Welcome to our information event

Have a look around and learn more about our proposals for Cottam Solar Project and West Burton Solar Project. We are here today to introduce ourselves, share information on our emerging proposals for each project and hear your feedback.

We welcome your views and comments to help us refine our proposals. We are also keen to hear about other potential local needs or initiatives that we could facilitate or deliver directly, and we look forward to receiving your suggestions.

Cottam
SOLAR PROJECT

West Burton
SOLAR PROJECT

Who is Island Green Power?

Island Green Power is a leading international developer of renewable energy projects, established in 2013.

We have delivered 26 solar projects worldwide totalling more than 1GW of capacity. This includes 14 solar projects in the UK and Republic of Ireland. Our mission is to increase solar energy usage, making more renewable energy possible and saving thousands of tonnes of CO2 in the process.

Cottam Solar Project Limited and West Burton Solar Project Limited are companies created by Island Green Power to develop Cottam Solar Project and West Burton Solar Project.

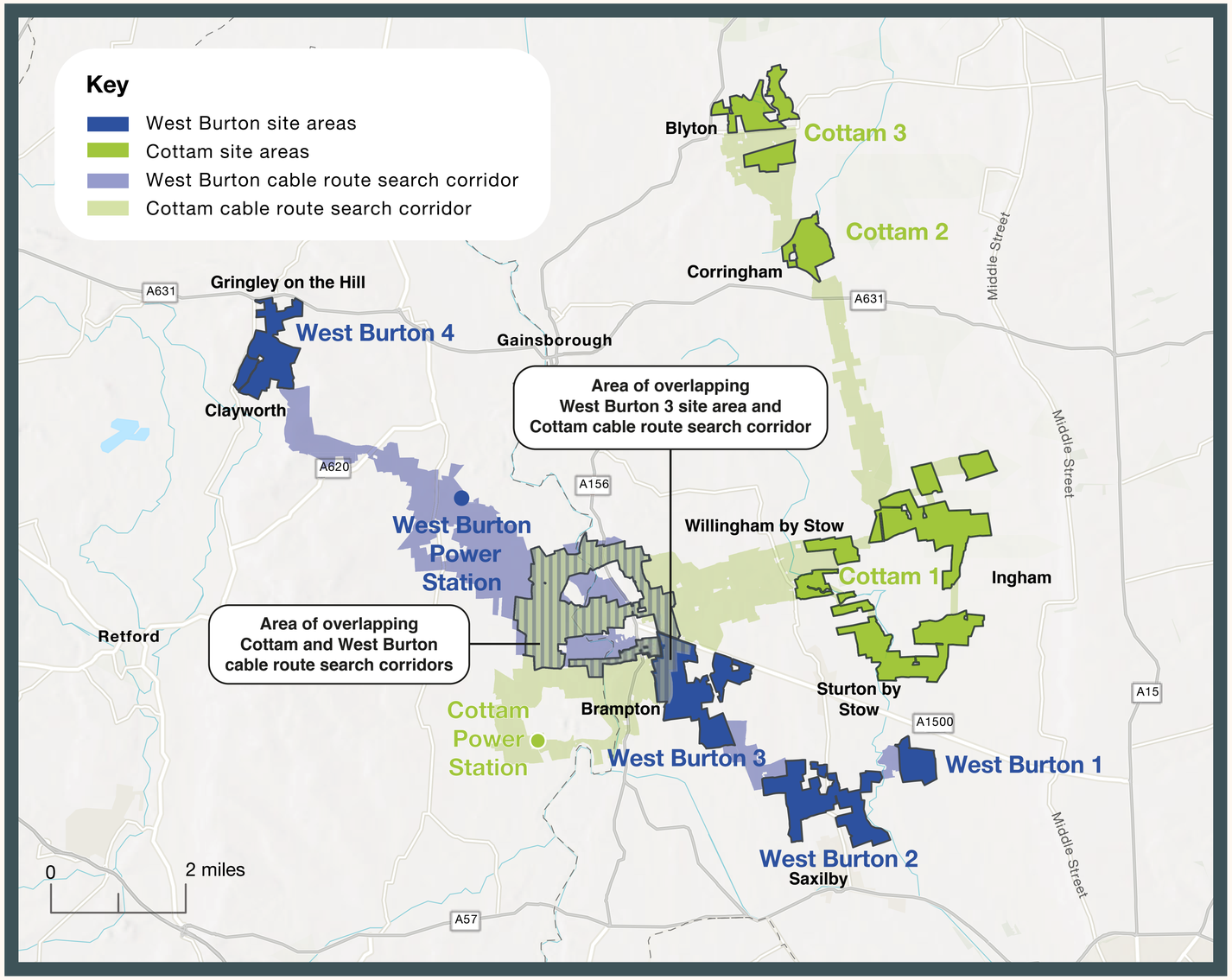
About the projects

Both projects are named after their grid connection points at the existing National Grid substations at the Cottam Power Station and West Burton Power Station. Each project involves a series of areas of land which would host ground-mounted solar panels and be connected by underground cables.

We are currently working with relevant landowners to refine the search corridors for the routes of these cables. Our cable routes will avoid residential properties and businesses, as well as other important local areas, such as heritage features or Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).

