outweigh the residual adverse inter-project cumulative effects identified in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects [EN010158/APP/6.2].**	
Traffic and transport	Comment that cumulative effects on the local road network from the Proposed Development in combination with other	Cumulative effects have been included in the assessment and are detailed in **Appendix 15.1: Transport Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4].** No	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
	projects in the local area should be considered.	significant effects are anticipated with these new proposals.	
Design			
Approach to design	Comments that development should be concentrated towards the central area of the Site away from residential properties and sensitive areas for ecology.	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by the Project Principles set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010158/APP5.8]**. This includes considering the amenity of Botolph Claydon Botolph Claydon and individual homes and properties (Principle 2.2) and retaining landscape and biodiversity features with appropriate buffers (Principle 5.1). The fields closest to Botolph Claydon were not considered for solar PV development at Phase One Consultation and were removed from the Order Limits altogether prior to the Phase Two Consultation. This results in a minimum offset of 155m between the southern edge of the village and the Proposed Development. Following the Phase Two Consultation, additional changes were made to the Proposed Development in response to comments received from the local community, which included increasing offsets in Parcel 1 from residential properties at Calvert Cottages and Catherine Cottages.	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		As set out within the environmental factor chapters of the **Environmental Statement** [**EN010158/APP/6.2**], there are also a number of constraints in Parcel 1 that limit the scope for further development in that parcel. This includes the proximity of HS2 works; ecological constraints and offsets from woodland and hedgerows; heritage and visual constraints, particularly in relation to views from Claydon House; and proximity of residential properties. It is not possible to introduce Solar PV development into the area between Parcel 1 and Parcel 2 because this land has not been made available for Solar PV development and – in common with Parcel 1 - is subject to constraints relating to the potential for impacts on views from and the setting of Claydon House and the Registered Park and Garden. The layout of the Proposed Development has been in part determined by proximity to grid connection, availability of land and an iterative process to avoid, reduce, mitigate or offset potential environmental effects. The Rosefield Substation is located within Parcel 3 so that it is as close as possible to the National Grid East Claydon Substation, concentrating these larger elements of the Proposed Development adjacent to development of a similar scale and appearance. Further detail is provided in the **Design Approach**	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		Document [EN010158/APP/5.8] and **Site Selection Report** at **Appendix 1** to the **Planning Statement [EN010158/APP/5.7]**.	
Bernwood Farmhouse	Comment that viewpoints from the east and south slopes of Bernwood Farmhouse of Quainton Hills, Grange Hill and Chiltern Hills should be preserved.	The retention of views to the wider landscape, including to Quainton Hills, Grange Hill and Chiltern Hills has been an important consideration in the design process. The design of the Proposed Development has therefore evolved to consider views from Botolph Claydon and respect the Conservation Area. The fields closest to Bernwood Farm were not considered for solar PV development at Phase One Consultation and were removed from the Order Limits altogether prior to the Phase Two Consultation. Viewpoints 8 and 9 illustrate views to the south and east of Bernwood Farmhouse. These have been developed as detailed photomontages presented in the Viewpoints and Visualisations document in **ES Volume 4, Appendix 10.6: LVIA Visualisations [EN010158/APP/6.4]**.	Y
Design	Comments that the proposed site is too close to local villages. Specific comments referenced proximity to Botolph Claydon.	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by the Project Principles set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010158/APP5.8]**. This includes considering the amenity of Botolph Claydon (Principle 2.2). The fields closest to Botolph Claydon were not considered for solar PV development at Phase	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		One Consultation and were removed from the Order Limits altogether prior to the Phase Two Consultation. The assessment in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010158/APP/6.2]** reports at most moderate adverse (not significant) residual effects. Therefore, no significant adverse effect are reported on the visual amenity of residents of Botolph Claydon or any other settlement in the Order Limits.	
