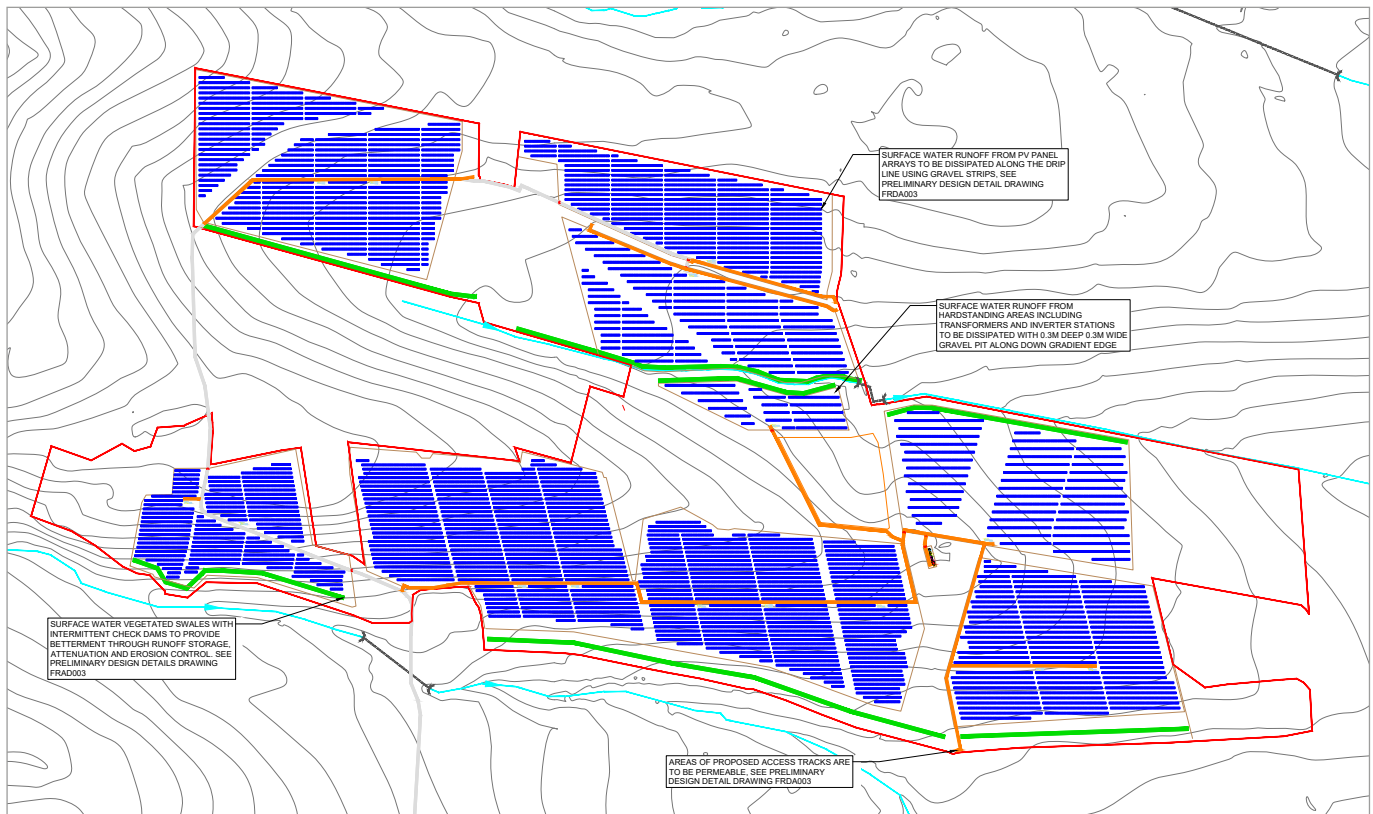


Solar 2 Response to Public Exhibition

Several recurring issues were highlighted via feedback and public engagement. Alongside the various technical assessments, this has helped significantly to reshape and evolve the design and layout of the proposed solar farm. The key issues raised during the consultation period are set out below, together with commentary about how these issues have been addressed in our final planning application:



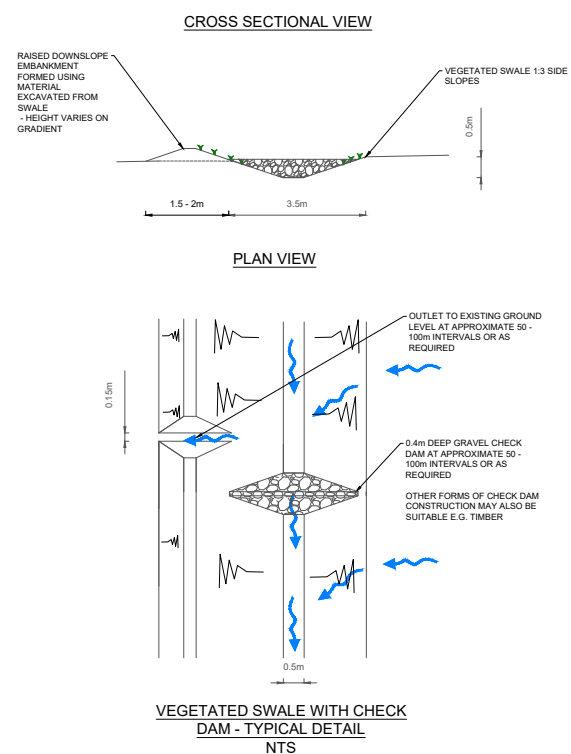
Flood Mitigation Plan

Flood Risk and Drainage Strategy

There are known, existing, flood problems in this area. Detailed hydrological impact assessments have been conducted and these indicate there is NO increased flood risk posed by the solar farm on the surrounding area.

Nevertheless, we have prepared a detailed drainage strategy, based on discussions with and information from individually affected residents alongside discussions with the James Hutton Institute.

Construction of the solar farm will provide a new opportunity to improve the current drainage facilities and waterways running through the farm. We are proposing to include several mitigation measures designed to reduce future flood risk around this site. These include 'magic margins' (planting of specific grasses and plants to improve water absorption through the soil) and measures to slow down run off and control water flow through managed areas.