Cottam Solar Project would generate around 600 MW of renewable energy and West Burton Solar Project would generate around 480 MW of renewable energy, both with the facility to store some of this energy for when it is needed most.

Because of the amount of renewable energy each project would generate, they will each be classified as a separate Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). This means that, to gain permission to build both projects, we will be submitting two Development Consent Order (DCO) applications, one for each project, to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS).



Map of the proposed Cottam and West Burton site areas and cable route search corridors connecting to the National Grid

Why do we need solar?

The challenge.

The UK is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050. Achieving this target will require extensive changes to how we power our country. In particular, we need to quickly and significantly increase our generation of renewable and low carbon electricity.

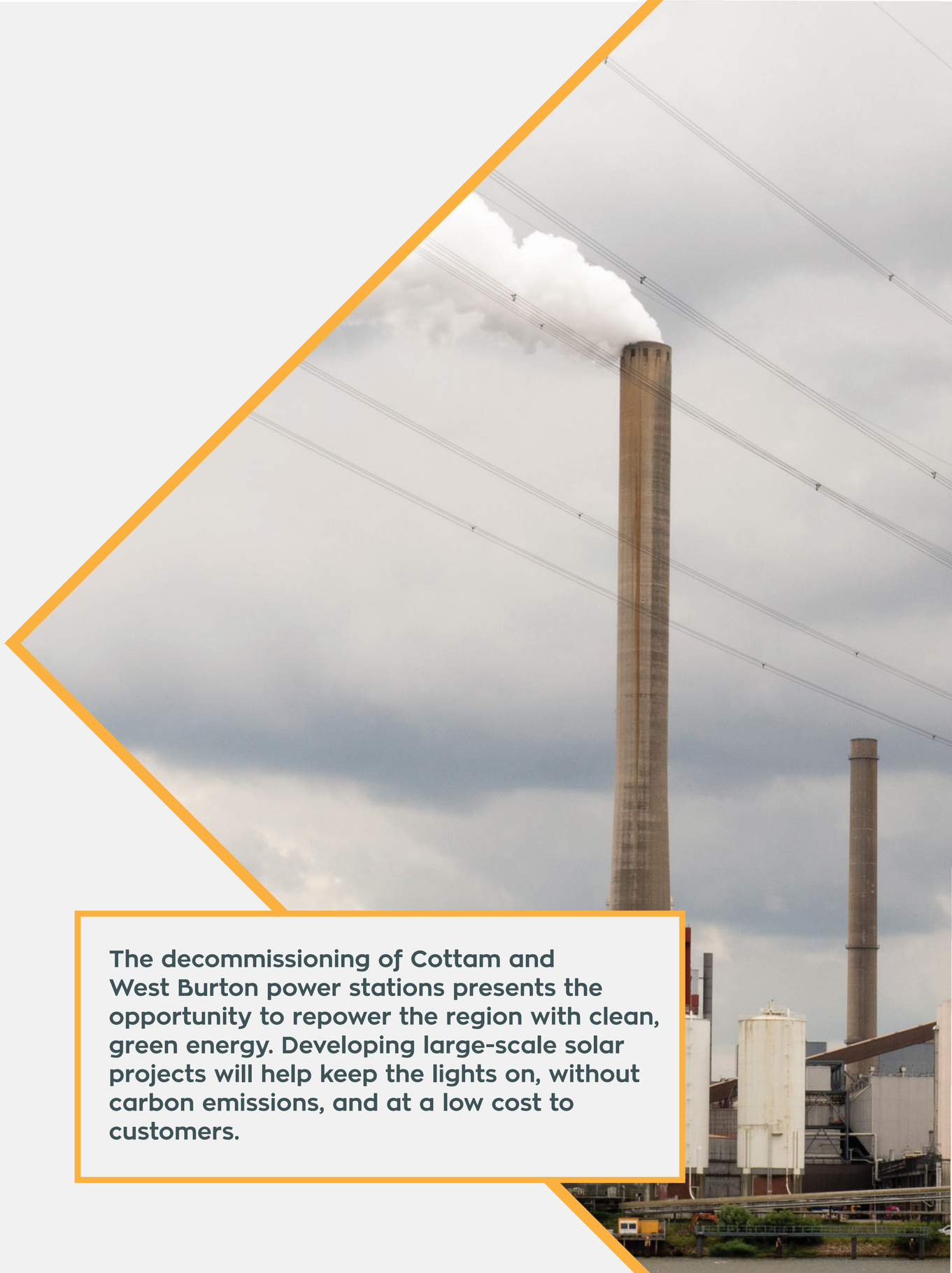
From October 2024, Great Britain will no longer use coal to generate electricity. This involves the decommissioning of the coal powered Cottam and West Burton power stations. New sources of energy are required to replace this. At the same time, we know demand for electricity is continuing to increase and that the UK faces some of the highest electricity costs in Europe.

There is a clear need for renewable, affordable, and reliable energy.

By harnessing energy from the sun, solar projects generate renewable power in a sustainable way from a non-exhaustible source.

Solar projects also complement other types of renewable energy, such as wind, particularly during the summer when winds are lighter and daylight hours are longer. Diversifying how we produce renewable power makes us more resilient.