Ecological enhancements	Comments that ecological enhancement areas should be widely spread across the Order Limits to create stepping stones for wildlife to move across the landscape.	Following both Phase One and Phase Two consultations, mitigation measures have been embedded into the design of the Proposed Development throughout the Site. This includes the development of proposals for green infrastructure, which include green corridors through the Site along hedgerows, PRoW, ditches and watercourses. Buffers have also been applied to ponds and woodlands. In combination, these measures would connect the larger areas for ecological enhancement that are located throughout the Site, including Parcel 1a, Fields B5, B17, D27 and D30 to D37 and substantial areas of Fields B4, B9, B11, B22, B23 (North), D4, D11, D14 and D15. These proposals are secured by the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**.	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
Location of enhancements	Comment that the enhancement areas between Pond Farm and Calvert Cottages should be continuous to reduce visual effects on residential properties.	Following Phase Two Consultation and a visit to Calvert Cottages, Solar PV development was removed from Field B5, making the enhancement area continuous between Pond Farm and Calvert Cottages. Additional mitigation planting has also been included on the northern and southern boundaries of Field B5 to create additional layers of screening vegetation. This planting is secured by the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**. More information about how the design of the Proposed Development has evolved over the pre-application period is available in the **Design Approach Document [EN010158/APP/5.8]**. A detailed RVAA included in **ES Volume 4, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4]** reports that would be no significant effects for residents of Calvert Cottages.	Y
Location of solar PV	Comment that solar PV development should be located to the south of Runt's Wood to avoid impacts on villages.	The design of the Proposed Development has evolved to further consider views from Botolph Claydon. The fields closest to Botolph Claydon were not considered for solar PV development at Phase One Consultation and were removed from the Order Limits altogether prior to the Phase Two Consultation, locating the Proposed Development further from the village. As set out within the technical chapters of the **Environmental Statement** [**EN010158/APP/6.2]**, there	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		are also a number of constraints in the south of Parcel 2 (where Runt's Wood is located) that limit the scope for further Solar PV development to be incorporated, including ecological constraints and offsets from woodland and hedgerows, and the visibility of Fields D27 and D30 to D37 from within the Area of Attractive Landscape and from the wider surrounding area.	
Scale	Comments on the scale of the Proposed Development, including that it is too large.	Solar development at scale is needed to help meet the urgent need for home grown, secure, renewable energy that is required by Government policy to address climate change and energy security. The scale of development is an important factor, and maximising the generating capacity of schemes improves their economic efficiency, bringing power to market at the lowest cost possible. It is shown that larger schemes deliver more quickly and at a lower unit cost than multiple independent schemes which make up the same total capacity. The **Statement of Need [EN010158/APP/5.6]**, which supports the Application, provides further detail on the need and scale for the Proposed Development. The size and location of the Proposed Development has been carefully considered, balancing the need to maximise the grid capacity whilst also making most efficient use of the land and avoiding unacceptable impacts. The Planning Statement **[EN010158/APP/5.7]**	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		sets out the reasoning for the Proposed Development, including its size and location. The design of the Proposed Development has been reviewed and revised to take account of stakeholder engagement, technical assessment and advice, and the outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment. This has included amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV development as set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010158/APP/5.8]**. This has resulted in an overall reduction of the Order Limits to 675ha (compared to 875ha at Phase One and 744ha at Phase Two).	
Land, soils and groundwater			
ALC	Comments that the eastern area of the Order Limits contains the best quality soil and should be retained for agricultural use.	As shown in **ES Volume 3, Figure 12.1: Agricultural Land Classification [EN010158/APP/6.3]**, the entire Site contains only 10.2ha (1.51%) best and most versatile (BMV) land, with no grade 1 land included within the Site. It also shows that the majority of the land, except the 10.2ha noted above (located in the western part of the Site) is classified as Grade 3B, which is not considered BMV land. This includes the eastern portion on the Site. The Applicant has minimised the impact on BMV land wherever practicable, with no permanent infrastructure proposed on BMV land. All of the BMV land take would be temporary and have the	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		opportunity to be returned to agricultural use following the decommissioning of the Proposed Development.	
Use of agricultural land	Comment that dual uses of land should be considered e.g. grazing sheep, growing crops or rewilding.	The Applicant intends to incorporate grazing management both underneath panels and elsewhere within the Order Limits as part of the Proposed Development, recognising the importance of grazing animals to foraging bats. Grazing is a common technique used for vegetation management on solar farm developments and is considered viable as a management technique within the Site. Opportunities for grazing will be considered where practicable. As part of the Proposed Development the habitats that would benefit from conservation grazing are grassland areas for ground nesting birds, species rich grassland in general mitigation areas, and the grassland created beneath and around the panels for biodiversity enhancement. Grazing in and around panels would most likely be carried out using sheep, as they are less likely to damage infrastructure than larger herbivores. However, cattle may be used to graze the larger grassland areas such as the other neutral grassland areas for ground nesting birds. Details of the grazing management proposals are provided in the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		Details such as timings and stocking densities would be provided in the LEMP(s) at the detailed design stage.	
