

Will I be able to see the solar farm?

Solar panels can be easily screened by vegetation. A landscape character and visual impact assessment will be undertaken to identify the likely areas where the solar farm will be visible. This assessment will help inform where screening needs to be implemented or enhanced.

What impacts will this have on wildlife?

Solar farms can incorporate biodiversity enhancements, providing a significant net benefit for wildlife. The area is left undisturbed as a wildlife sanctuary, aside from occasional grazing to enhance wildlife growth, for 40 years.

Do the panels make a noise?

The only noise that will occur during the operation of the solar farm is a low level noise (hum) from the power control cabinets and substation during daylight hours. No noise will be audible at residential properties in the area.

What about the impact on the land?

The solar farm is located on the former Fiskerton Airfield which is currently in agricultural use. Meadow grass will be cultivated and managed by the existing landowners to improve the ecology of the site. The solar panels, frames and associated equipment can be completely removed once the solar farm is decommissioned.

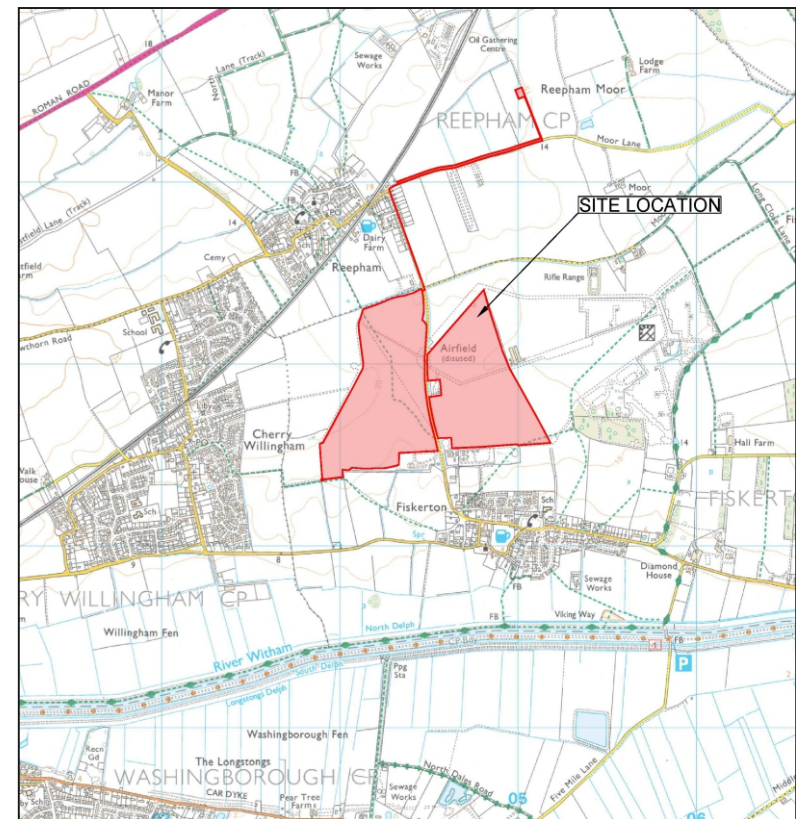
What are the project time scales?

- Submission of a planning application Summer 2020;
- Subject to the granting of planning permission, construction of the solar farm will take 6 months;
- The solar farm is anticipated to be energised in late 2021;
- The solar farm will be operational for 40 years, after which it will be decommissioned.



Grey Street Solar Limited is proposing to develop a solar farm on land at the former Fiskerton Airfield, off Reepham Road.

The Fiskerton West Solar Farm will extend to approximately 76ha of land, generating up to approximately 49.9MW of electricity directly from sunlight, equivalent to powering approximately 11,000 homes. This will offset over 13,300 tonnes of CO₂ every year, equivalent to taking around 5,000 cars off the road.



Why do we need solar energy?

In order to address the damaging effects of climate change, we need to move away from burning our limited fossil fuel reserves. The proposed solar farm will provide a source of safe and clean energy which produces zero emissions when in operation. Solar energy enjoys the highest levels of public support for renewable energy in the UK, with 85% of the public in favour.

What will the scheme include?

The proposed solar farm will include:

- The deployment of panels which will generate up to 49.9MW of renewable energy;
- 2.1km of proposed permissive routes, improving access to the countryside and connectivity between Fiskerton, Reepham and Cherry Willingham;
- Maintaining the existing Public Right of Ways within and along the edges of the site;
- Displaying heritage information boards about the history of the former airfield and surrounding area;
- The planting and management of 2.9km of hedgerows and 64ha of grassland to improve the local biodiversity of the site; and
- Below ground cabling to the point of the connection with the distribution network.

Why this location?

The site has been assessed for its suitability as a solar farm and has the following positive attributes:

- The site consists of lower quality agricultural land;
- Vegetative screening along the site boundaries and opportunity to reinforce further;
- The site benefits from good access and is directly linked to the local highway network;
- Opportunity for biodiversity enhancements; and
- The availability and close proximity of the distribution network.