Solar projects also provide affordable electricity, cheaper than electricity generated from fossil fuels on a £/MWh basis.



The decommissioning of Cottam and West Burton power stations presents the opportunity to repower the region with clean, green energy. Developing large-scale solar projects will help keep the lights on, without carbon emissions, and at a low cost to customers.

The opportunity

The decommissioning of Cottam and West Burton Power Stations presents the opportunity to repower the region with clean, green energy.

The Cottam Solar Project could replace around 30% of the former generation capacity of the coal powered Cottam Power Station and generate enough clean energy to power 180,000 homes

The West Burton Solar project could replace around 24% of the generation capacity of the coal powered West Burton Power Station and generate enough clean energy to power 144,000 homes

Supporting regional and national targets for reducing carbon emissions to net zero by 2050

Improving energy resilience by diversifying energy production and storing energy for when it is needed most

Contributing towards strategic improvements to local ecology and biodiversity

Delivering affordable energy, as the electricity generated from solar is already cheaper than electricity generated from fossil fuels and the project would be subsidy free without taxpayer funding

Facilitating or directly delivering other potential local needs or initiatives, which could be suggested by you through our consultation

What will the solar farms look like?

Although the exact technology and type of solar arrays to be used for the projects have yet to be decided, in part due to their rapid and ongoing development, the image below shows the typical components involved in a solar project. For these projects, the infrastructure is spread over multiple sites.

At this stage the exact size, height and number of panels for the projects is yet to be decided. Heights may also vary depending on the local surroundings, and the outcome of our environmental and technical assessments for each site area. However, the maximum height of the top of the panels being considered is 4.5m above ground level.

Components of a typical solar project

1. Solar Energy
2. Fencing
3. Solar Panels
4. Inverter (DC to AC power converter)
5. Landscape Area
6. Substation
7. Energy Storage
8. Underground Cable

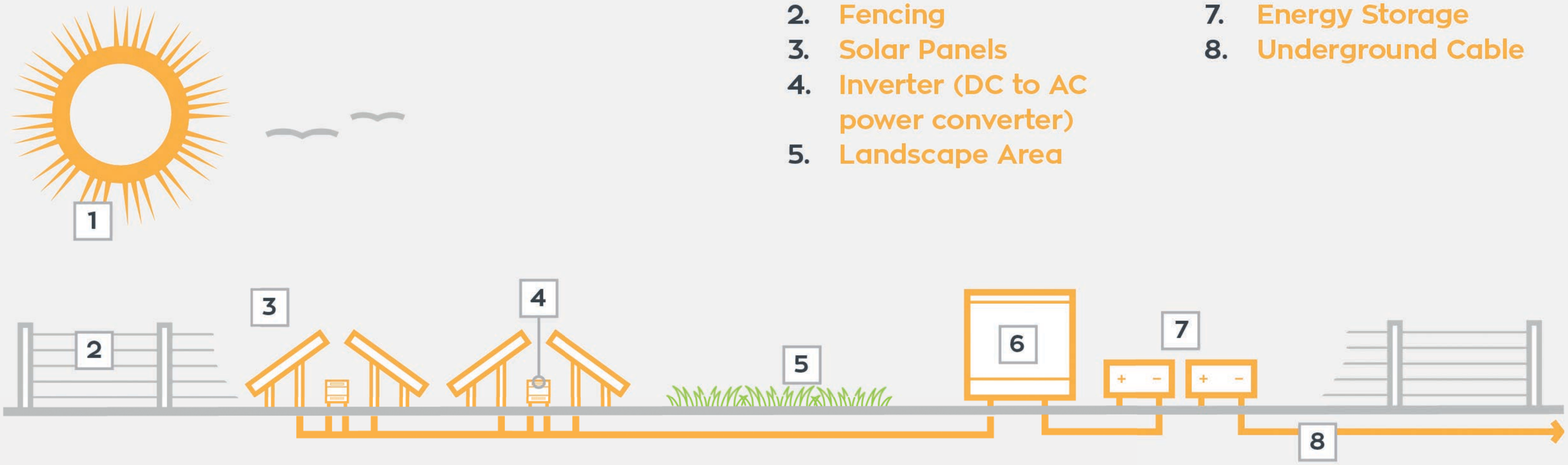


Figure not to scale and for indicative purposes only.

Our site selection process

Using existing grid connection infrastructure reduces the potential impacts of new solar projects, and we have secured an agreement with National Grid for this at Cottam and West Burton. Each of the projects involves a series of areas of land which would host ground-mounted solar panels and be connected by underground cables.

Our team has undertaken an extensive process of site selection to identify areas of land close by to the existing grid connection infrastructure. The use of several separate land parcels also reduces the impact on the local area compared to fewer larger sites.

