

WHO ARE WE?



Lightsource bp is a global leader in the development and management of solar energy projects. We work closely with local businesses and communities to supply clean, dependable and competitively priced energy, and we're dedicated to securing a low-carbon future, in the UK and worldwide.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

It's important to us that the local community are fully informed of the plans for the site, and have the opportunity to comment and learn about the proposal. We will be holding an online Q&A event to provide details about our project ideas at this stage, and to give you a chance to speak to our team.

Our online Q&A session will take place on Wednesday 30th June, at 7:30pm, please join the meeting at that time via the project webpage
www.lightsourcebp.com/uk/proposed-projects/lawns-farm

We want to ensure that our engagement is inclusive and are aware that not everyone within the community will have access to the internet. Therefore, if you would like to receive a call back from the team to discuss the project or know of someone who would, we would be pleased to arrange this at a convenient time.



FIND OUT MORE

If you have queries in relation to this project, please contact the project team by calling **0333 200 0755**, or emailing info@lightsourcebp.com, quoting "Lawns Farm". You can also message us on Facebook or write to us at Lightsource bp, 7th Floor, 33 Holborn, London, E1CN 2HU.



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COMMUNITY INFORMATION PACK

PROPOSED SOLAR FARM AT LAWNS FARM, BALLAM ROAD, LYTHAM ST ANNES, FY8 4NG



STATISTICS

 **22,255 MWh** (Megawatts hours) supplied per year

 Equivalent to the energy needs of **7,674 households**

 **69 acres** of land

 **6,171 tonnes** of carbon emissions saved

 Equivalent to taking **3,402 cars** off the road

This project will contribute towards the UK's 2025 targets for renewable energy and carbon emission reductions.

Lightsource bp is working on a proposal for a solar farm at Lawns Farm. We will fund the development of a solar farm to be connected into the local electricity network, with an output power capacity of approximately 20MW (Megawatts).

We've chosen this site after careful consideration, and we're now undertaking a wide range of environmental surveys to help shape our plans. These include landscape and visual, heritage and archaeology, ecology and ornithology, flood risk and more.

An important part of the planning process is engaging with local communities to provide more information on our proposals and gather feedback. Due to the current Covid-19 restrictions in the UK, we are seeking to ensure that our community engagement is undertaken safely. Safety is one of our core values, and in order to keep to the high standards of community engagement that we've set as a company we're replacing our community consultation event with an online Q&A session, on Wednesday 30th June.

Get involved!

COMMUNITY INFORMATION EVENT

We've set up a dedicated webpage for this proposed project at www.lightsourcebp.com/uk/proposed-projects/lawns-farm, with further project information and opportunities to get in touch with us to discuss the proposal.

Our online Q&A session will take place on Wednesday 30th June, at 7:30pm, please join the meeting at that time via the project webpage above, or by visiting <https://www.lightsourcebp.com/uk/projects/lawns-farm>



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OUR INITIAL THOUGHTS

Proposed solar farm at Lawns Farm, Ballam Road, Lytham St Annes, FY8 4NG

We're still in the early stages, and our plans will evolve based on local input and the results of our ecological, landscape and heritage assessments. These are our current thoughts. For further details, please visit www.lightsourcebp.com/uk/proposed-projects/lawns-farm or join online Q&A session on Wednesday 30th June, at 7:30 pm.

New Vegetation Planting

We will submit a detailed planting plan as part of the planning application, which will focus on screening potential views of the installation using native vegetation and increasing biodiversity.



Agricultural Land Grading

We have conducted an Agricultural Land Classification Survey which has identified the site as Grade 3b, which is not best and most versatile land.

Access

Proposed construction and operational access will be from the existing farm access from Ballam Road which already services large farm vehicles.

- Bridleway
- Other routes with public access
- Track with unknown surface
- Site Boundary
- Civil Parish (CP)



"Farming on the Fylde coast is becoming increasingly challenging due to unusual weather patterns this has been happening for at least 10 years. The Lightsource bp Solar Project would provide the family farm with a consistent income which would mean the farm could build from a solid platform. Potentially we would still be able to use the land for farming benefits by grazing sheep within the solar park and installing bee hives within the designated area which would be beneficial to the local area and still maintain our farming enterprises."

- Tim & Angela Laycock, Lawns Farm.



Green Open Spaces

The installation has been designed to leave wide spaces around the site boundaries and between the rows of panels to avoid shading, maximising electricity generation. This will leave the majority of the fenced solar array area as uncovered grassland.

Native Species

We have undertaken an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey to inform the layout design and construction mitigation measures. Our detailed ecological surveys have identified the presence of Great Crested Newts within two ponds. An appropriate buffer has been designed into the layout to ensure that there are no adverse impacts on this species. Two years of wintering bird surveys have also been undertaken on the site which indicated low usage by Target Species.



Existing Vegetation

While developing the layout we have sought to maintain the majority of the existing vegetation onsite.



Views and Screening

The site is well screened from most views by the established hedgerows and trees. Some screened views may be visible from a limited number of viewpoints.



Boosting Biodiversity

A bespoke Biodiversity Management Plan will ensure that the existing and new habitats are enhanced or created to benefit local wildlife. As part of this initiative, our landscape planting, seeding and habitat creation plans will focus on native species. We are keen to hear from and work with any local beekeepers and land management organisations to support wildlife and boost the local habitats.

FAQS

Why is this project important?

Solar is a passive form of technology, generating electricity without creating any waste products, noise or pollutants. This makes it an ideal energy source for the UK, as we work towards the 2025 targets for renewable energy and carbon emission reductions.

How will the equipment be protected?

The solar farm will be enclosed by a timber and wire agricultural fence about 2 metres in height, and CCTV cameras will monitor the boundary fence and area within the solar farm. These will be specifically positioned to make sure they do not impinge on the privacy of residents.

How are the panels kept clean?

Generally, rainfall helps to keep the panels free of dust and dirt. Several times a year, the panels will be thoroughly cleaned using specialist equipment, to make sure the installation is in the best possible condition.

Do solar installations pose a health risk?

No - solar is a passive technology which doesn't produce any harmful by-products. All electrical equipment we use meets the Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) Directive and are CE marked.

Will the solar farm cause traffic disruption?

Once the solar farm is in place it requires very little maintenance and approximately monthly visits in regular cars or 4x4s would cause no traffic disruption. Whilst the solar farm is being constructed, a traffic management plan will be put in place.

This map is a combination of Ordnance Survey map reference: SD 36711 31047 and aerial imagery dated [2021]

