

## Malice Farm Solar and BESS Project

We would like to invite you to attend our virtual exhibition event on Tuesday 1 April 2025 at 6pm to 7pm.

Our public consultation will run from 17<sup>th</sup> March to 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025, and we invite local residents to get in touch.



# Our Proposal

## Introducing the project

**Site Location:** Land off Scolding Drive, Thorney, PE6 0PQ.

**Proposal:** 49.9MW Co-Located Solar and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).

The project will generate and store clean energy, making a positive contribution towards the United Kingdom's transition away from fossil fuels to green energy. Solar projects are one of the cheapest forms of energy and are key to reducing energy bills for consumers. Increasing domestic renewable energy production also helps contribute to energy security, reducing reliance on overseas supplies.

The BESS would manage the intermittent nature of solar energy generation and enhance the reliability of the energy source.



## A local and national priority

The UK has committed to a target of net zero emissions by 2050 and to decarbonise the electricity system by 2030.

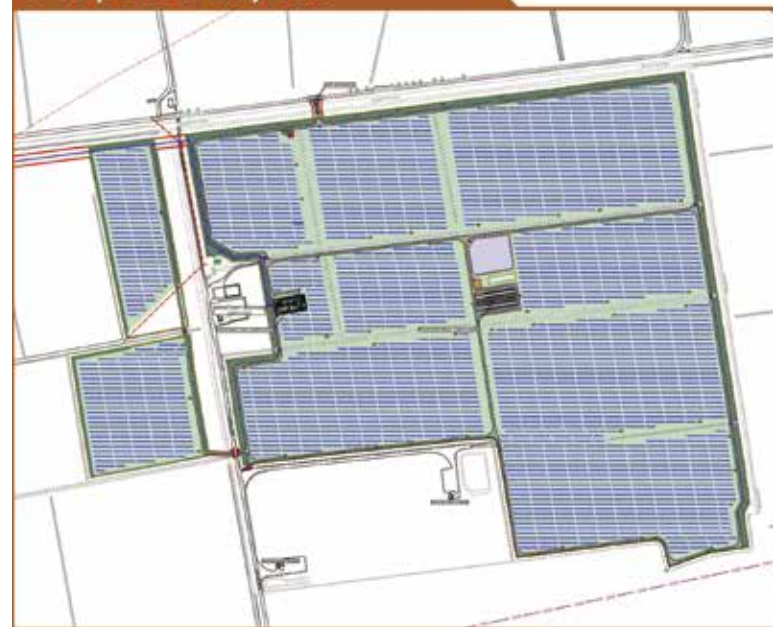
Peterborough City Council declared a climate emergency in July 2019 and set an aim of becoming a net-zero carbon city by 2030.

These commitments require a significant growth in the delivery of renewable energy generating sources and storage. Electricity demand is expected to double by 2050 due to the adoption of electric vehicles, deployment of heat pumps and other low carbon technologies.

Site Location Plan



## Proposed Layout



## WHY DO WE NEED SOLAR?

Solar projects provide sustainable and cost competitive power to our homes and businesses. They can also provide local environmental benefits such as enhancing biodiversity on site and regulating soil quality.

Over the next 5 years the UK will need to reach between 40GW-47GW of solar generation, a significant increase when compared to the current operational capacity (17GW).

## WHY DO WE NEED BESS?

BESS provide clean energy when the sun is not shining. They store electricity when demand is low or there is over-supply and release it back to the grid when demand is high. They also provide 'system security', supplying energy during electricity outages, minimising disruption and costs.

## PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The proposed development contains the following components:

- PV panels;
- Inverters;
- Battery containers;
- Metering container;
- 132kV substation;
- Transformers;
- Control, offices and store containers;
- Water tank;
- Security fencing;
- Landscape enhancements;
- Biodiversity enhancements; and
- Associated infrastructure and ancillary works.

## THE PLANNING PROCESS

The proposal will be considered in accordance with the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and determined by Peterborough City Council, the Local Planning Authority.



## Project Benefits

### WHY THIS SITE?

The site has the following positive attributes:

- It is close to existing energy infrastructure (including overhead lines and the Wryde Croft Windfarm) and the approved Thorney Eco-Hub;
- Generally flat topography;
- No major heritage, archaeological, landscape or ecological designations;
- Sufficient area available for landscape and biodiversity enhancements;
- Direct links to the local and strategic highway network; and
- Close to a point of connection with capacity (overhead tower adjacent to New Cut).

### LOCAL NET ZERO TARGET

Peterborough City Council declared a climate emergency in July 2019 and has set an aim of reaching net zero emissions by 2030.

As the cost-of-living crisis and ongoing war in Ukraine have demonstrated, it is crucial for the UK to invest in a reliable, home-grown energy supply. Renewable projects reduce the need to import electricity from abroad. This improves domestic energy security.

### BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENTS

A recent study from the Royal Society of the Protection of Birds and University of Cambridge has found that well-managed solar farms boost wildlife.

The project will provide significant ecological and biodiversity enhancements, including species-rich grassland and native landscape planting. A comprehensive biodiversity management plan will be developed in collaboration with Peterborough City Council's Wildlife Officers and Cambridgeshire County Council's Ecology Officers to support the landscape planting at the site.

### LOCAL COMMUNITY

We believe that the community which hosts a renewable energy development should be the one to benefit from it, and to that end we intend to engage with the local community and relevant organisations to identify how we can deliver community benefits.

We are open to receiving suggestions as to how our proposals can benefit the local community – if you have specific ideas, or details of community groups and projects we should support, then please let us know in your consultation feedback.

There will also be a positive financial contribution to Peterborough City Council through annual business rates.

## Timeline

### March 2025

Public Consultation

Pre-Application Submission

Technical Work Ongoing

### April-May 2025

Pre-Application Response Received

Planning Application Submitted

### August 2025

Planning Application Determined

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who is FRV?

FRV is an established global renewable energy developer present across four continents with a successful track record of developing more than 50 plants aggregating to 5,000MW with a further 24,000 MW in development. FRV has become an established owner and operator of large solar plants across the globe since its inception in 2006. In the UK, FRV owns three BESS projects aggregating to 280MWh and has more than 2,000 MW under development.

Our vision is to build a more sustainable future, through delivering renewable energy solutions that improve lives and provide universal access to clean, efficient and cost-competitive energy.

### How long will the proposed development take to build?

It will take approximately 6 months to construct the proposed development. A Construction Traffic Management Plan will be submitted with the planning application which will set out how we propose to control construction traffic. During operation, the traffic will be negligible with only one or two light goods vehicles a month needing to access the site to check and maintain the equipment.

### How will the site be secured?

The site will be secured by gates and fencing, with inward facing closed-circuit television. The site will be monitored remotely.

### Will the project be visible from my house or public spaces?

We appreciate that for some local residents, what the scheme looks like, is a key consideration. Landscape planting is proposed along the site's western, northern and eastern boundaries. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment has been undertaken to inform the design and siting of the development and consider mitigation measures.

### What happens when the site is decommissioned?

The proposal is designed to be a temporary installation. While the components are likely to be in good working order after the end of the project life, the project will cease operating after a period of 40 years. Components which are still in good working order will then be re-used elsewhere, with components which have no further operational use being recycled, where available.

### Will the project produce any noise?

The only noise that will occur during the operation is a low-level noise by the inverters, HVAC equipment, transformers and substation. Noise generating equipment has been located away from sensitive receptors. The Noise Assessment submitted with the planning application will identify noise impact from the facility on the nearest sensitive receivers and recommend mitigation measures, if required.

## Public Consultation

We would like to give you the opportunity to meet the project team and find out more about the proposal. We invite you to attend our virtual public exhibition event on Tuesday the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2025 from 6pm to 7pm by visiting our website [<https://newenergystoragesystem.com/malicefarmsolar>] and registering to attend.

You can view our consultation materials and submit your feedback throughout the entire consultation period which will run from 17th March to 14th April 2025. You can submit your feedback to us via the following methods:

- Post the feedback form or written feedback to our Freepost address – FREEPOST TC CONSULTATION (no stamp needed)
- Submit your feedback by visiting our website – <https://newenergystoragesystem.com/malicefarmsolar>
- Email your feedback to [feedback@alpacacommunications.com](mailto:feedback@alpacacommunications.com)

The closing date for your feedback is the 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2025; comments received after this may not be included in the consultation report.

### HAVE YOUR SAY

Please contact a member of our team should you have any questions or matters you need to be clarified.

Comments provided by the local community will be considered in shaping the final planning application submission. Please provide any comments you have on the proposal by email, post, or at the exhibition event.

We would be grateful if you could answer the feedback form and let us have your contact details for the purpose of informing the project design and providing feedback to the council.

For further information, please do not hesitate to email: [feedback@alpacacommunications.com](mailto:feedback@alpacacommunications.com)



## FEEDBACK FORM

MALICE FARM

To return your completed feedback form please tear it from the brochure and pop it in the post by **Tuesday 15th April 2025**. Alternatively, you can return your form via email to [feedback@alpacacommunications.com](mailto:feedback@alpacacommunications.com)

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

1. Has this leaflet been helpful in understanding our proposal? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure

2. With regards to the proposals you have read about within this leaflet, are you:

☐ In favour ☐ In objection ☐ Of no opinion

3. Please use this space to provide any comments on the proposal. We would welcome your feedback on all aspects of the emerging design shown in the brochure.

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

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**Instructions**

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

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

Any queries or problems? Get in touch via [feedback@alpacacommunications.com](mailto:alpacacommunications.com).