Our team has identified the proposed site areas as suitable for solar energy generation within appropriate distance to the agreed grid connection points. We considered a range of factors including:

- Their existing land use and quality
- The need to avoid existing environmental or heritage sites
- Other environmental issues such as minimising visual impact
- Agreement with the relevant landowners

Developing the proposals further

As our proposals are still at an early stage, we are continuing to work to further develop parts of the detailed design for the projects which are yet to be decided. The proposals for each project involve a series of parcels of land connecting to the National Grid by underground cables. However, we are still working to refine our proposals in the following areas:

- Layout and positioning of the solar panels
- Location of the substations for each project
- Location of the energy storage for each project
- Any additional land required for West Burton substation and energy storage
- Access routes for each site area
- Additional landscaping, such as planting new trees
- Other detailed environmental mitigation and enhancement measures
- Precise route of the underground cables connecting to the National Grid

Feedback from this phase of consultation will help us develop our proposals. We will then further consult the local community and other stakeholders on our more detailed proposals for the solar projects as part of our phase two consultation next year. You can find out more about our cable route search corridors and ongoing Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for each project as part of this information event.

Not every field identified within the site boundaries will be used for solar panels, and instead could be used for the creation of new habitats for wildlife, recreational access routes for the local community, or continue to be used for arable farming or animal grazing. We will also respect features such as existing trees, hedgerows, and public rights of way.

In the meantime, our environmental and technical assessments, alongside your consultation feedback, will help us to continue to develop the detailed design of the proposals in a way that is sensitive to the local surroundings.

Cottam site areas

The proposals for Cottam Solar Project involve a series of areas of land. The sites which would host the ground-mounted solar panels to be connected by underground cable are named Cottam 1-3. The project crosses the county boundary between Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire and would generate around 600 MW of renewable energy, as well as having the capacity to store this energy for when it is needed most.

We have revised and updated our latest estimated hectare figures for Cottam 1 and 3 since publishing our phase one consultation leaflet on 03 November, as we continue to survey the land parcels. The field boundaries for the proposed site areas have not changed.

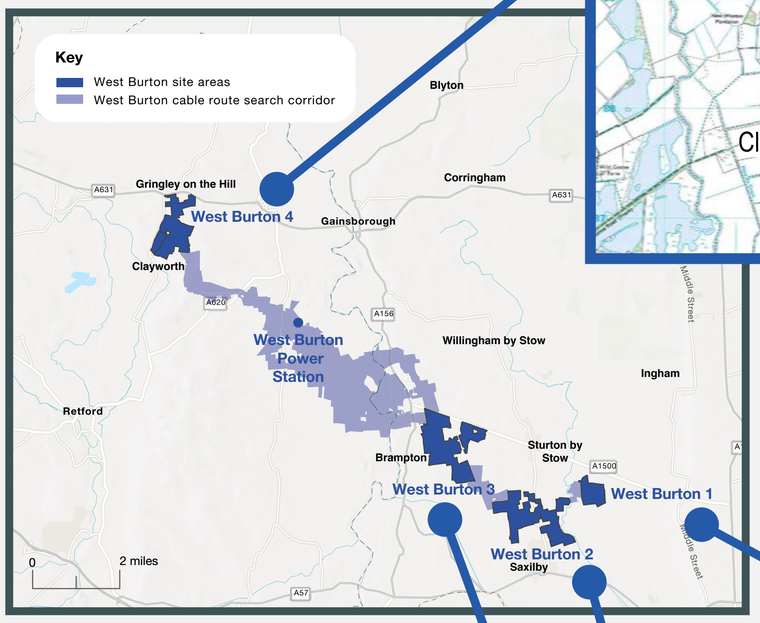
Cottam 2 (around 132 hectares) and Cottam 3 (around 241 hectares)

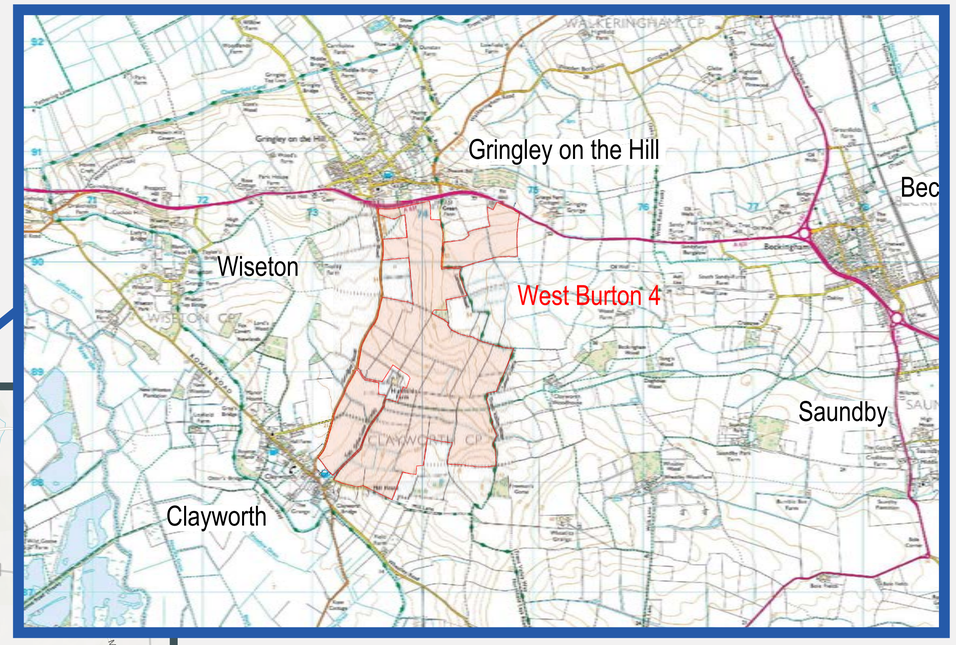
Cottam 1 (around 894 hectares)

West Burton site areas

The proposals for West Burton Solar Project involve a series of areas of land The sites which would host the ground-mounted solar panels to be connected by underground cable are named West Burton 1-4. The project crosses the county boundary between Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire and would generate around 480 MW of renewable energy, and have the facility to store 20 MW of energy for when it is needed most.

