

WHY THIS LOCATION?

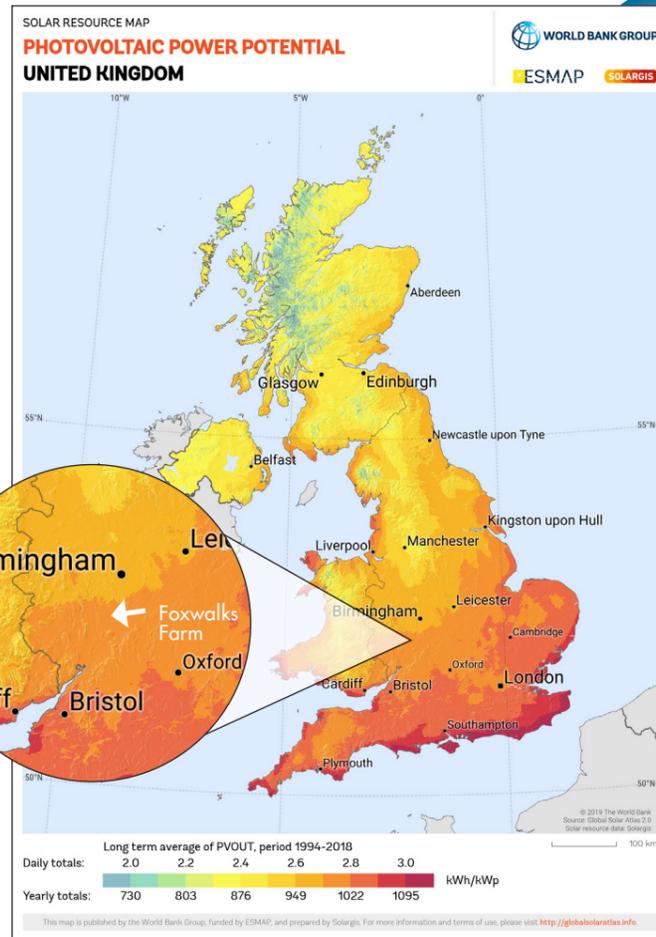
There are a number of important factors why we are proposing a solar farm at this location:

● PLACING POWER WHERE IT'S NEEDED

As the UK replaces fossil fuels with new, clean energy, locating solar farms near large communities like Bromsgrove where we use the energy is a common-sense solution for meeting our energy needs, helping to keep the lights on and cut costs.

● A VIABLE GRID CONNECTION

One of the most important considerations when siting new electricity generators is being able to make a technically viable and cost-effective grid connection. These opportunities are few and far between as our grid network at local and national levels requires urgent improvement to equip us for a low carbon future. In fact, this is one of the biggest challenges the UK faces as we transition to Net-Zero emissions. Our view is that it is critical to make use of viable grid connections where they exist, such as here at Foxwalks farm.



● FEW CONSTRAINTS

As we plan our projects, we aim to identify sites that have minimal impact on factors such as local amenity, heritage, agriculture, landscape, transport etc. Introducing any change creates impacts however through our assessments, we think



that Foxwalks farm offers the most appropriate location for a solar farm of land available locally. The following pages explain further about the site's suitability.

● ECOLOGICAL BENEFITS

Solar farms, even during construction, have very limited impacts on the local environment and ecology. And during their operational life, a well-designed and well managed solar farm can significantly improve the opportunity for wildlife when compared to conventional farm management.

The ecological enhancements and re-wilding that can be delivered through our proposal will not only bring benefit to wildlife within the site but also to the surrounding countryside by providing additional forage plants in the grassland and hedgerows and replicating habitat favoured by species found locally. More detail about these benefits is included on our Nature and Water pages.

WHY DO WE NEED MORE SOLAR FARMS?

The short answer is we have to address man-made climate change, Urgently. Switching our energy system to renewables, including solar power, is one of the quickest, most effective ways to this.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND GREEN RECOVERY

In October 2018 the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued a special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C, finding that limiting global warming to 1.5°C would require rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society. With clear benefits to people and natural ecosystems, the report found that limiting global warming to 1.5°C compared to 2°C could go hand in hand with ensuring a more sustainable and equitable society. While previous estimates focused on estimating the damage if average temperatures were to rise by 2°C, this report shows that many of the adverse impacts of climate change will come at the 1.5°C mark.

In 2019 the UK government declared a climate emergency and has committed to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.

Bromsgrove District Council has declared a climate emergency and announced their goal to become carbon neutral by 2040.

In November 2021 The COP 26 conference in Glasgow strived to reach agreements to limit heating to 1.5°C. but fell short. This demonstrates how critical it is for climate change solutions to get delivered at every level.

Our projects support the transition to a low-carbon future for both Worcester and the UK. Importantly, solar farms are quick to deploy, are low impact and low cost:

- It takes under 2 years to plan a project, install it and start generating renewable energy
- All the land within the solar farm can be used to enhance and benefit wildlife – helping to address the ecological emergency.
- Solar farms are economically viable without any government subsidy, so there is no burden on the tax-payer.

PROJECTS SUCH AS WE ARE PROPOSING AT FOXWALKS FARM ARE CRITICAL TO DELIVER A LOW-CARBON FUTURE FOR WORCESTER AND THE UK AND HELP AVOID THE WORST EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE.