Use of agricultural land	Comments opposing the use of agricultural land for the Proposed Development, including due to concerns around food security.	Food security is not an issue which is raised within the suite of Energy NPSs, the NPPF or Local Development Plan policies, though it is recognised to be a source of national debate and is referred to in the 2024 Written Ministerial Statement. This sets out that food security is an important part of our national security. The amount of agricultural land that would temporarily be used for solar development as a result of the Proposed Development represents 0.0017% of the UK's available agricultural land and therefore no further consideration of this matter is provided.	N
Landscape and visual			
BESS	Comments expressing concern about negative visual impacts of the BESS element of the Proposed Development.	The BESS has been located on the lower lying fields of Parcel 2 to reduce its wider visibility. The assessment in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010158/APP/6.2]** has identified visual receptors which would experience significant effects and identifies mitigation measures to reduce these effects. For example, mitigation measures identified in the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]** provide proposals for a substantial woodland tree buffer to the eastern boundary of Fields B8, 9, 19 and 26 to mitigate views of the BESS.	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		It is acknowledged that residual effects, which include views of the BESS together with Solar PV modules and Satellite Collector Compound in Parcel 2, cannot always be mitigated. Such effects will be weighed in the planning balance (see the **Planning Statement [EN010158/APP/5.7]**).	
General comment	Comments expressing concern that the Proposed Development would negatively impact the character of the local landscape.	The assessment in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010158/APP/6.2]** reports that there would be a major/moderate adverse (significant) effect on LCA 9.1 and a moderate adverse (significant) on LCA 5.7 and LCA 7.3, in the early years of operation. Following Phase Two Consultation, certain mitigation measures have been embedded into the design of the Proposed Development. Green infrastructure proposals have been developed which include c. 4km of proposed new hedgerows and over 8.5 hectares of proposed native woodland as identified in the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**. **ES Volume 2, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010158/APP/6.2]** records that by year 10 (following the establishment of mitigation planting), notwithstanding the fact that there would be some screening and softening of views, the significant effects would remain. Such effects have been weighed in the	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		planning balance (see the **Planning Statement [EN010158/APP/5.7]**).	
General comment	Comments expressing concern that the Proposed Development would have a negative visual impact.	The assessment in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010158/APP/6.2]** reports that there would be a major adverse (significant) effect on Sion Hill Farm, PRoW between Calvert Road and HS2 and PRoW between Botolph Claydon and Runt's Wood; a major/moderate adverse (significant) effect on LCA 9.1, 6-7 Catherine Cottages, Bernwood Farm, Bernwood Jubilee Way, PRoW to Finemere Hill and PRoW between East Claydon Road and Parcel 3; and a moderate adverse (significant) on LCA 5.7, LCA 7.3, 4-5 Catherine Cottages, promoted routes North Buckinghamshire Way/Midshires Way and Swan's Way/Outer Aylesbury Ring, Claydon House and Hogshaw Farm and Wildlife Park in the early years of operation. Following Phase Two Consultation, mitigation measures have been embedded into the design of the Proposed Development. Green infrastructure proposals have been developed which include a considerable amount of proposed new hedgerow and native woodland. **ES Volume 2, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010158/APP/6.2]** records that by year 10 (following the establishment of mitigation planting),	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		notwithstanding the fact that there would be some screening and softening of views, the majority of significant effects would remain. In the case of 4-5 Catherine Cottages, 6-7 Catherine Cottages and the North Buckinghamshire Way/Midshires Way, relevant mitigation measures include the removal of Solar PV modules from Field B5 and the Rosefield Substation and larger scale infrastructure from Field E23, as outlined in **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.1: Height Parameters [EN010158/APP/6.3]**. Green infrastructure proposals have been developed which include c. 4km of proposed new hedgerows and over 8.5 hectares of proposed native woodland. **ES Volume 2, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010158/APP/6.2]** records that by year 10 (following the establishment of mitigation planting), effects would be reduced to moderate (not significant) for 4-7 Catherine Cottages and moderate/minor (not significant) for users of the promoted route.	
