Mallard Pass

Solar Farm

Welcome to our consultation event

Mallard Pass Solar Farm

We are at the very early stages of developing proposals for Mallard Pass Solar Farm.

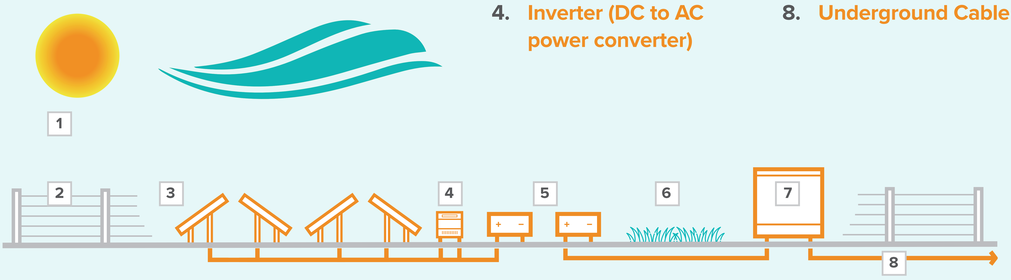
Our ambition is to deliver a project that will support the urgent need to decarbonise our electricity system, deliver reliable and sustainable low-cost energy, enhance the local environment and be a responsible neighbour.

- A new solar farm with energy storage and infrastructure to connect to the National Grid.
- Proposed location on agricultural land either side of the East Coast Main Line near Essendine, partly situated in South Kesteven and Lincolnshire, and partly in Rutland.
- Close to the Ryhall 400 kilovolts (Kv) substation at Uffington Lane, which is where the electricity generated will connect to the National Grid.
- Located on around 880 hectares of land, which is equivalent to 2,175 acres.
- Any necessary and appropriate environmental mitigation and enhancements to ensure a sensitive response to the local area.
- The delivery of in the region of 350 megawatts (MW) of solar energy.

Although the exact technology and type of solar arrays have yet to be decided, an indicative diagram of the typical components is shown below.

Components of a typical solar project

1. Solar Energy
2. Fencing
3. Solar Panels
4. Inverter (DC to AC power converter)
5. Energy Storage
6. Landscape Area
7. Substation
8. Underground Cable



Who we are

Windel Energy

CanadianSolar

- Founded in 2018, Windel Energy is a privately held company that specializes in the development and asset management of renewable energy projects and low carbon technologies.
- Windel is at the forefront of low carbon technologies including solar, energy storage, and wind. As of 2021, Windel has more than 3 gigawatts (GW) of clean, renewable power and battery energy storage in various stages of development.
- Founded in Canada in 2001, Canadian Solar is one of the world's largest solar power companies. It is a leading manufacturer of solar photovoltaic modules and provider of solar energy solutions.

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- Mallard Pass Solar Farm is being developed by Windel Energy and a professional project team the company has appointed to provide specific support and expertise throughout the consenting stages of the project.
- Together, the Mallard Pass and Windel project team have significant experience of working across solar and Development Consent Order (DCO) projects.
- Mallard Pass Solar Farm is a proposal that aligns with Windel Energy's core commitment to responsible land use and delivering large-scale solar projects that are in harmony with their surroundings.

Proposed timeline

Mallard Pass Solar Farm is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) as it is proposed to have a generating capacity exceeding 50MW.

We will be applying for a Development Consent Order (DCO) through the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). Any decision to grant the project will be provided by the Secretary of State for the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

2021

September 2021
Early engagement with local authorities

November 2021
Stage One consultation

2022

January 2022
Scoping request to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate

November 2021 - Spring 2022
Ongoing environmental studies and ongoing engagement with the local community and stakeholders on refinement of proposals

February 2022
Consultation on the Draft Statement of Community Consultation with Local Planning Authorities

Spring 2022
Publication of the Statement of Community Consultation and the Preliminary Environmental Information Report, and start of Stage Two community consultation

End of 2022
Final DCO application submission to the Planning Inspectorate

*All dates are indicative and subject to change

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

We will be undertaking extensive environmental surveys and consulting with a range of statutory stakeholders.

EIA is used as a tool to identify the potential effects our project might have, and how we can reduce and mitigate impacts on the environment and society.

Some of our ecology surveys started in spring 2021 and will continue for the next six to eight months. We will also be investigating impacts on the following topics:

- Landscape and visual
- Cultural Heritage and Archaeology
- Access and traffic
- Hydrology and flood risk
- Land use
- Noise and vibration
- Recreation and amenity
- Socioeconomics
- Climate change
- Glint and glare
- Air Quality
- Arboriculture

The preliminary findings of the environmental surveys and assessment will be presented within the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) that will be made available during our Stage Two consultation.