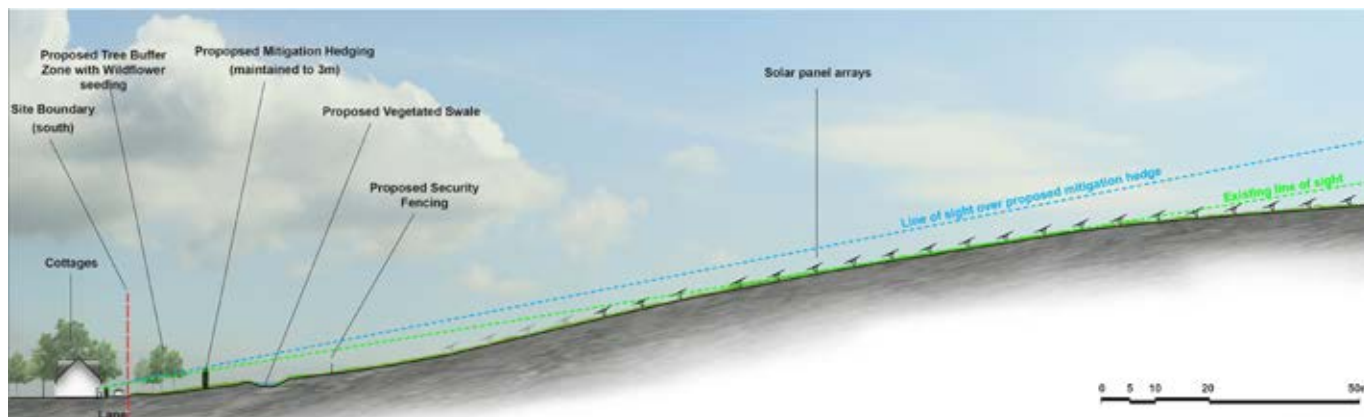
Proposed Swales

Visual Impact on Near Neighbours

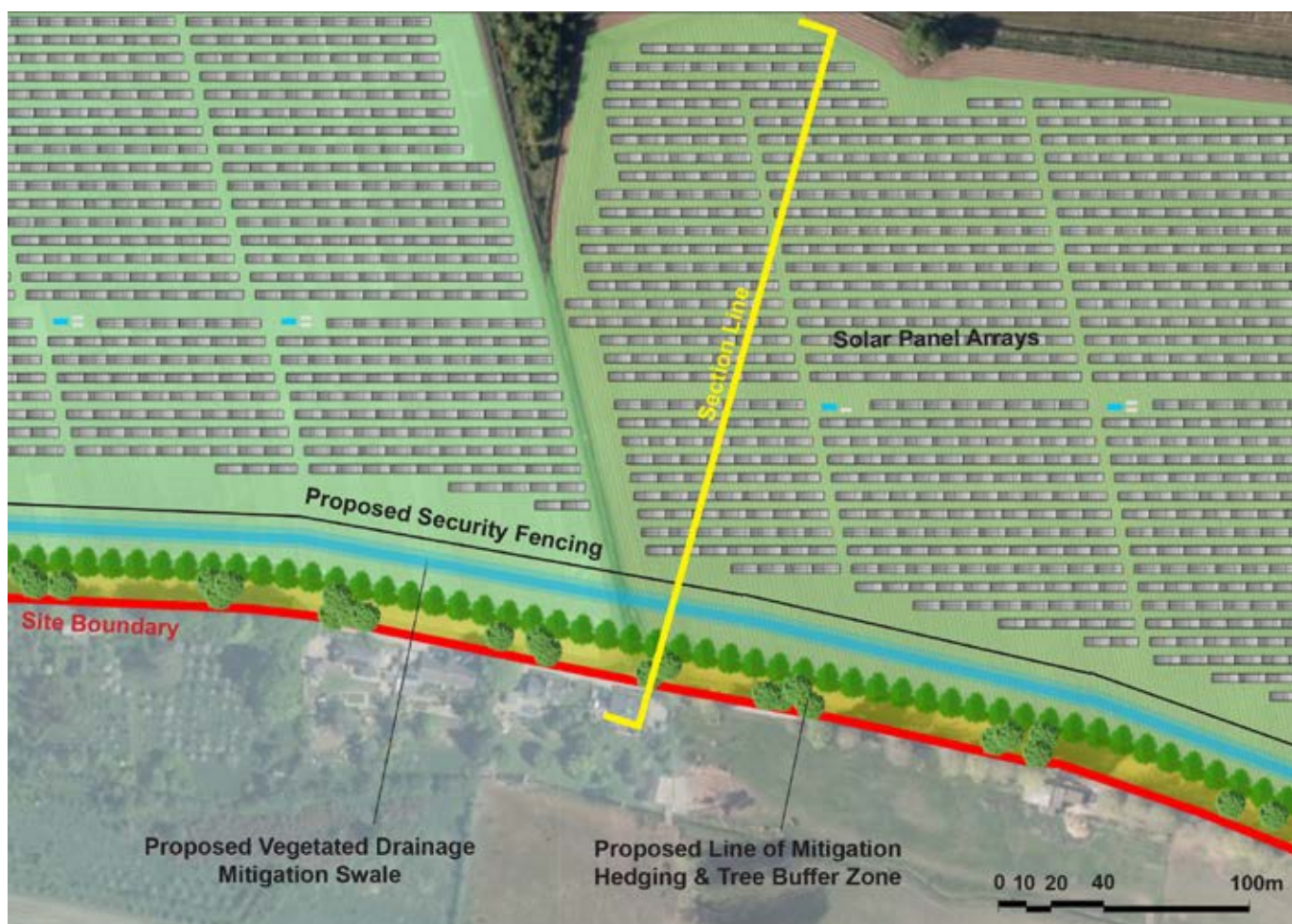
Photomontages, cross sectional drawings and planting schemes were prepared for properties along Binn Farm Road. A meeting was subsequently held to discuss the scale, scope and location of mitigation planting which will include a hedgerow, tree planting and area to be turned into a wildflower meadow that could be grazed.

This new verge, hedgerow and tree planting with wild meadow has been proposed to create a visual buffer between the residential properties and the development. Informal horse grazing in the wildflower meadow is proposed.

For a property north of the Site, a large number of panels were removed to create a wide visual splay



Magic Margin and Swale to Improve Water Run-Off



Planting Scheme for Cottages to South

free of panels looking out from the main aspect of that house. The land will also be put down to wildflower meadow and individual tree planting to break up the views of the remaining panels that are visible. In addition to this, a hedgerow will be planted either side along the access road to screen views of the site.

Elsewhere in the scheme, new tree planting and hedgerows will be planted to limit views from Fowlis village and other nearby properties. The map shows all the planting mitigation to be put in place to reduce views of the solar farm.



North Binn Plan View

Impact on Biodiversity and Wildlife

The current farming practice on this site - of intensive rotational cropping - results in the area having a low ecological value. Development of a solar farm allows the farming use to change. The whole site will be under planted with grass and/or wild meadows to allow sheep to graze. The 40-year solar farm lifecycle will allow the soil to rest and regenerate and allow the site to act as a better habitat for all types of species from insects, birds to small mammals.