Impact on local villages	Comments that the Proposed Development could be seen from villages around the Site.	The design of the Proposed Development has evolved to consider potential visual effects of the Proposed Development from villages. In response to feedback, the four fields closest to the Botolph Claydon were no longer considered for solar PV following Phase One	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		Consultation and following Phase Two Consultation these fields were removed from the Order Limits altogether. In addition, the option for locating Rosefield Substation and larger scale infrastructure within Field E23 was removed, with Solar PV modules now only proposed in E23 and the Main Collector Compound (to 6m) in E21-22 as outlined in **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.1: Height Parameters [EN010158/APP/6.3]**. As a result of these measures, and the mitigation outlined in the **Outline LEMP, [EN010158/APP/7.6]**, the assessment in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010158/APP/6.2]** reports that there would be no significant adverse effect on the visual amenity of residents in any of villages surrounding the Site. Residents of Botolph Claydon and Granborough would experience up to moderate (not significant) effects, those of Steeple Claydon up to moderate/minor adverse (not significant) effects. No other settlements would experience more than minor adverse (not significant) effects.	
Planting	Comments that hedgerows and trees around the site should be maintained at 2.5m in height, with gaps in existing gaps	The **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]** provides proposals for hedgerows to be maintained to a maximum height of 3.5m. In each instance, hedgerows would only be grown as tall as required to screen	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
	infilled to better screen the Proposed Development.	infrastructure at each location, with heights generally between 3-3.5m.	
Quainton Hill	Comments expressing concern about the visibility of the Proposed Development from Quainton Hill which would be difficult to mitigate.	The assessment in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010158/APP/6.2]** reports effects on the visual amenity of recreational receptors on Quainton Hill. Bespoke offset buffers have been applied to some routes within Parcel 2 and green infrastructure proposals have been developed which include c. 4km of proposed new hedgerows and over 8.5 hectares of proposed native woodland as identified in the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]** in order to break up the massing of Solar PV modules. However, with visual effects assessed as high as moderate adverse (significant) for users of some trails to Quainton Hill, it is acknowledged that residual effects cannot always be mitigated. Such effects will be weighed in the planning balance (see the **Planning Statement [EN010158/APP/5.7]**).	Y
Planting	Comment that new planting should be mature to conceal the Proposed Development more effectively. Specific comments made to BESS.	The **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]** provides proposals for the early planting of a substantial woodland tree buffer to the eastern boundary of Fields B8, 9, 19 and 26 to mitigate potential views of the BESS. The planting specification for trees would be confirmed within the detailed LEMP(s) at the detailed design stage.	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		These would typically be planted as young transplants or 'whips' at 60-80cm height, with the use of standards to extra heavy standards where more mature specimens are required to provide screening. This is secured in the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**. As described in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010158/APP/6.2]** new woodland/scrub planting established as transplants would be expected to achieve a height of 4m by year 10.	
Location of the Proposed Development			
Site selection	Comment that the Site is inappropriate for the Proposed Development.	The Site Selection process for the Proposed Development is set out within **Appendix 1: Site Selection Report of the Planning Statement [EN010158/APP/5.7]** and establishes that the Site is suitable for the Proposed Development. This Statement also explains how the Site was selected in accordance with a range of factors set out within NPS EN-3 as well as consideration of other environmental and spatial constraints, site size and land assembly, the availability of previously developed land and willingness of landowners for their land to be used.	N
Topography	Comment that the Proposed Development utilises sloping land which	Sloping land is often used for solar generation, with adjustments in layout being made to account for the topography. There is flexibility within the fixed	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
	impacts its efficiency and increases its visual impact.	parameters to make adjustments at the detailed design stage e.g. by adjusting the spacing between the rows of the solar PV panels to minimise shading of one row by another and so optimise the panel efficiency. This flexibility is part of the optimisation of the site and contributes to the best use of land available. The EIA undertaken in support of the Proposed Development and presented in the **Environmental Statement [EN010158/APP/6.1 - 6.4]** has taken into account the topography of the Site.	
Operations			
Lighting	Comments that the lighting within the Proposed Development would cause light pollution.	**ES Volume 2, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010158/APP/6.2]** considers the effects of temporary lighting during construction stage. Consideration has been included to minimise light spill to prevent disturbance to sensitive receptors. Throughout construction and operation, motion detection lighting or manually operated lighting would be used to avoid constant lighting. There would be no permanent (continuous) lighting for security purposes except for at emergency exits. Security lighting would use infra-red which is not on the visible spectrum for bats. Details of lighting design to limit effects on sensitive receptors is	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		secured in the **Design Commitments [EN010158/APP/5.9]** and **oCEMP [EN010158/APP/7.2].**	
Population			
Impact on local businesses	Comments expressing concern about potential effects on tenant farmers.	The Applicant has undertaken an assessment of the viability of agricultural landholdings including tenanted operations as a result of changes in land availability, access and environmental change within **ES Chapter 14: Population [EN010158/APP/6.2]**. The assessment takes into account agreements between landowners and tenants on monetary compensation and/or alternative land provision ('land swap') to demonstrate due consideration of the potential for significant effects on the operators. The assessment concludes that as a result of these commercial agreements set to be in place, adherence with the CTMP and the implementation of embedded and additional mitigation set out within **ES Volume 2, Chapters 6, 9, 10, 13 and 15 [EN10158/APP/6.2]**, effects on both agricultural and non-agricultural businesses would be temporary or permanent slight adverse (not significant).	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
Impact on the local community	Comments stating that there would be a negative effect on the local community from the Proposed Development.	The Applicant has developed the Proposed Development iteratively through community engagement and consultation, resulting in changes to the design of the Proposed Development and embedded mitigation (via management plans) to reduce, avoid or minimise effects on people where practicable. Ways the Applicant has designed the Proposed Development to reduce potential effects on local communities include: • incorporating appropriate offsets to local settlements to consider the amenity of Botolph Claydon; • using offsets and screening to reduce visual impacts on users of the local road network and consider the sequential views and experiences of people using the local network of Public Rights of Way and recreational routes; • avoiding construction traffic passing through surrounding villages and ensuring that access for construction works are sensitively located to limit disruption to the local community; and • ensuring that all staff behave as considerate neighbours through the construction, operational and decommissioning phases.	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		This is detailed in the **Design Approach Document [EN10158/APP/5.8]**. **ES Chapter 14: Population [EN010158/APP/6.2]** highlights benefits that the Proposed Development would bring in regard to employment, workforce spending and GVA/supply chain benefits, which are as follows: • 420 to 470 net additional FTE jobs per year of construction within the Construction Labour Market Area (CLMA), and 180 in the CLMA Focus Area; • £28.5m and £12.2m in the form of construction GVA within the CLMA and the CLMA Focus Area per year, respectively; • £1.9m on average per year in the form of construction workforce spending; • 18 net additional operational FTE jobs within Buckinghamshire; • £74,000 on average per year in the form of operational workforce spending. The **Planning Statement [EN010158/APP/5.7]** also highlights the wider benefits for the local community and the economy that the Proposed Development will bring, including:	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		• proposed permanent enhancements to connectivity within the local area through the rationalising and enhancement of the network of Public Rights of Way (PRoWs); • the creation of three permissive paths; • a Community Benefit Fund reflecting £400 per megawatt per year from the start of operation and lasting throughout the operational lifetime of the Proposed Development; and • an Education and Skills Fund to increase opportunities in the renewable and sustainable development sector, with a sum of £50,000 set to be allocated annually from the Date of Commencement until the Date of Decommissioning.	
Impact on local community	Comments that there would be a negative impact on the quality of the local rural lifestyle as a result of the Proposed Development.	The Applicant has developed the Proposed Development iteratively through community engagement and consultation, resulting in changes to the design of the Proposed Development and development of embedded mitigation (via management plans) to reduce, avoid or minimise effects on people where practicable. This is detailed in the **Design Approach Document [EN10158/APP/5.8]**. This includes measures related to experience of the rural environment. For example, in terms of the design	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		of the Proposed Development to maintain access and experience of users of PRoW, and development of ecological and visual mitigation. Examples of this mitigation can be seen through the design of the Proposed Development, including: • incorporation of appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings in order to protect the amenity of Botolph Claydon and other settlements; • use of offsets and screening to mitigate reduce visual impacts on users of the local road network; • discount of some Solar PV development from specific fields within the Order Limits to break up the amount of development along footpaths while creating green infrastructure corridors; and implementation of a minimum 10m offset to Solar PV development from all PRoW, with larger offsets to be provided to PRoWs that coincide with Bernwood Jubilee Way, Mid Shires Way and North Bucks Way to ensure that routes remain passable and unobstructed.	
