

# Vicarage Drove Solar Farm

A proposed new 49.9MW solar farm at Bicker Fen, Lincolnshire

Renewable Connections is investigating the potential for a solar energy project in Bicker Fen, Lincolnshire. Once operational, the project would supply enough power for 14,000 homes, and save 22,500 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> each year.

As we prepare a planning application to submit to Boston Borough Council, Renewable Connections is undertaking a 4 week consultation process to inform local communities of our proposed plans and invite any feedback.

More information on the project, our plans and how you can consult with us is provided on our website at: [vicaragedrovesolar.co.uk](http://vicaragedrovesolar.co.uk)

## Have Your Say

Please provide any comments you have on the proposal either via the project website, or by email or post using the details provided. Comments provided by the local community will be taken into account in shaping the final planning application submission.

**T - 01775 302205**

**E - [consultation@dwdllp.com](mailto:consultation@dwdllp.com)**

**A - Vicarage Drove Solar,  
3rd Floor, 141 - 145 Curtain Road,  
London  
EC2A 3BX**



## Proposed Timeline

### Stage 1

Site selection  
*Autumn 2020*

### Stage 2

Preliminary surveys  
*Winter 2020/21*

### Stage 3

Public consultation  
*Spring 2021*

### Stage 4

Application  
*Summer 2021*

### Stage 5

Construction  
*Est. Spring 2023*

## Quick Facts



**22,500 tonnes**  
of CO<sub>2</sub> saved



**50,000 MWh**  
generated



Over **14,000**  
homes powered



**80ha** of land  
supporting wildlife

# The Proposed Site

The proposed location of Vicarage Drove Solar Farm is on farmland at Bicker Fen, approximately 2.5km north of Donnington, Lincolnshire. The site is 80ha.

The surrounding area is largely flat and agricultural in character, with scattered properties and farmsteads. Three existing or proposed electricity substations and an existing onshore wind farm surround the site.

There are no houses within 1km of the proposed development. Views from the west are blocked by the South Forty Foot Drain and the majority of views from the east and south will be screened by existing infrastructure or proposed planting.

The solar farm will be temporary and comprise of panels and associated equipment. In addition, a range of wildlife proposals will be introduced to greatly enhance the biodiversity of this area, creating new habitats and offering food and shelter to wildlife.