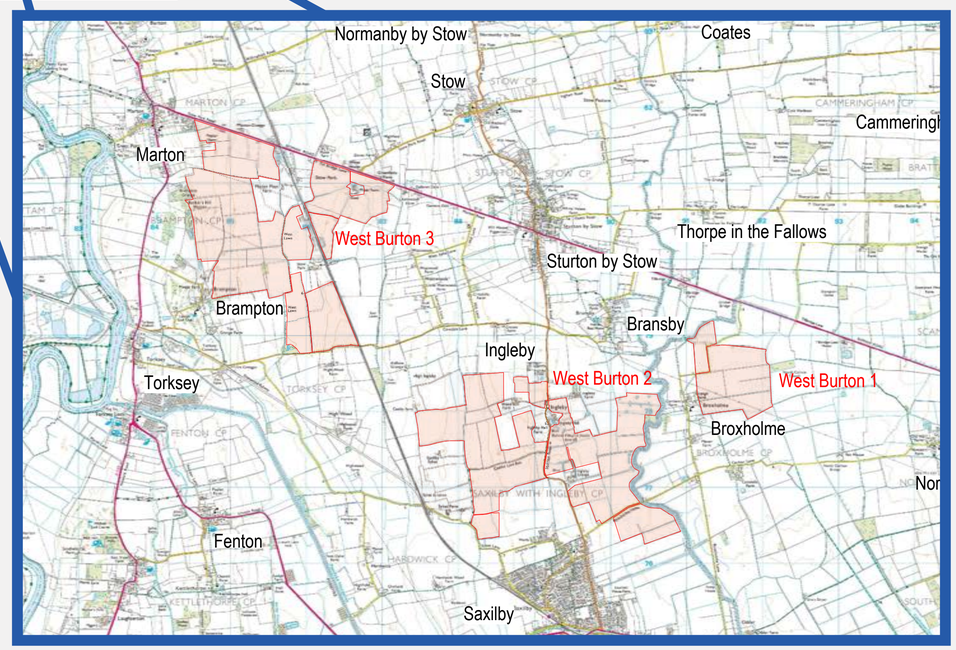
We have revised and updated our latest estimated hectare figures for West Burton 2 since publishing our phase one consultation leaflet on 03 November, as we continue to survey the land parcels. The field boundaries for the proposed site areas have not changed.





West Burton 4 (around 248 hectares)

West Burton 1 (around 90 hectares), West Burton 2 (around 300 hectares) and West Burton 3 (around 371 hectares)



Cable routes

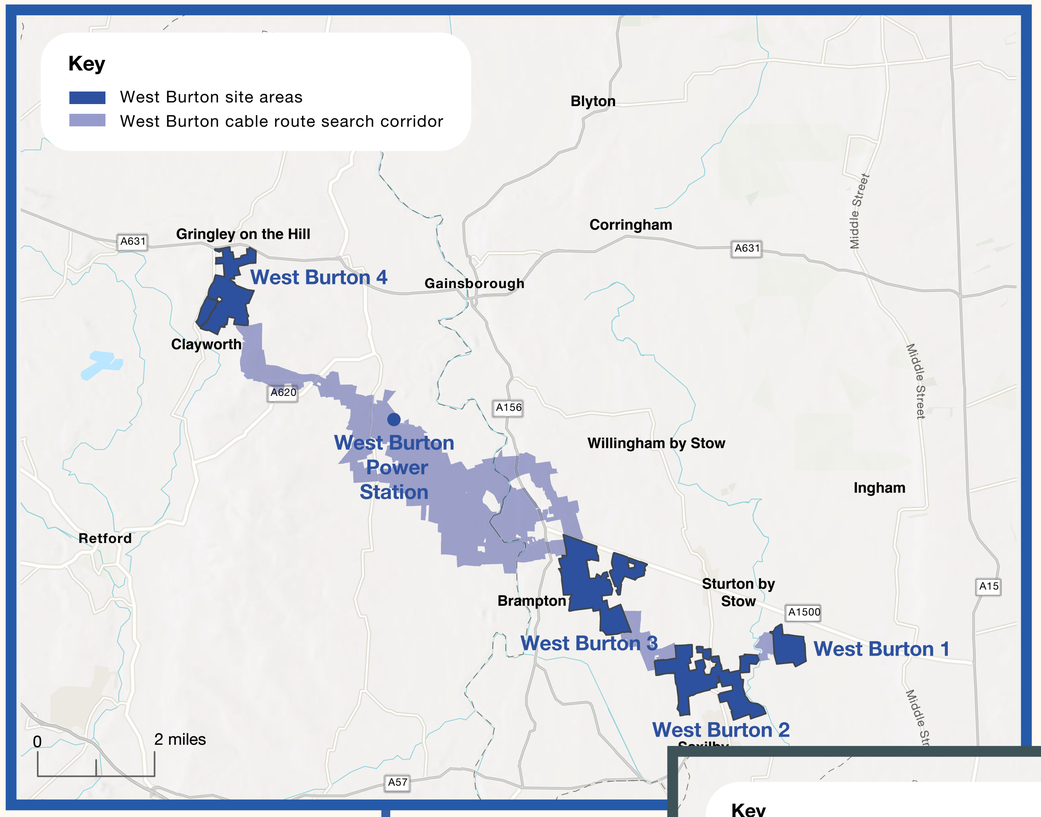
At this stage the exact route of the underground cables connecting the site areas to their National Grid connection points is yet to be decided. We are currently working with relevant landowners as we refine our cable route search corridors. These are the areas within which we will identify the exact routes the cables would eventually take. The final easement – the area the cable routes would be dug in – would be no wider than 15 meters. For the majority of each route, only one cable trench will be required.

