

At Lightsource bp, we believe that solar installations can make a difference in the communities we work in. Beyond renewable energy, our solar farms are creating jobs, supporting local causes and educating the next generation. Read some of our case studies to find out more about how Lightsource bp is supporting communities across the world.

Empowering economic development

Solar farms can help strengthen local economies through creating jobs and providing dependable revenue to landowners, as well as bringing multi-million-dollar projects into the region.



Some of the solar construction jobs we created in 2021



Barrica solar cluster
Aragón, Spain

 **150**
construction jobs

 **100MW**



Big Horn solar project
Pueblo, Colorado, USA

 **300**
construction jobs

 **300MW**



West Wyalong solar farm
New South Wales, Australia

 **170**
construction jobs

 **108MW**

Supporting causes that matter

At Lightsource bp we pride ourselves on being adaptable and delivering customized projects for our clients. We bring the same approach to our community work supporting local causes and priorities.



Australia

Koalas are in decline as a result of many factors including habitat destruction and bushfires. In an effort to do our part, we designed our Woolooga Solar Farm in Queensland to minimise the impact on koala feed trees as well as set aside a portion of the site to foster a koala-friendly environment. Following the recent bushfires in Australia, and with the intention to save koalas affected by the fires, we employed trained dogs to sniff out koalas around our solar site to determine whether any were occupying the project site. Koalas weren't detected during this survey.



Brazil

We have partnered with World Vision Brazil to support vulnerable and low-income families in São Paulo during the COVID-19 pandemic. The response plan provides hygiene supplies, preventive resources and educational support to those affected. Our colleagues in Brazil are fundraising towards the cause and the company has committed to matching their efforts.



Empowering education

Empowering the next generation to help the energy transition to renewable energy is important to us. In light of this, we offer hands-on educational opportunities for students to participate in research, internships, and solar training programs.



Students from the National School of Landscape Architecture based in Versailles and Marseilles, France, attended a presentation to learn about the construction of the QEII Floating Solar project.



We paid a visit to Year 4 students at Eleanor Palmer Primary School, London, to take part in their study of light and electricity. We gave a talk about solar and renewable energy.



Group CEO Nick Boyle hosted an open talk to students via the Speakers for Schools Inspiration Programme. He shared insights into his career, solar energy and answered some great questions from some very sharp kids.



We often engage with higher educational organisations and universities, engaging with groups of students in the process of deciding their career path. Speakers from across the business give presentations on their area of work, providing an insight into the wide range of opportunities offered by solar.



Working with Grid Alternatives, we sponsored a two-week training program for underemployed workers in Pueblo, Colorado, the location of our Bighorn Solar project. The program involved free training with industry-recognised certifications and offered one-on-one career planning sessions. Participants were also invited to interview for employment at the solar project.



Our US team partnered with Penn State University to bring real-world marketing experience to its Smeal College of Business students. Under our PPA obligations with Penn State University, we committed to offering internships. As a result, students that participated in the marketing class were invited to apply to work with Lightsource bp's marketing team to implement the ideas they developed whilst participating in the class.



As bp's solar partner, we hosted a series of virtual talks for bp employees finishing graduate programmes to provide an insight into our work and our role within bp's 'reimagined' business model to becoming an international energy company. Senior leaders from the business hosted talks covering our partnership with bp, current development areas and career opportunities.



We work with schools and universities to organise visits to our operational solar sites. Someone from our team explains how our sites operate on a day to day basis and how they are maintained. This gives students the opportunity to have an in-sight to the technology and innovation used in solar energy and demonstrates the scale which we operate.

Empowering partnerships

The benefits we're able to bring to communities are enhanced through collaborative initiatives with our partners. At Lightsource bp, we're excited to support and work with organizations that share our desire to create a more sustainable, resilient and equitable world for present and future generations.



World Vision

Since 2014, we have worked with World Vision to support the community of Koh Krolor in Cambodia. Alongside local volunteers, we focus on long-term projects, designed to develop and transform the community, addressing the biggest challenges they face. Through payroll giving and fundraising we have raised £350,000 and installed rooftop solar panels and storage on the local school and health centre.

Penn State University, USA

Penn State and Lightsource bp have a wider mission to provide a blueprint to maximize the sustainability impacts of solar farming in the US with a comprehensive approach that fosters biodiversity, improves soil health, provides pollinator habitats, and is a long-term living laboratory for students to learn and innovate for our sustainable future.

Root and Rebound, USA

Lightsource bp is a sponsor of Root and Rebound, a US non-profit committed to restoring power and resources to the families and communities most harmed by mass incarceration through legal advocacy, public education, policy reform and litigation.

Raising awareness on biodiversity, UK

Lightsource bp sponsored a junior school's competition to raise awareness on biodiversity across the country. This was in partnership with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB). Students had to submit their designs for a bird or bat box. 5 winners were selected and their boxes were placed on Lightsource bp sites.

Clontarf Foundation, Australia

Lightsource bp has partnered with the Clontarf Foundation at our Wellington Solar Farm in New South Wales, Australia, committing to contributing \$10,000 annually towards the Clontarf Wellington Academy throughout the lifespan of the project. The Foundation exists to improve the education, discipline, life skills, self-esteem and employment prospects of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and by doing so equips them to participate more meaningfully in society.

Contact us

If you would like to find out more about Lightsource bp or our sustainability strategy, please get in touch through email and we will try our best to answer any questions you may have.

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