Biodiversity and connectivity enhancements

Mallard Pass Solar Farm will be sensitively designed to work with existing features in the landscape.

We will seek to retain existing field boundaries, water features and wildlife, and improve connectivity where possible.

Our landscape strategy will deliver multiple benefits, including retaining Public Rights of Way, connecting habitats across the site, and providing new planting which could enhance wildlife or recreational routes.

We will develop a comprehensive site-wide biodiversity and landscape management plan in consultation with stakeholders to secure opportunities to protect and enhance biodiversity onsite.

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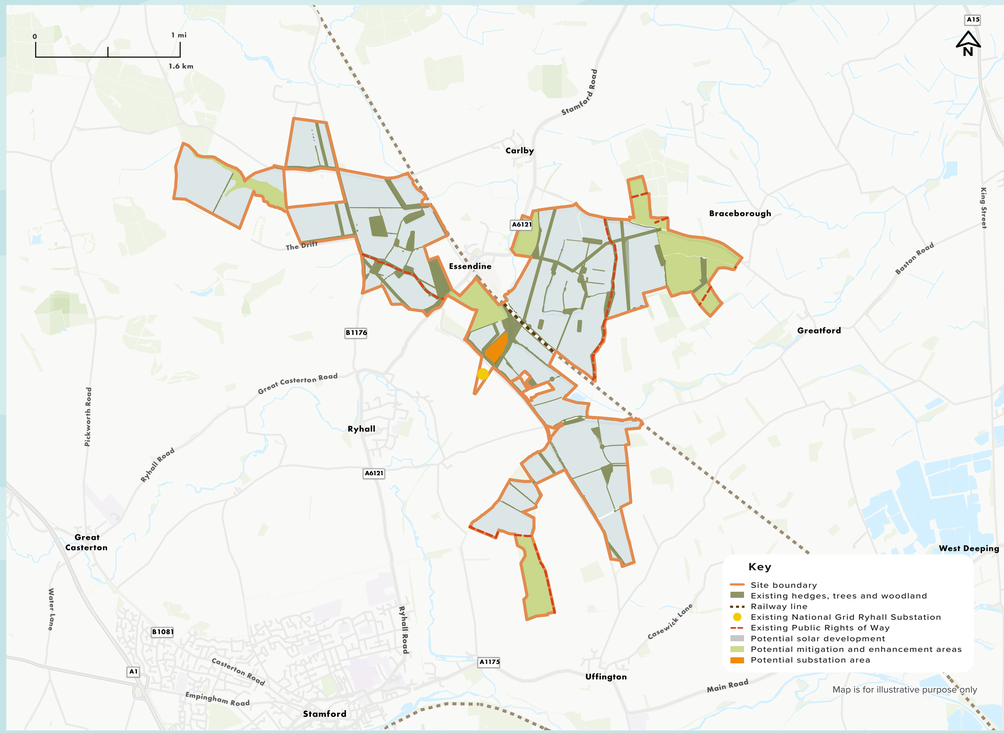
Concept Plan



The West Glen River runs through and adjacent to the project. This, and existing ditches within the site, offer suitable habitat to support water voles.

We have been conducting ecology surveys since spring 2021.

Landscape enhancement opportunities are being explored, such as the potential to to connect habitats. These include the East Coast and disused railway lines, the West Glen River corridor and many, often isolated, woodland blocks.

The majority of the project area is located within Flood Zone 1, which is an area classed as having a 'low' risk to flooding.

We will protect and seek to enhance the setting of locally and nationally important heritage assets. For instance, we have identified a buffer zone opposite Essendine castle to ensure that solar panels are set back from the area immediately opposite this important local site.

New planting for enhanced biodiversity and connectivity is being considered to support the Ryhall Pasture and Little Warren Verges Special Site of Scientific Importance, and other features of ecology value across the site.

All public rights of way, including Macmillan Way will be retained. This long distance footpath bisects the central and southern parcels of the project, connecting Stamford with Pinchbeck and beyond to Boston on the East Coast.

Existing hedgerows and ditches will be retained and existing gaps used for internal access tracks and/or cable crossings, where possible.

Key Benefits

Mallard Pass has the potential to power in the region of 92,000 UK homes.

Mallard Pass will support low-cost energy generation that increases the reliability of our National Grid.

Mallard Pass will help the UK reach urgent climate change targets whilst supporting the local environment by delivering a biodiversity net gain.

Mallard Pass will support green spaces that connect habitats, enhance biodiversity and link recreational routes.

www.MallardPassSolar.co.uk