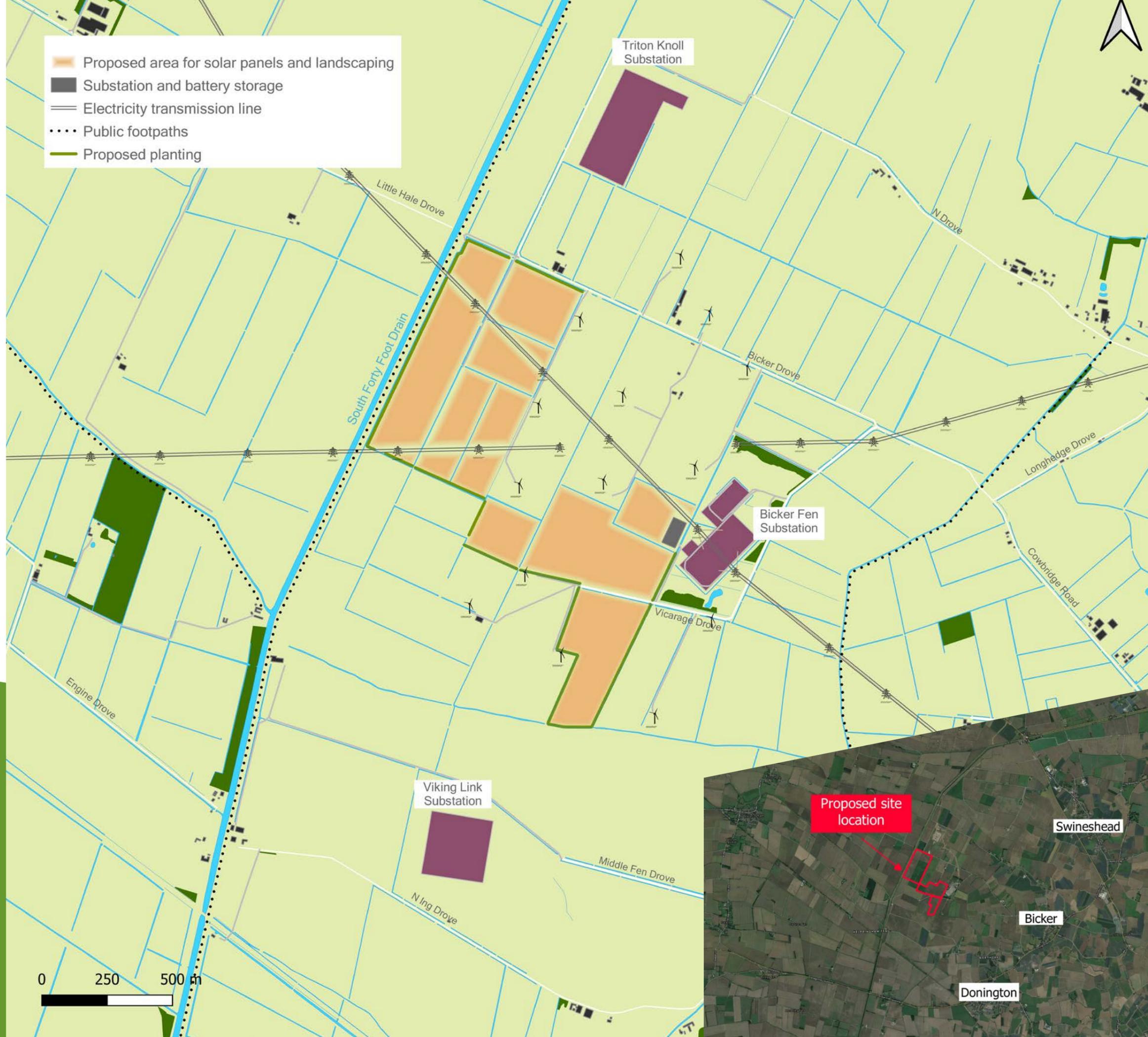
Our plans are still in the development stages, so our proposals will evolve as we gather local input and the results of our environmental assessments, however we have presented some preliminary concepts here for your feedback.

## Why Here?

Boston Borough Council declared a Climate Emergency in January 2020 and are committed to contributing to UK renewable energy targets.

This site has been identified following extensive site selection across Lincs which took into account environmental designations, local electricity network access and capacity, the physical characteristics of the site, and a supportive landowner.

Further analysis and surveys were undertaken to better understand ecology and landscape impacts, and other factors such as flood risk, ecology, landscape and access.



## FAQ's

### Why solar?

Solar is one of the cleanest, lowest cost forms of energy available. Vicarage Drove Solar Farm will make a meaningful contribution to Lincolnshire's energy needs.

### Does solar pose a health risk?

No - solar doesn't produce any harmful by-products.

### Are solar farms noisy?

No – solar farms are not noisy, producing no more than normal background levels of sound similar to wind or distant traffic beyond the site boundary.

### Will there be any permanent impact?

Solar farms are temporary and the land will be fully reinstated to farmland once the equipment is removed at the end of the project life.

### Will there be any impacts on local roads?

For a period of approximately 6 months during construction, there will be deliveries of equipment to site. Renewable Connections will put in place measures to manage impacts of construction traffic and these measures will be included in a Construction Traffic Management Plan that will be submitted with the planning application. There will be infrequent maintenance visits to the site during operation.

### What are the benefits to the local community?

Renewable Connections is committed to maximising benefits for the Bicker community. The project will support local businesses, provide enhanced business rates, and provide wildlife benefits across the site. We will also establish a Community Benefit Fund to share the profits from the electricity local causes.

## About us

Renewable Connections was established in early 2020 to deliver solar energy projects across the UK. The Renewable Connections team is one of the most experienced renewable energy teams in the UK having developed over 1GW of solar projects globally since 2010.

Our team is committed to developing high quality projects which see benefits delivered locally and we are committed to listening to local people in advance of any planning submission. Renewable Connections is working in partnership with European Energy, one of the largest renewable energy investors in Europe.

Find out more at [vicaragedrovesolar.co.uk](http://vicaragedrovesolar.co.uk)

