

# **This newsletter introduces our early plans for South Brooks Solar Farm ('South Brooks'), a proposed new solar farm with battery storage that would connect into the National Grid at Dungeness Substation.**

The proposals are backed by EDF power solutions UK and PS Renewables - two experienced developers, builders and operators of solar farms in the UK. Our companies have worked together for over five years to develop ground-mounted solar farms, including Longfield Solar Farm which received government consent in 2023.

We're currently at a very early stage in the process of developing the South Brooks project. To help us shape our plans, we will be holding an initial public consultation between 18 September and 30 October 2025, and we want to hear from you.

More information about the South Brooks project and how you can take part in the upcoming public consultation is provided overleaf.





# Why do we need South Brooks?

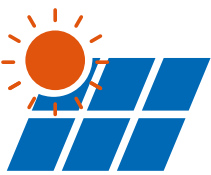
Last year, the UK switched off its last coal-fired power station, ending 140 years of using coal to help power our economy. While we work to replace the power once generated by fossil fuels like coal, demand for electricity is also increasing and is set to double by 2050.

To secure our domestic supply of electricity, respond to increasing demand and meet our climate change commitments, over the next decade we need to replace older forms of energy production with homegrown sources of clean, renewable energy.

Solar is an important part of the way we can meet this challenge – it is reliable and can be built quickly compared to other technologies.

With the potential to generate up to 500 megawatts (MW) of clean, secure energy, South Brooks could play a significant part in reaching the UK’s target of 60 gigawatts (GW) of solar power by 2030.

## Key information



**3x**  
solar power needed  
by 2030 in the UK  
compared to today

**500MW**  
grid connection



South Brooks  
could power

**140,000**  
homes each year



## Did you know?

The UK is a good location for solar power. Technology has advanced rapidly in recent years, so that panels can absorb energy even on cloudy days, and rainy weather helps keep the panels clean.

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# Where would South Brooks be located?

This plan shows the initial area (1094 ha) that we are considering for South Brooks. We do not expect to use all of this for generating and storing energy – we also want to use parts of the land to deliver ecological, landscape and recreational enhancements.

Feedback from the initial consultation, along with the results of environmental surveys and technical work, will help refine the layout for South Brooks so that it is sensitive to surrounding communities and responds to the distinct character of the local area.

We have already sought to respond to the surrounding environment, informed by project design principles we'll share as part of our consultation. Our early design provides a buffer of at least 100m from proposed solar to all residential properties and villages, and respects important heritage and environmental designations – such as the Dungeness, Romney Marsh and Rye Bay SSSI.

# Why here?

The National Grid connects power sources to power users across the country, through a network of substations, cables, and pylons that run across the UK. New sources of power are able to connect into this network at places where there is capacity, through existing substations like the one at Dungeness.

We have secured a grid connection to use some of this capacity at Dungeness Substation. Once this was secured, available land was identified nearby that in principle could be appropriate for solar – being suitably sunny, flat and near to the point of connection. This is the area we are presenting for your initial feedback.



We know there is more work to do to refine the areas identified as suitable for development. Having a larger site at this stage means there is more flexibility to choose the most appropriate locations for each part of the project.







# Protecting nature

In general, solar farms are good habitats, where local wildlife can flourish.

We understand that this is a unique area with special environmental designations. We believe that these are compatible with our proposals and are committed to designing South Brooks in a way which respects and, where possible, enhances this rich surrounding environment.

As well as protecting existing habitats, we also want to boost biodiversity across the site. This could include expanded ditch-side habitats, new grasslands, field margins, and beetle banks to create new habitats for native species. We will work with experts such as local wildlife groups, the RSPB and Natural England to develop our plans.

After construction, solar farms are relatively low maintenance and can be operated without damage to the land beneath them. This means that once the panels are removed, the land can be returned to agricultural production. They also do not need to use chemical fertilisers or pesticides, and the panels are typically cleaned with non-ionised water. This allows a diverse ecosystem to thrive under and around the panels.



## Did you know?

The biggest threat to agricultural food production and biodiversity is climate change. EDF power solutions UK is currently supporting researchers to look at how all our solar farms can be managed to improve soil health and wildlife habitats.