Public Rights of Way and permissive footpaths			
Enjoyment	Comment that the visual effect of the Proposed Development from footpaths would reduce enjoyment of these routes.	Following Phase One Consultation, certain mitigation measures have been embedded into the design of the Proposed Development, and green and blue	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
	Specific references made to fencing, CCTV, high hedges which block out views.	infrastructure proposals have been developed which include c. 4km of proposed new hedgerows and over 8.5 hectares of proposed native woodland, as shown in **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.5: Zonal Masterplan [EN010158/APP/6.3]** and the appendices to the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**. A minimum offset of 10m to either side of each PRoW has been applied and in addition, bespoke offsets have been applied to a number of routes. This would create a broad walking corridor for footpath users in the limited areas where Solar PV is proposed on both sides of a PRoW. Perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development would be sensitively designed to reduce potential impacts on the local environment and integrate with the landscape, comprising a timber post and wire mesh fence. Both of these design criteria are secured by the **Design Commitments [EN010158/APP/5.9]**. Visualisations of the Proposed Development including details of associated infrastructure including satellite collector compounds, fencing, tracks, CCTV and other infrastructure that would have a bearing on visual impact, demonstrate how these would appear. These visualisations can be found at **ES Volume 4, Appendix 10.6: LVIA Visualisations [EN010158/APP/6.4]**.	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
Enhancements	Comments that there should be enhancements to the existing footpath network including seating areas, interpretation boards, resurfacing and removing stiles for accessibility.	Enhancements along the PRoW are secured by the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**. At present, this includes the potential for interpretation boards to be incorporated and planting to be included in some of the 10m corridors provided to either side of the PRoW. Further detail on these proposals would be developed post-consent. Details of the proposed changes to PRoW and new permissive routes are set out within the **Outline Rights of Way and Access Strategy [EN010158/APP/7.8]** and the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010158/APP/2.4]**.	Y
General	Suggestion that the Applicant should open up access to the site, enhancing the connection to Runt's Wood and creating cycle paths that connect the site and surrounding villages.	The Proposed Development would increase access within the Site and enhance connectivity in the local area through the inclusion of three new operational (including maintenance) phase permissive footpaths within the Site. The new permissive footpaths would be as follows: • A new public route across Parcel 1 by connecting PRoW west of Pond Farm, via the south of Shrubs Wood and Knowl Hill, to Three Points Lane; • A new public route across Parcel 1 connecting the above permissive path to Calvert Road and onwards to PRoW south of Steeple Claydon; and	Y

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		• A new public route across Parcel 2 which connect Splash Lane/Three Points Lane to the Bernwood Jubilee Way. The proposed permissive footpaths would be implemented during the construction phase, remain open and accessible to the public during the operational (including maintenance) phase and would then be retained or removed at the discretion of the landowner post-decommissioning. Further detail of the proposed permissive footpaths is provided in the **Outline RoWAS [EN010158/APP/7.8]** and **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010158/APP/2.4]**. Woodland sites such as Runt's Wood have been excluded from the Order Limits, with the provision of routes outside the Order Limits not possible. The majority of woodlands are designated as Ancient Woodland, Local Wildlife Sites or Sites of Special Scientific Interest, and as such the introduction of walking routes beyond those that are already present would have the potential to harm the biodiversity of these woodlands. The Applicant has no control over the status of routes located outside the Order Limits and therefore it is not possible to create cycle paths between villages.	