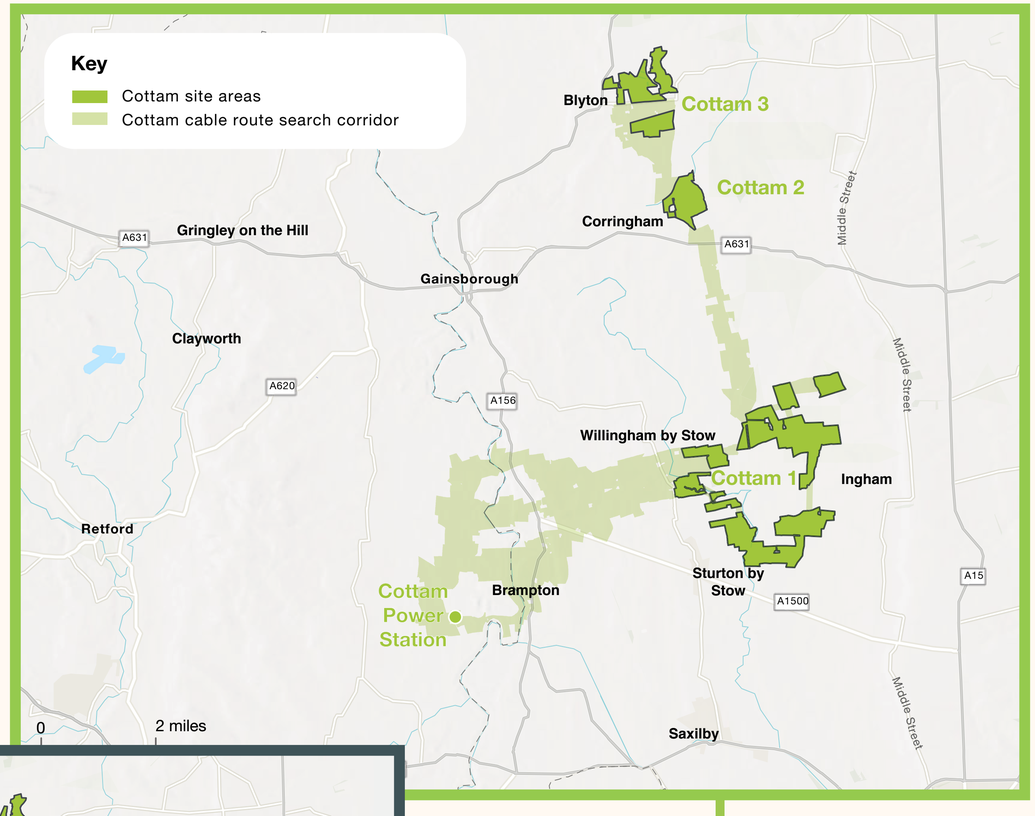
To allow flexibility we have applied a 100m wide buffer on either side of the search corridor, with broader areas nearer to each grid connection point. Each land parcel which falls partly within the corridor has been included at this stage as we refine our precise route. There is an area of overlap between both the Cottam and West Burton cable route search corridors and between the Cottam search corridor and the West Burton 3 site area.

The separate Gate Burton Project currently being proposed by Low Carbon has also identified potential cable routes that overlap with Cottam Solar Project and West Burton Solar Project. We are committed to working closely with Low Carbon to combine our cable routes where we can, to ensure as little disruption to the local community as possible.

