

Introduction

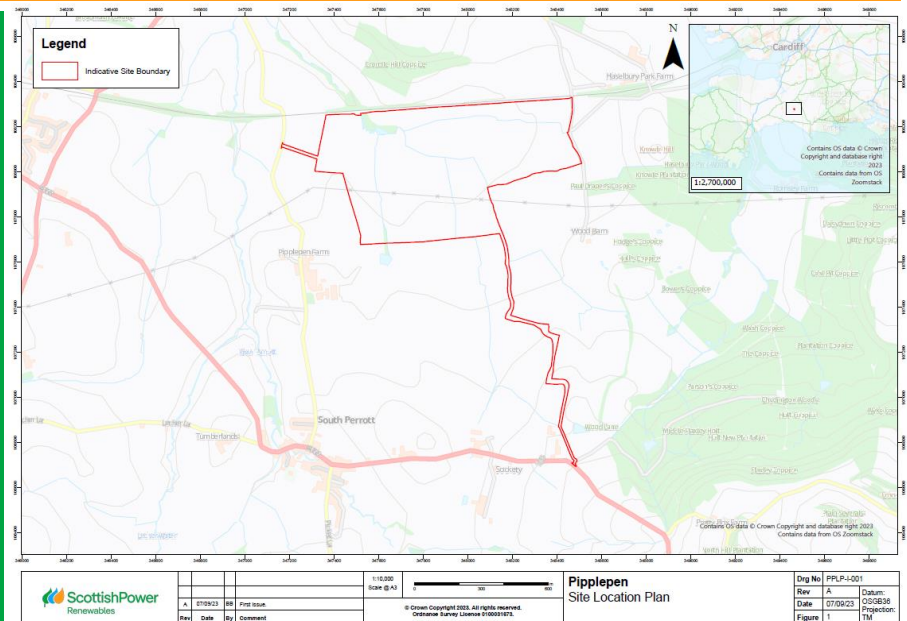
ScottishPower Renewables (SPR) welcomes the opportunity to reach out and provide you with an update on the development of Pipplepen Solar Farm. This newsletter provides an update on recent progress of the development, which we acquired from Elgin Energy in June 2023.

Who Are We?

We (SPR) operate as part of the ScottishPower Group in the UK, a company of the Iberdrola Group - one of the world's largest integrated utility companies and a world leader in renewable energy. ScottishPower produces 100% green electricity – focusing on wind energy, solar energy, and smart grids.

ScottishPower invests over £8m every working day to make this happen and we are committed to speeding up the transition to cleaner electric transport, improving air quality and over time, driving down bills - to deliver a better future for everyone.

We acquired Pipplepen Solar Scheme from Elgin Energy in June 2023. Since then, our project team have been focused on reviewing the development and are preparing to submit information to planning to agree outstanding pre-commencement conditions on the consent.



Above: Pipplepen Site Location Plan (ScottishPower Renewables)



Left:
Somerset
Council
planning
application



Right:
Dorset
Council
planning
application

The Development, Progress to Date, and Next Steps

Pipplepen Solar Farm will be located to the east of Pipplepen Farm, DT8 3HS. The development lies across two local planning authorities – the main site and operational access lies within Somerset Council and the construction access is in Dorset Council. Consent was granted by Somerset Council on 24th January 2023 under reference 21/00701/FUL and by Dorset Council on 11th April 2023 under reference P/FUL/2021/00627. Please scan above QR codes for more details.

The Development will export up to 32 Megawatts (MW) of renewable energy, enough to power the equivalent of 10,000 UK homes. Over the project's lifetime, it will offset more than 500,000 tonnes of carbon.

Since acquiring the development this summer, we have made positive strides in progressing the project.

To date, we have:

- Begun the process of discharging pre-commencement planning conditions, required to implement planning consent and construct the development, the first of which was submission of a deconstruction and restoration plan in July 2023. This application can be viewed on Somerset Council's planning portal under reference 23/01878/DOC1;
- Held initial discussions with the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) to progress the Grid connection programme;
- Visited the Site to complete a site walkover, and meet with the Landowner;
- Attended in-person Parish Council meetings with North Perrott and South Perrott Parish Council; and
- Begun work with an external biodiversity resource to ensure we are meeting our biodiversity commitments and maximising landscape and ecology enhancements on the site.