# Project timeline

Because South Brooks could produce more than 50 MW of energy, it is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. This means that we must apply for a type of planning consent called a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build, operate and decommission the project. This is decided by the Government.

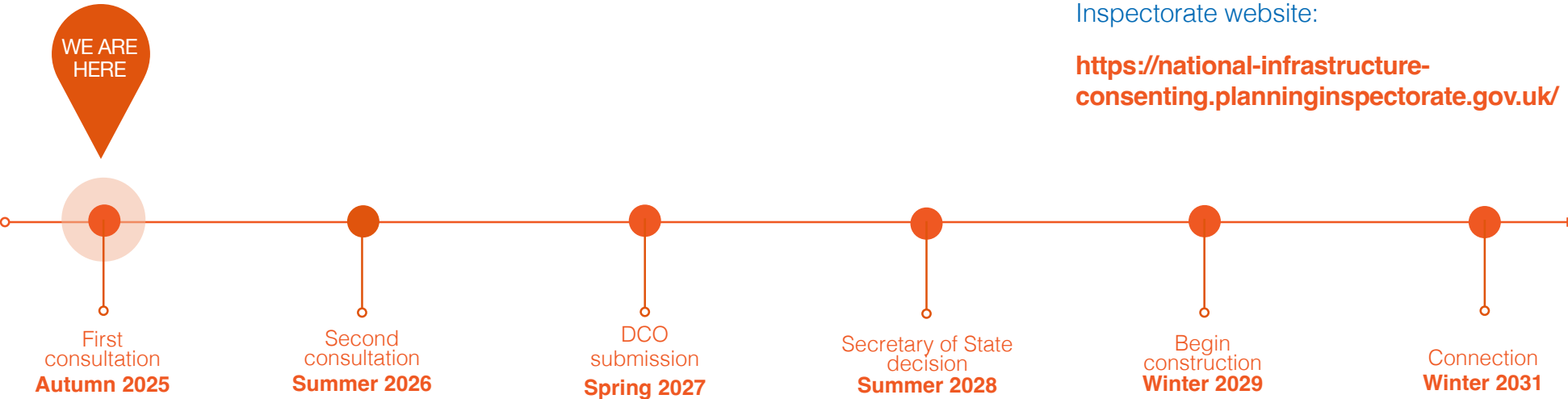
Consultation is an important part of the DCO process. We will consult the community and technical experts (like Natural England and the Environment Agency) early and often to ensure local feedback is built into the project design. We will hold two stages of consultation and conduct a full range of environmental assessments before we submit our DCO application.

During the first consultation, we are presenting our initial proposals, including areas that could be appropriate for generating and storing energy. Feedback will inform an updated design that we will present during the second consultation.

At each stage of consultation, we will be able to present more detailed information as the project develops. This ensures that consultees have the opportunity to provide feedback throughout the project's development.

You can find more information about the planning process on the Planning Inspectorate website:

<https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>





# Public consultation

Consultation on our early plans and proposals will take place between Thursday 18 September and Thursday 30 October 2025. There are a number of different ways you can get involved and share your views.

Our consultation website **[southbrookssolarfarm.co.uk](https://southbrookssolarfarm.co.uk)** is now live and will be updated with all the consultation materials and ways you can share your feedback from 18 September 2025. You can also come to an in-person public event to meet the team, ask questions and share your views.

## The dates and locations of these sessions are:

### **Thursday 25 September 2025 (4:30pm - 8:30pm)**

Maude Community Centre,  
Station Road,  
New Romney  
TN28 8LQ

### **Friday 26 September 2025 (12pm – 4pm)**

XIX @ The Warren Golf Club  
St Andrew's Road  
Littlestone  
TN28 8RB

### **Saturday 27 September 2025 (12pm – 4pm)**

Lydd Community Hall,  
Manor Rd, Lydd,  
TN29 9HU

### **Friday 10 October 2025 (2pm – 6pm)**

Camber Memorial Hall  
Lydd Road  
Camber  
TN31 7RJ

### **Saturday 11 October 2025 (12pm – 4pm)**

Lydd Community Hall,  
Manor Rd, Lydd,  
TN29 9HU

## Get in touch

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