To minimise impacts on the local community and environment, the cable routes for Cottam Solar Project and West Burton Solar Project will avoid:

- Residential and business properties
- Woodland Trust sites
- Local heritage features, such as historic battlefields
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)
- Registered and National Parks
- RSPB Reserves


Key
West Burton site areas
West Burton cable route search corridor
Blyton
Gringley on the Hill
Corringham
Gainsborough
Middle Street
A631
West Burton 4
Clayworth
A620
A156
West Burton Power Station
Willingham by Stow
Ingham
Retford
Brampton
Sturton by Stow
A1500
A15
West Burton 3
West Burton 1
West Burton 2
Saxilby
0
2 miles
A57


Key
Cottam site areas
Cottam cable route search corridor
Blyton
Cottam 3
Cottam 2
Corringham
Gringley on the Hill
A631
Middle Street
Gainsborough
Clayworth
A620
A156
Willingham by Stow
Cottam 1
Ingham
Retford
Cottam Power Station
Brampton
Sturton by Stow
A1500
A15
Saxilby
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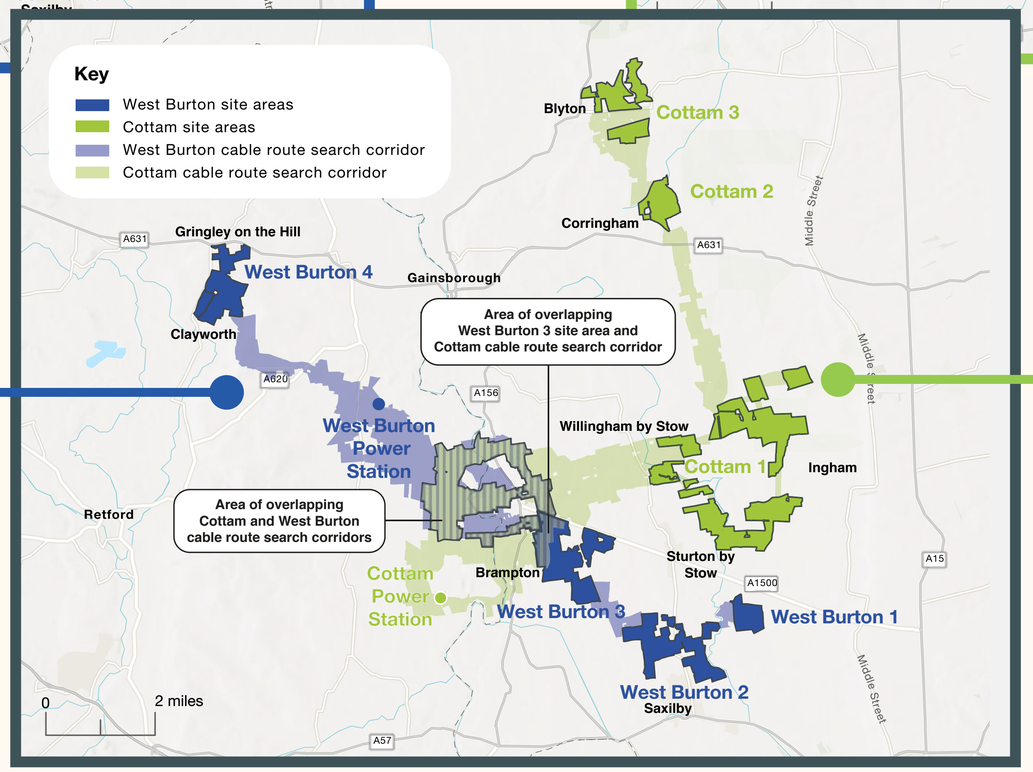
2 miles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Middle Street
West Burton 4
Gainsborough
Clayworth
A620
Area of overlapping
West Burton 3 site area and
Cottam cable route search corridor
A156
West Burton Power Station
Willingham by Stow
Cottam 1
Ingham
Retford
Area of overlapping
Cottam and West Burton
cable route search corridors
Cottam Power Station
Brampton
Sturton by Stow
A1500
A15
West Burton 3
West Burton 1
West Burton 2
Saxilby
0
2 miles
A57

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

As part of our phase one consultation, we want to hear what environmental issues relating to the proposals are most important to you. This could include:

- Traffic, access and construction
- Air Quality
- Noise and light pollution
- Water and flood risk
- Local heritage
- Landscape and views
- Local ecology and biodiversity
- Energy needs and climate change
- Land quality and use

We will carefully consider all feedback received, alongside our ongoing technical assessments, to help us develop the proposals further. We are also undertaking a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for each solar project. EIA is a detailed process where the likely environmental effects of the proposed development are studied, surveys are carried out and mitigation measures to reduce or remove environmental impacts are identified.

We will publish the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) for each project as part of our phase two consultation next year, and seek community feedback on the environmental information presented and mitigation measures proposed.

