

Trowbridge Solar Farm – Information Leaflet

Introduction

Trowbridge Energy Limited (a Greenvolt owned company) is preparing to submit a planning application to Wiltshire Council for the development of a solar photovoltaic (PV) farm and associated infrastructure on Land at Oxstall Farm and Trowle Farm, Wingfield, Trowbridge, BA14 9LE.

The proposed development would generate renewable electricity from solar energy, helping to support the UK's transition to cleaner energy and contributing towards national and local climate targets.

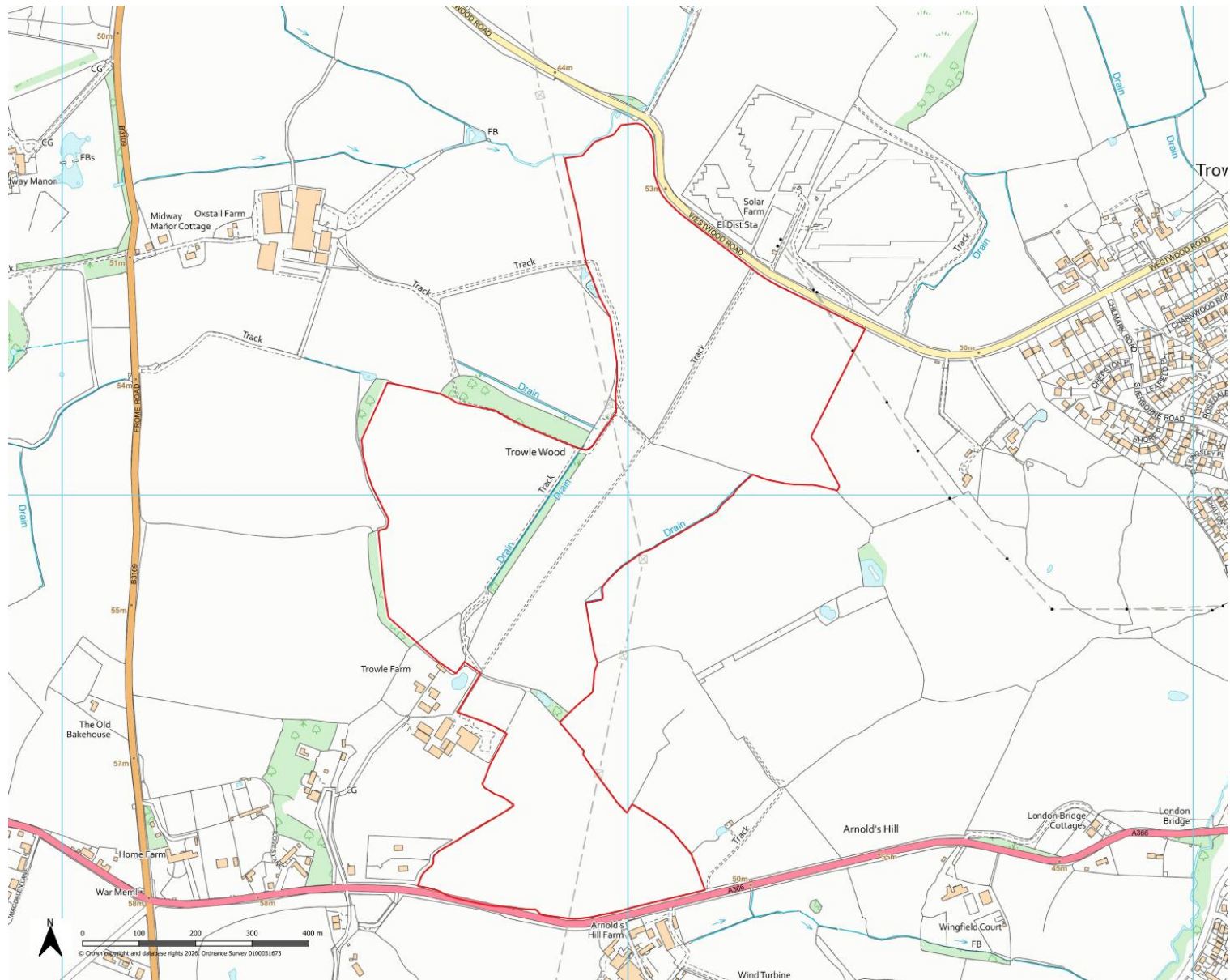
The project would include:

- Ground-mounted solar photovoltaic panels
- Inverters and electrical equipment
- On-site substation and associated infrastructure
- Landscaping and planting to help integrate the development into the surrounding landscape
- Security fencing, internal access tracks and maintenance access

Solar farms are a temporary form of development and typically operate for around 40 years, after which the equipment would be removed and the land restored.

Where Is It?

The proposed solar farm is located on land on Land at Oxstall Farm and Trowle Farm, Wingfield, Trowbridge and covers approximately 50 hectares. A location plan has been enclosed overleaf, with the extent of the development boundary outlined in red.



Have Your Say

Your feedback is important and will help inform the final planning application that we intend to submit in Summer 2026.

If you are unable to attend the event but would still like to provide comments or ask questions, please contact us using the details below:

Email: trowbridgesolar@power.greenvolt.com

Website: <https://power.greenvolt.com/uk-trowbridgesolar/>

We understand you may have further questions about the proposed solar farm, so we have included a set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) overleaf to provide further information to help inform your understanding about our proposals.

What Happens Next?

Following the consultation, the planning application will be submitted to Wiltshire Council, who will carry out a formal consultation process before making a decision. At that stage, local residents will also be able to submit comments directly to the Council.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who is Greenvolt Power?

Greenvolt Power is a renewable energy developer operating across 19 countries. We focus on developing utility-scale renewable energy projects, including wind, solar photovoltaic (PV), battery energy storage and biomass.

We are currently developing a portfolio of greenfield renewable energy sites across the UK and have also acquired a number of ready-to-build projects from other developers. We currently have several projects in construction across the UK.

2. Why has this site been chosen?

Identifying suitable locations for solar development involves a detailed assessment of environmental and technical factors.

Using Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping, a range of environmental and physical constraints are analysed and overlaid. These can include factors such as steep land gradients, designated environmental areas, heritage assets, flood risk and proximity to residential properties. Areas where development would not be feasible or appropriate are removed from consideration.

Smaller land parcels that would not be capable of accommodating a viable solar development are also excluded. The remaining potentially suitable areas are then reviewed using land ownership information from the Land Registry.

Landowners may then be contacted individually, or alongside neighbouring landowners, to understand whether there is interest in exploring the opportunity for solar development on their land.

3. Are environmental surveys required?

Yes. We have appointed a specialist team of environmental consultants to undertake a full suite of environmental surveys and technical assessments.

These include assessments covering matters such as ecology, landscape and visual impact, heritage, hydrology, transport and noise.

The findings of these studies will inform the design of the proposal and any necessary mitigation measures. Copies of all environmental reports will be available to view on the Council's planning portal once the planning application has been submitted.

4. Will the solar farm have any environmental impacts?

A range of environmental assessments are currently being undertaken to assess any potential impacts of the development and to identify appropriate mitigation measures where required.

These may include measures such as landscape planting, ecological buffer zones and habitat creation.

Not all impacts are negative. Solar farms can provide opportunities to enhance biodiversity through measures such as wildflower grassland, new hedgerow planting and habitat creation. The proposed development will aim to deliver a minimum of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain, in line with national planning policy.

5. Will the solar panels cause glare or reflection?

Solar panels are specifically designed to absorb sunlight rather than reflect it, as this allows them to generate electricity more efficiently. As a result, they typically produce less glare than many common building materials, such as glass or water.

A glint and glare assessment will be undertaken as part of the planning application to ensure that any potential effects on nearby properties, roads or aircraft are appropriately assessed and mitigated if necessary.

6. How tall will the solar panels be?

The solar panels will be mounted on metal frames fixed into the ground using piles. At their highest point, the panels are typically around 2.5–3.5 metres in height.

