

Oatcroft Solar Farm

Public Consultation

Green Switch Capital are proposing to install a solar farm in fields north of Eywood Lane in the Parish of Titley.

We would like to invite members of the local community to come and meet us to discuss the proposed development.

Please join us: 27th April 2023, 3pm – 8pm, Titley Village Hall, Green Lane, Titley, HR5 3RN

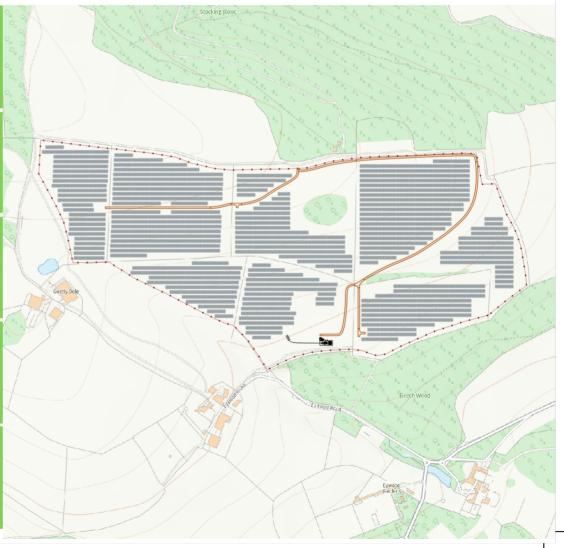
www.oatcroftsolarfarm.co.uk

PROJECT

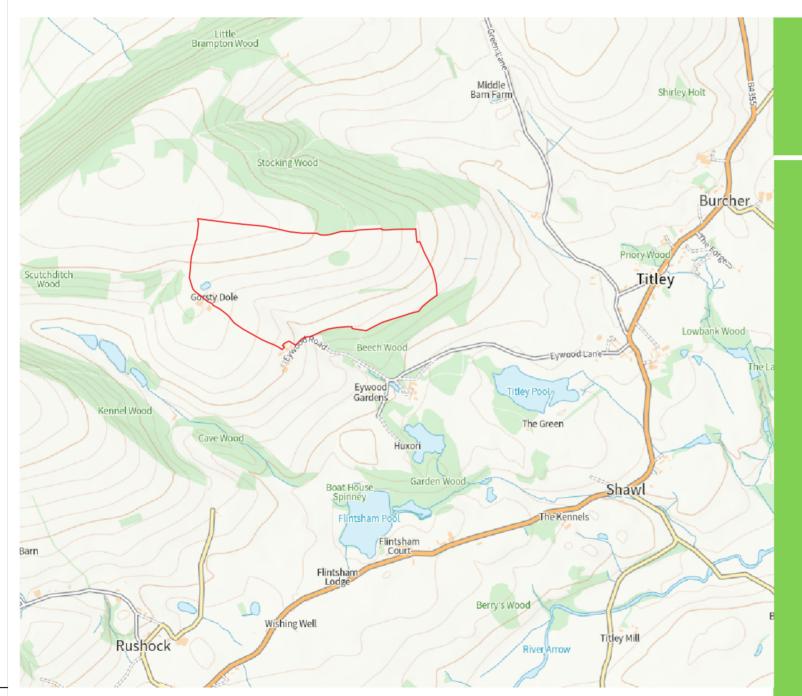
Oatcroft Solar Farm is a solar energy generation project set to provide clean, renewable energy and support the UK in its drive to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

The proposed development would cover an area of approximately 89 acres / 36.1 hectares, contained alongside the existing field boundaries. The land is Agricultural Grade 3 and 4.

Oatcroft Solar Farm would connect 30 MW 30 (megawatts) to the electricity network. The electricity generated would power around 9,631 9,631 homes every year. The renewable energy generated would offset 5,401 approximately 5,401 tonnes of CO₂ emissions every year. The solar farm would generate approximately 27,930 27,930 MWh (megawatt-hours) of renewable electricity per year. The solar farm would have an operational lifespan of 40 40 years.