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
New footpaths	Comments that new footpaths should link up the existing network to villages around the Site to create a coherent network.	The Applicant has included a permissive pathway to Knowl Hill within the Proposed Development. Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant extended this proposed permissive path to create links with other footpaths towards Steeple Claydon and Calvert, as well as proposing a further permissive path to link Splash Lane and the Bernwood Jubilee Way. These are shown in the **Outline Rights of Way and Access Strategy (Outline RoWAS) [EN010158/APP/7.8]** and the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010158/APP/2.4]**.	Y
New footpaths	Suggestion that a new footpath should be created across Knowl Hill.	Following Phase One Consultation, a new permissive route was proposed to provide access to Knowl Hill, linking the existing PRoW along Three Points Lane to the diverted PRoW to the west around Ponds Farm. This is shown in the **Outline Rights of Way and Access Strategy (Outline RoWAS) [EN010158/APP/7.8]** and the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010158/APP/2.4]**.	Y
Cycle routes	Comments that the existing network should be improved to provide more opportunities for off-road cycling between villages.	The majority of locations where off-road cycling routes could be provided between villages are located outside the Order Limits and therefore the Applicant is not able to provide these links.	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
Existing footpaths	Comments that existing footpaths should not be closed or diverted.	Five PRoW would be permanently diverted as part of the Proposed Development. These diversions would reduce visual effects for users of the PRoW, by diverting around the edges of fields, and/or enhance connectivity to other routes offsite, reducing the distance that users currently walk along roads. The diversions to PRoW would be undertaken and completed during the construction phase of the Proposed Development. These diversions would then become permanent and would therefore be in place in perpetuity. The **Outline RoWAS [EN010158/APP/7.8]** and **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010158/APP/2.4]** provide detail of each permanent PRoW diversion/closure. The remainder of PRoW that cross the Site have been incorporated within multifunctional green and blue infrastructure corridors. During the 30-month construction phase, existing PRoWs and Permissive Paths that interact with the Order Limits would be kept open as far as it is practicable and safe to do so. However, where it is not practicable and safe, some PRoWs may need to be subject to temporary management around works areas. The diversion works would be 2m in width and would provide a 10m approximate diversion to allow the	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		access track works to slightly pass the crossing point. Ducting would be provided to allow cabling works at a later stage that would not disrupt footpath access, as set out within the **Outline Rights of Way and Access Strategy (Outline RoWAS) [EN010158/APP/7.8]**, the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010158/APP/2.4]** and the **Outline CEMP [EN010158/APP/7.2]**. As part of the **Outline RoWAS [EN010158/APP/7.8]**, a programme of PRoW temporary diversions during construction would be produced by the Applicant and its principal contractor prior to the commencement of the construction phase. Appropriate advanced notification of temporary and permanent PRoW diversions and/or closures would be provided to all relevant stakeholders prior to the commencement of the construction phase. Measures would be implemented to maintain public safety, the details of which are set out within the **Outline CEMP [EN010158/APP/7.2]**.	
General	Comment that the Proposed Development would have a negative effect on the local PRoW network. Specific reference made to footpath between Sheephouse Wood and Romer	Following Phase One and Phase Two Consultation, the area between Sheephouse Wood and Romer Wood (Parcel 1a) was removed from Solar PV development. This area is now proposed for ecological mitigation and enhancement, as shown in **Appendix 2: Landscape**	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
	Wood, Bernwood Jubilee Way, North Bucks Way.	**and Ecological Mitigation and Enhancements** of the **Outline LEMP [EN010158/APP/7.6]**. Along both Bernwood Jubilee Way and North Bucks Way, bespoke offsets have been developed to reduce both the visual effects of the Proposed Development and effects on the experience of users of the routes. These are secured by the **Design Commitments [EN010158/APP/5.9].** For the Bernwood Jubilee Way, a 55m width buffer of species rich grassland and new hedgerow planting to the western boundary of Solar PV modules has been incorporated in Fields D4, D11, D14 and D15. In the case of North Buckinghamshire Way/Midshires Way, following Phase Two Consultation, mitigation measures have been embedded into the design of the Proposed Development. Specifically, the removal of the Rosefield Substation and larger scale infrastructure from Field E23, as shown in **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.1: Height Parameters [EN010158/APP/6.3]** and the **Works Plans [EN010158/APP/2.3]**. Green infrastructure proposals have also been developed which include a proposed new hedgerow and native woodland.	
Offsets	Comments that greater offsets should be applied between footpaths and	A minimum offset of 10m to either side of each PRoW has been applied. Bespoke offsets have then been	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
	development. Specific reference made to the footpath towards Runt's Wood.	applied to a number of routes, including the Bernwood Jubilee Way between Botolph Claydon to Runt's Wood. This would create a broad walking corridor for footpath users in the limited areas where Solar PV is proposed on both sides of a PRoW. For the Bernwood Jubilee Way, a 55m width buffer of species rich grassland and new hedgerow planting to the western boundary of Solar PV modules has been incorporated in Fields D4, D11, D14 and D15. Both of these design criteria are secured in the **Design Commitments [EN010158/APP/5.9]**.	
Traffic and transport			
A41	Comment that the A41 is single track in many places and is unsuitable for the volume of traffic proposed.	The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this statement. The A41 is not single track road and is a district distributor road linking Aylesbury to Bicester capable of, and designed to, accommodate significant traffic flows, including HGV traffic.	N
Access route	Comments that traffic should leave the A41 and travel to site using the roads via Grendon Underwood, Edgcott and Calvert.	The Applicant has sought to reduce traffic impacts on residents as far as possible and has tried to identify a route that avoids villages and towns. Discussions with Buckinghamshire Council were held on a proposed route via Grendon Underwood, Edgcott and Calvert. However, this route was discounted by the Applicant due to potential impacts for those communities. The proposed construction route bypasses	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		existing communities and uses roads that can accommodate construction traffic movements. This proposed route is outlined in **Appendix 15.1: Transport Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4]** and would be secured by the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) [EN010158/APP/7.5].**	
Access route	Comment that an access road should be constructed from Claydon Road towards Bernwood Farm to access the Site.	The main access junction for the Proposed Development is from Claydon Road, but is located further to the south as illustrated in the drawings attached to the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) [EN010158/APP/7.5].** The proposed access point is preferred because it has good visibility in both directions and keeps construction traffic away from the village of Botolph Claydon.	N
Access route	Comment that the proposed access route should avoid local villages.	The Applicant agrees with this statement and has designed the proposed route to avoid local villages. The route bypasses Quainton and entirely avoids Botolph Claydon, Grendon Underwood, Edgcott and Calvert. The proposed traffic route is outlined in **Appendix 15.1: Transport Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4]** and would be secured by the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) [EN010158/APP/7.5].**	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
Alternative method of transport	Comment that there is an existing heavy goods access road from A41 to the incinerator on a converted old railway line and this should be avoided.	This route is not used as noted in **Appendix 15.1: Transport Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4].** There is no vehicular connection from this road to the Site as it is bisected by HS2.	N
Claydon House	Request for more information about how traffic associated with the Proposed Development could impact visitors to Claydon House.	The National Trust's website for Claydon House[2] notes that the recommended access route is as follows: *"signposted A413 (Buckingham), A41 (Waddesdon crossroads). M40 junction 9 (Bicester) follow A41, turn off to Grendon Underwood and Calvert, signposted from Calvert Crossroads".* This route from the A41 is not used by construction traffic as noted in **Appendix 15.1: Transport Assessment [EN010158/APP/6.4].** As such, there is no impact to visitors using the signposted route. AIL traffic would be using the A413 for transformer deliveries. Proposed transformer deliveries are, however, very few in number and would only be transported outside of busy periods.	N
Road conditions	Comment that the local road network is already in poor condition and this would be exacerbated by the Proposed	A wear and tear agreement would be in place between Buckinghamshire Council and the Applicant throughout construction to cover the cost of abnormal wear and tear	N

[2] https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/oxfordshire-buckinghamshire-berkshire/claydon-house

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
	Development. Specific reference made to Fiddlers Field.	on the road network between the A41 and the site access junctions. This includes Snake Lane/Fidlers Field. The wear and tear agreement would address concerns about possible damage to the public road, verges and structures. It would be based upon condition surveys of the road to ensure that the condition of the road does not deteriorate solely because of the construction works. Should defects occur on the road network leading from the A41, the Principal Contractor would maintain a stockpile of road repair material on Site to undertake repair works quickly and efficiently, when authorised by Buckinghamshire Council to undertake interventions. For further detailed information on the maintenance and wear and tear agreement please review **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) [EN010158/APP/7.5].**	
Snake Lane	Comment that Snake Lane is not suitable for construction traffic associated with the Proposed Development.	Snake Lane/Fidlers Field would need to be resurfaced prior to its use by construction traffic, assuming that it had not been repaired by either Buckinghamshire Council or HS2, both of whom have responsibilities for its current condition. Should the road be in the same (or worse) condition than its current condition prior to works commencing, the	N

Topic	Summary of comment	Applicant's response	Change (Y/N)
		Applicant would undertake to resurface the road. These works would be undertaken under the powers included in the **Draft DCO [EN010158/APP/3.1**] and would be informed by technical discussions with Buckinghamshire Council.	
Traffic management	Comment that construction vehicles should be clearly marked so that any non-compliant vehicles can be reported to the Applicant.	Regular HGV traffic travelling to and from the Site would be clearly marked as noted in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) [EN010158/APP/7.5].**	N

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