



Glint and glare

Modern solar panels are designed to capture as much sunlight as possible therefore light reflection is minimised. Nevertheless we have undertaken a Glint and Glare Assessment, which has reviewed the potential for glint and glare on the surrounding area, including potential effects on surrounding roads and local airfields.

Potential effects have been identified along a short section of Church Street (northwest of Coton-in-the-Elms) and some dwellings, however mitigation in the form of screen planting will be used to minimise impacts.

Historic environment

An assessment of the potential impacts on the archaeological and cultural historic assets in proximity to the site (such local churches or listed buildings) has been undertaken. There are no designated heritage assets within the site however the desk top survey has identified evidence of medieval agricultural activities and post medieval marl (clay) pits. Prior to construction starting a program of mitigation will be agreed with South Derbyshire District Council. This is likely to comprise a staged program of works and monitoring during construction.

Air quality

Oaklands Farm Solar Park will have no air emissions during the operational phase. Possible impacts to local air quality only have the potential to occur during the short periods of construction and decommissioning through vehicular movement, plant emissions and creation of dust, however even these will be relatively low. A detailed Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will be implemented during the construction period and will outline measures to control dust creation and emissions.

Assessment of cumulative impacts

We are aware that there are other proposed and existing energy generating schemes as well as other large residential construction projects in the local area. Each of the individual assessments within the PEIR includes a cumulative assessment which looks at the impacts of the proposal with other developments in the area including traffic, noise and landscape and visual impacts.

Connecting to the Grid

We are proposing to connect to the National Grid substation at the former Drakelow Power Station. This will require either underground or overhead cables (or a combination of the two) to link the project substation on the Oaklands site to the connection point at Drakelow.

The exact route of this connection is still to be determined, but we are assessing suitable routes that lie within the red-line boundary shown on the plan on board 2. The final route and design of the connection will be included within the application being made later this year.