LOCATION



Green Switch Capital undertakes a rigorous review process in the selection of any site including the following studies:



Flood Risk and Drainage



Landscape and Visual Amenity



Transport



Heritage and Archaeology



Glint and Glare



Agricultural Land Classification



Arboricultural Assessment



Ecology (including Biodiversity Net Gain)

NET ZERO BY 2025

The UK Government's climate strategy brings together the UK's decarbonisation policies and recognises the importance of a holistic approach. It has set the ambitious climate change target of reducing emissions by 78% by 2035 compared to 1990 levels, with the ultimate aim of reaching net-zero by 2050. Solar power will play an essential part in reaching those targets and reducing global warming.

Proposed Oatcroft Solar Farm

Given the declining cost of solar power and the strong transmission network in the region, the proposed solar farm is an important source of clean power generation.

Green Switch Capital proposes installing a solar farm on land covering an area of circa 89 acres / 36.1 hectares, that lies on agricultural land to the west of Titley Village.

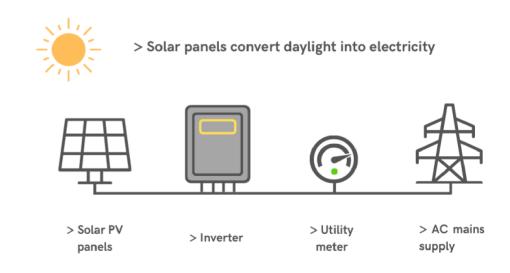




WHAT IS A SOLAR FARM?

HOW DO SOLAR PANELS WORK?

- 1. Solar Panels convert daylight into electricity. Light shining on the panel creates an electric field across silicon layers in each cell, causing Direct Current (DC) electricity to flow.
- 2. This is then converted by an 'inverter' into the usable Alternating Current (AC) electricity that powers our homes.
- 3. Solar panels do not need direct sunshine to work, just daylight meaning that they can still generate electricity on dull days.
- 4. Solar parks require minimum maintenance once constructed. Visits to the site will happen periodically to cut grass and wash the panels with water.



PROJECT CONSIDERATIONS



NOISE LEVELS

Solar farms create minimal noise.
Noise from the inverters and substations is lower than the existing background noise and will be unlikely to affect nearby residents.



GLARE

Solar PV panels absorb light.
Therefore, reflected light is much lower than that generated by standard glass and other reflective surfaces.



BIODIVERSITY

A Biodiversity Management Plan will ensure minimal disturbance to plants and animals, as well as enhance grasslands, wildflower meadows, and other habitats to improve biodiversity on the site.



TRANSPORT

During construction, large vehicles will be managed to reduce traffic impact on the local roads.

Maintenance traffic will be minimal following construction.



EMISSIONS

Solar farms create no CO₂ or other pollutants. They don't contribute to climate change or local air pollution, therefore assisting in the transition towards cleaner electricity generation.



LANDSCAPE

Surrounding trees and hedgerows will be maintained to screen the area from view. We will identify areas of planting which will positively contribute towards the landscape.



SOILS

No soils will be lost and when the solar farm is decommissioned the land will be returned to its original condition.



DECOMMISSIONING

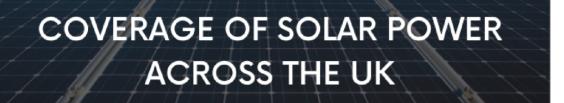
The operational life of the solar farm is 40 years, after which the infrastructure is removed, and the land returned to its original agricultural use.



JOBS

The solar farm will create direct and indirect jobs during construction. This will benefit local people and businesses.

SOLAR IN THE UK



Current Solar 230 km² (0.1%)

Future Solar 464 km² (0.2%)

Solar power covers less than 0.1% of UK land



Solar only covers 0.1% of UK land, less than the land take of golf courses, Christmas trees, or grouse moors.

-Carbon Brief Analysis (Factcheck: Is solar power a 'threat' to UK farmland?) August 2022

Source: Carbon Brief





In addition to the local consultation, the following website enables people from the local community to submit comments:

www.oatcroftsolarfarm.co.uk

You can also get in touch via:











