

**One of the UK's  
leading solar and  
battery developers**





## Who we are

**Renewable Connections is one of the UK's leading solar and battery developers.**

We deliver highly innovative renewable energy developments across the UK and take a responsible, community-led approach to the planning and design of our projects.

With an outstanding success record of achieving project consents, the Renewable Connections team are unlocking hundreds of megawatts of solar and storage, increasing energy independence in the UK, and supporting the Government to reach its net zero targets. We are committed to developing high quality projects which see benefits delivered to local residents and the natural environment.

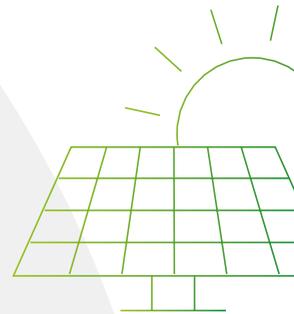
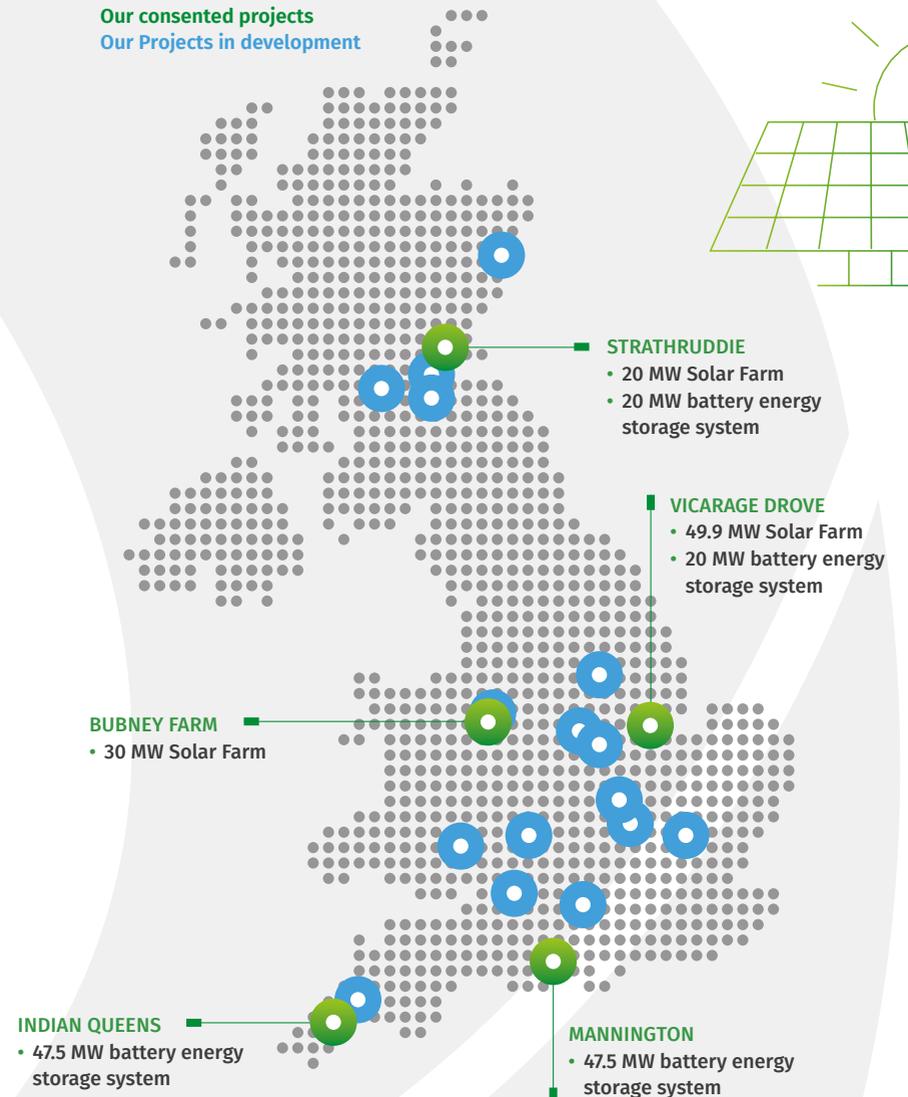
Renewable Connections was established by sustainable energy investment specialist, Armstrong Capital Management. Our team is very experienced in renewables having developed over 1GW of solar projects globally.



# Our developments

Renewable Connections is developing an exciting pipeline of projects across Scotland, England and Wales. Our projects have been identified and designed to be sensitive to their location to ensure minimal local impacts.

**Our consented projects**  
**Our Projects in development**





## Our approach to consultation

Renewable Connections is a responsible developer committed to engaging with the communities we are active in. We undertake consultation with local communities throughout the development process. Community feedback and comments can help inform our final project designs.

### How we engage

- Each of our projects has a dedicated website or webpage
- We can be contacted by telephone, email or post
- We regularly host consultation events be these virtual or in-person
- We speak to landowners, elected members, Parish Councils, Community Councils and local community groups
- Statutory consultees also give us feedback on our development proposals, particularly around environmental and landscape issues
- We issue project newsletters and letters at key stages
- We also adapt our engagement to support the requirements of our stakeholders – so for example if someone is shielding we will happily host a virtual meeting for them.

### Purpose of our consultation

- Ensure a mechanism for two way feedback
- An opportunity to share our proposals with the community
- Gather community feedback and comments on proposals and relevant information about the local area
- Opportunity to consult prior to submission of the formal planning application
- Answer questions and identify issues most important to the local community
- Discuss the project benefits and community investment fund
- Meet face to face or virtually

## The need for solar

Analysis from the Climate Change Committee and other independent bodies shows that in order to achieve Net Zero targets the UK will need to deploy at least 40GW of solar by 2030. If this target is met solar could meet 15% of the UK's annual power need.

There is also an on-going need in the UK to increase energy independence. Domestic renewable energy production is critical in achieving this. Currently the UK is subject to changeable global energy prices and the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has highlighted the importance of generating clean renewable energy domestically to reduce reliance on expensive fossil fuels. Of course the primary input for solar – light – is free.

And as one of the most quickly deployable renewable technology's on the market, we believe solar has a critical role to play in helping the UK to meet its energy targets and become more energy self-sufficient.



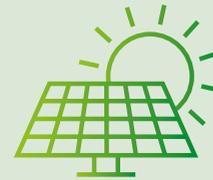
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# The benefits of solar

Solar is a passive form of electricity generation, with no waste, noise or emissions created during electricity production and needs to play a significant role in our energy system if we are to meet climate targets.



Solar works well everywhere in the UK – solar panels don't need direct sunlight to operate, and they produce energy all year round.



Solar is the most affordable electricity in history and the most affordable renewable energy in the UK. The price of solar panels has declined whilst the efficiency of panels has improved.



Ground mounted solar projects can deliver major benefits to the environment. In addition to providing clean, affordable energy they can improve local biodiversity by supporting new and existing plant life.



In most cases 99% of a solar panel is recyclable and there are organisations that specialise in solar recycling. This means the environmental impact of decommissioning a solar system can be minimised.



Solar is quickly deployable and can help the UK to meet its energy targets and become more energy self-sufficient.



Solar farms can provide a valuable income stream for farmers up to forty years, supporting them to diversify, whilst continuing food production on other parts of their land, and sheep grazing around the solar farm itself.

# Frequently asked questions

## How do you choose a solar farm site?

Our sites are chosen following an extensive site selection process, which takes into account environmental designations, local electricity network access and capacity, the physical characteristics of a site, as well as the need for a supportive landowner who is committed to sustainability, environmental stewardship, and community benefits.

## 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.

## What are the benefits to the local community?

For each of our projects Renewable Connections is committed to setting up a community benefit fund to be made available, to support local projects. We always welcome suggestions as to what local projects might be able to benefit.

There are also obvious environmental benefits such as helping a local authority area reach its climate change targets and reduce its carbon footprint.

And our solar farm projects can provide a range of biodiversity benefits depending on the site. For example – establishing wildflower meadows and grasslands; supporting hedgerow growth; and promoting wetland habitats.

## Are there any permanent impacts of a solar farm?

Solar farms are temporary and the land is fully reinstated to farmland once the equipment is removed at the end of the project life, which is usually no more than forty years.

## Does solar pose a health risk?

No – solar is a passive technology which doesn't produce any harmful by-products.

## What are the visual impacts of a solar farm?

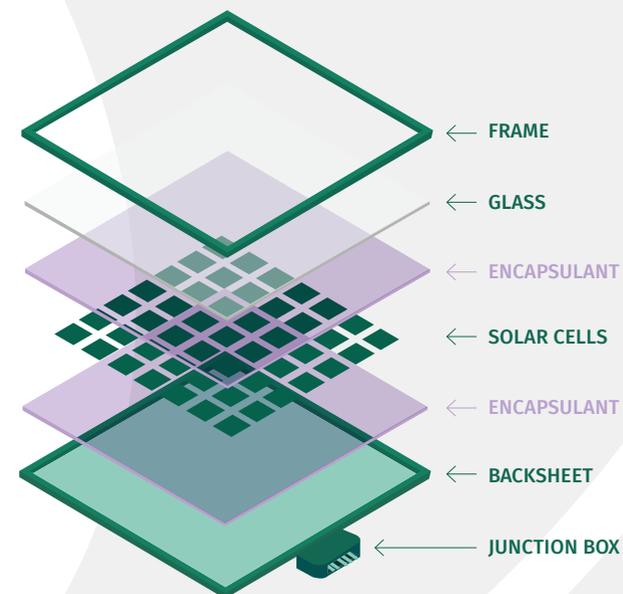
We will follow national and local planning guidance and work with the local community in order to design a project to ensure the visual impact is minimised. Solar panels, at between 2-3 metres are low profile and can generally be easily screened.



## What happens when a solar farm is decommissioned?

Following a maximum 40-year generation period, solar farm developments will be decommissioned where all equipment will be removed from the site and recycled, and all the land will be restored to its current state.

## What are the main components of a solar panel?



Up to 99% of materials in a solar panel are recyclable.

 Recyclable  Non-Recyclable

### How will the deployment of new solar farms affect energy bills?

Solar power is the most affordable form of energy in the UK. This is due to the cost of solar panels declining as much as 60% since 2010, with their efficiency having greatly improved over the same period. Sunlight (the primary input) is free which means that the price of solar power is much less volatile than fossil fuels that must be imported at cost.

### Does land used for solar farms reduce the UK's food security?

The independent National Food Strategy\*, a review for Government, has shown that solar farms do not present a risk to the UK's food security as there is enough agricultural land to meet the UK's needs. Solar farms can provide a valuable income stream for farmers to continue food production on other parts of their land, whilst solar farms themselves can still be used for sheep grazing. \*www.nationalfoodstrategy.org

### During construction are there impacts on local roads?

For a period of approximately 24 weeks during construction, there are deliveries of equipment to site. Renewable Connections put in place measures to manage impacts of construction traffic, including a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) submitted with the solar farm planning application.



## Typical steps of a solar development

### Project timeline



## If you're a landowner

**We are looking for landowners to partner with** through 30 to 40 year leases, for which we can offer attractive index linked quarterly rental payments. We would love to hear from you if your land meets some or all of the below requirements:



- Minimum 40 acres
- Ideally grade 3 or below
- Relatively flat
- Preferably not overlooked by residential housing
- Preferably close to 33KV or 132KV overhead lines, or near a substation
- Freehold or leasehold ownership with ability to let for 30 years
- We would also consider purchasing land

We have a number of regional operatives who are active in your area and able to respond swiftly to any enquiries you have. Please telephone **020 77492650** to speak to one of our land management team.



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# Contact Us

Please feel free to contact us to discuss a specific development or if you have any general queries. We will do our best to help.

020 77492650

[enquiries@renewableconnections.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@renewableconnections.co.uk)

[www.renewableconnections.co.uk](http://www.renewableconnections.co.uk)

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