Looking ahead, our focus over the next year will be to continue working on discharging pre-commencement planning conditions in preparation for construction to start in 2025.

Community Benefits

We are committed to honouring the community benefit fund (CBF) that was previously agreed between Elgin Energy and the Parish Councils: North Perrott and South Perrott. The community benefit amount will be paid on energisation of the scheme when it is exporting renewable energy and connected to the National Grid.

We have been working alongside communities across the UK and Ireland for over two decades and are committed to being a responsible developer of renewable energy and a good neighbour in the communities where we operate.

Proposed Timetable

The proposed timetable of construction for Pipplepen Solar Farm is outlined in the adjacent table.

Please note that whilst this is currently our intended project timeline, this may be subject to change and is influenced by a number of factors (such as Grid connection dates).

Task	Proposed Timetable
Discharge of Planning Conditions	Q1 2024 to Q1 2025
Construction Works Start	Q2 2025
Equipment Delivery	Q3/Q4 2025
Completion of Construction Works and Grid Connection	Q3 2026
Commercial Operation Date	Q3 2026

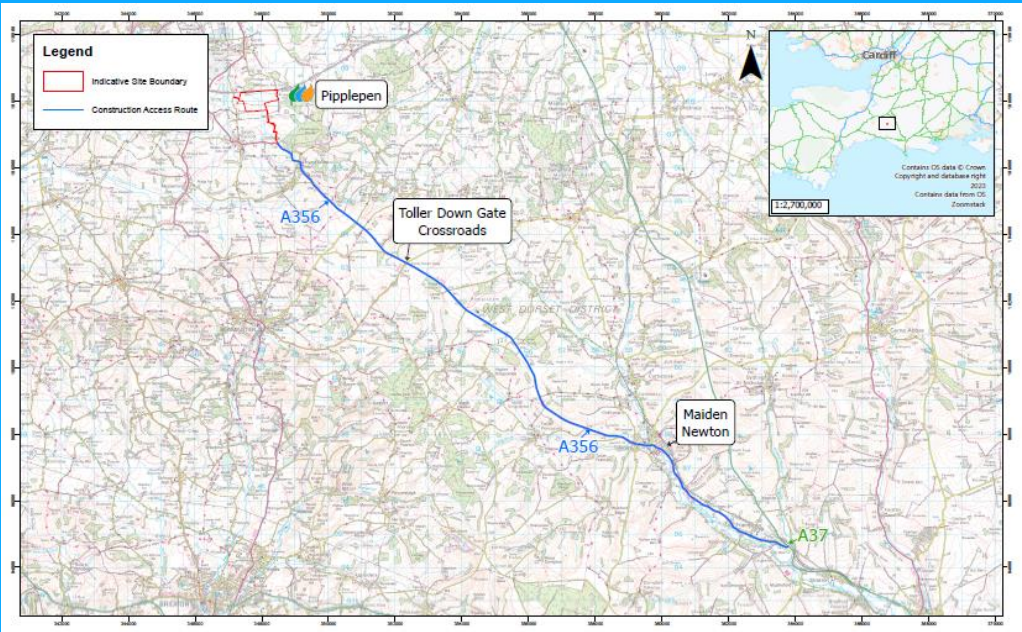
Construction Traffic Details

All work will be conducted between 08:00 and 18:00 hours Monday to Friday with limited construction activities on Saturdays between 08:00-13:00. No construction activities will take place on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

All construction vehicles will travel to the site via the A356 and will not travel through South Perrott. As seen in the map below, vehicles will travel south east of the site before joining the A37.

A Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) was submitted as part of the planning application by Elgin.

We will be supplementing this plan in the coming months with a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) which will provide further details on environment and traffic management during construction.



*Above: Pipplepen Construction Traffic Route Plan
(ScottishPower Renewables)*

Contact Us

Further information on the Development can be found on our project webpage using the adjacent QR code. From here, should you wish to explore our portfolio of projects, you can navigate to our home page using the SPR logo on the left-hand side of the screen.

We will post our next newsletter to provide an additional update on the project in Q2 2024 . If you would like to contact us with any queries, please do get in touch by email at the SPR Solar Mailbox SPRSolar@scottishpower.com.