Community benefits

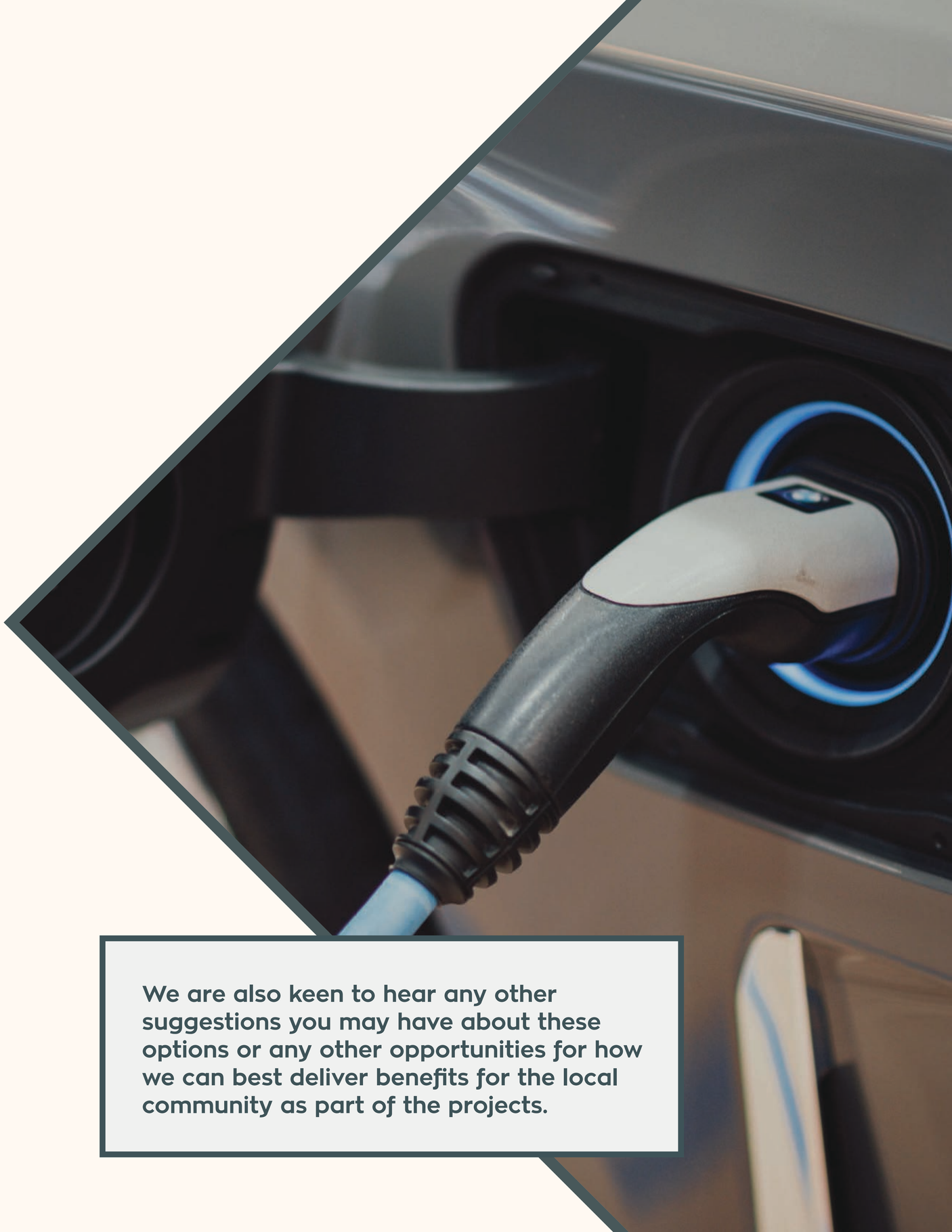
As part of our phase one consultation, we want to hear your views and comments about any potential local needs or initiatives that we could facilitate or deliver directly. This could include:

Providing a community fund to support local groups and projects

Including recreational access improvements such as new or upgraded footpaths and bridleways in our design, for the local community to access the countryside

Aligning our landscaping with other local proposals to deliver public value and promote collaborative opportunities such as rewilding and a net gain in biodiversity

Providing other free-to-use community infrastructure as part of the proposals, such as solar powered electric vehicle charging points



We are also keen to hear any other suggestions you may have about these options or any other opportunities for how we can best deliver benefits for the local community as part of the projects.

Timeline for the projects

To gain permission to build both projects, we will be submitting two Development Consent Order (DCO) applications, one for each project, to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS).

For each application to be accepted, we must satisfy PINS that our consultation for the projects has been undertaken properly. Our DCO applications for Cottam Solar Project and West Burton Solar Project are planned to be submitted to PINS in Q4 2022. The applications will be determined by the Secretary of State for the Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

It is anticipated that construction would start on site from 2024.

Now
First phase of community consultation to introduce ourselves and receive feedback on our early stage proposals to help identify and understand any local impacts

2022 Q1
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Request submitted to the Planning Inspectorate

2022 Q2
Publication of our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) and ongoing development of our EIA

2022 Q3
Second phase of consultation with community and technical stakeholders, including sharing the findings of our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

2022 Q4
Submission of DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate for public examination

2023
DCO examination and decision

2024
Anticipated start of construction

All dates are indicative and remain subject change

What happens next?

We really value your feedback. This will help us develop our proposals to deliver clean energy in a way that respects the neighbouring communities and local environment.

This event is an opportunity for you to meet members of the project team and discuss any questions you may have with them, but please don't forget to also fill out one of the feedback forms provided to submit your consultation response. Alternatively, you can take one away and return it to us via FREEPOST: CAWB Solar Projects, or answer the same questions online through our digital engagement platform:

The deadline for providing feedback is **Wednesday 15 December 2021.** We will carefully consider all feedback received, alongside our ongoing technical assessments, to help us develop the proposals further before presenting more refined proposals alongside detailed environmental information as part of our phase two consultation next year.