The layout of the panels will allow space between rows to prevent overshadowing and to enable vegetation to grow beneath and around them.

New landscape planting, such as native hedgerows and trees, may also be proposed to help integrate the development into the surrounding landscape.

7. What traffic will be generated during construction?

There will be a temporary increase in traffic during the construction period, which is expected to last approximately 6 months.

Most vehicle movements will be associated with the delivery of equipment and construction materials. A Construction Traffic Management Plan will be prepared and submitted as part of the planning application to ensure that construction traffic is appropriately managed and any impacts on the local road network are minimised.

Once operational, solar farms typically generate very little traffic, with only occasional maintenance visits required.

8. What are the benefits of a solar farm?

The proposed solar farm would generate enough renewable electricity to power over 13,750 homes each year.

This will help support the UK's transition to cleaner energy and contribute towards local and national climate targets, while improving energy security through the provision of locally generated renewable electricity.

Solar farms are also a temporary form of development, typically operating for around 40 years. During this time the land can continue to be used for activities such as sheep grazing, and soils can recover from intensive agricultural use. At the end of the operational period, the equipment will be removed and the land restored.

The project will also include landscape and ecological enhancements which may include wildflower planting, wild bird seed grassland and strengthening existing hedgerows. These measures will help to improve biodiversity across the site.

The project can also support farm diversification, providing a stable, long-term income stream for local farmers and landowners. This can help support the financial resilience of rural businesses, particularly in the context of changing agricultural support schemes.

The solar farm will also not require Government subsidy.

9. Are solar farms a threat to food security?

The UK Food Security Report (2021) found that the biggest medium to long-term risks to the UK's domestic food production come from climate change and environmental pressures such as soil degradation, water quality and biodiversity loss.

Solar farms currently account for approximately 0.08% of total UK land use (Solar Energy UK, 2022). Even with a significant increase in solar capacity, this is expected to rise to around 0.3% of UK land area (Carbon Brief, 2022).

This is roughly equivalent to around half the land area currently used for golf courses.

In many cases, land within solar farms can also continue to support agricultural uses such as sheep grazing.

10. Will the land still be used for agriculture?

Solar farms are often compatible with agricultural activities. In many cases, land within solar farms continues to be used for sheep grazing, allowing the land to remain in agricultural use throughout the operational period.

The change in land management can also allow soils to recover from intensive cultivation, which may improve soil health over time.

11. What happens at the end of the solar farm's lifetime?

Solar farms are a temporary form of development, typically operating for around 40 years.

At the end of the operational period, all equipment - including the solar panels, mounting structures, fencing and electrical infrastructure - would be removed from the site and the land restored.

Planning permissions for solar farms typically include a condition requiring the site to be fully decommissioned and restored to its previous use.

12. When are you submitting the planning application?

We are currently aiming to submit a full planning application in Summer 2026.

13. Can I comment on the application?

Yes. Once the planning application has been submitted and validated, you will be able to view all supporting documents and plans and submit comments by visiting the Council's planning portal:

<https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/>

The local planning authority will then consider all representations before making a decision on the application.

14. Why have I received an information leaflet when my neighbour has not?

We have written to properties within the local area to inform residents about the proposed development and invite feedback.

The consultation area has been identified using mapping and technical assessments which consider factors such as distance from the site and potential visibility of the development. These assessments help ensure that residents who may be most affected by the proposals are informed about the project.

As a result, some nearby properties may receive a leaflet while others may not. However, the consultation event is open to everyone, and anyone interested in the proposals is welcome to attend or provide feedback.

15. How do I find out more about the proposals?

There are several ways you can find out more about the proposals:

Following the Public Consultation Event on Wednesday 19th August between 3-6pm, at Southwick Village Hall. You can contact us via the following:

Visit our dedicated project website at <https://power.greenvolt.com/uk-trowbridgesolar/>, which includes a feedback form

Email the project team at trowbridgesolar@power.greenvolt.com

Write to us at **Trowbridge Energy Limited, Suite 2, Walnut Tree Business Centre, Northwich Road, Lower Stretton, Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 4PG**