The solar farm design sticks to the current field patterns ensuring current wildlife corridors remain in place and the new hedgerows that will be planted and together with the 'magic margins', will create new wildlife corridors and habitats.

The wildflower meadows will help increase pollinator numbers which in turn will attract more birds that feed on them resulting in a significantly biodiversity enhanced farm.



Grid Connection Route

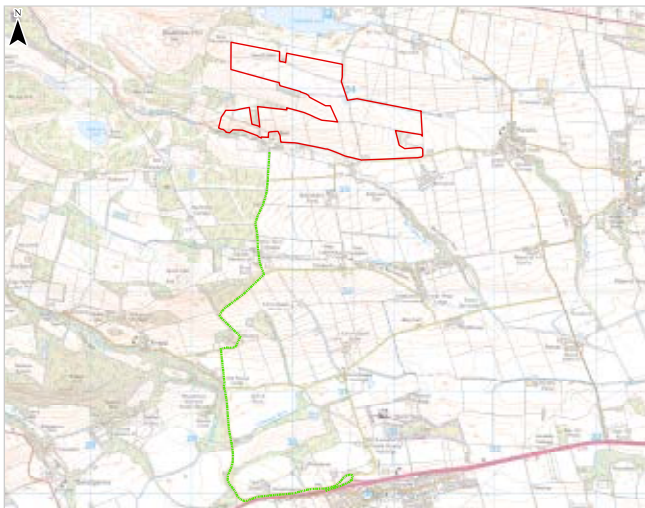
The grid connection route proposed by the grid operator – SSE – runs from the site to the Charleston substation on the Kingsway in Dundee. The final route will be subject to further studies to define a route that has least impact on local ecology, habitats and socio-economic impact. Cables will be buried in road verges and in field margins where possible.

Construction & Transport Route

Disruption/impact on Fowlis village and the local environment

Concerns were raised about the volume of traffic through Fowlis village during the construction programme. An existing route (as shown in the map below) used by lorries for farm deliveries will be used starting from the A90 Longforgan junction and along via Mill Hill and up to the site, and will therefore keep out of the village.

Routine maintenance of the solar farm requires only a 'white van' type or 4 x 4 vehicle and will be scheduled every month or so.



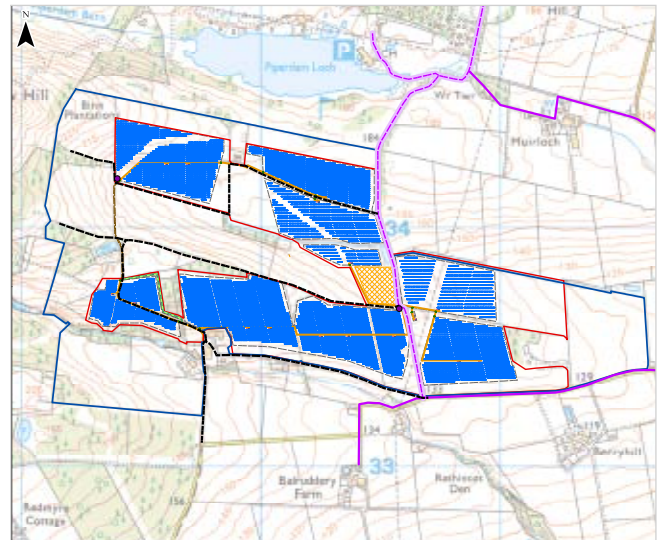
Construction and Transport Route

End of Life/Restoration of the Site

As part of the planning permission – if granted – a condition will be imposed on the project whereby, before the first spade is put in the ground, a decommissioning agreement will be put in place and held by Angus Council and the Landowner, to the value of having the site completely returned to its current state. The cost of decommissioning will be reassessed throughout the solar farm lifespan to ensure sufficient funds are available and is topped up as necessary.

Walking Access

Concerns were raised that local walking routes would be altered or closed. Walking routes across the site and through the farm including Check Bar Road/Angus core path 215/Sidlaw path network will remain open. During construction of the solar farm, for health & safety purposes, some detours may be required but these will be temporary. The landowner remains very happy to encourage people to walk through the farm and enjoy the countryside. Due to security requirements the panels do need to be fenced off, but hedgerow planting will hide the fences where possible.



Walking Access Routes

Get in touch

Website berryhillsolarfarm.co.uk

Email solar2@pagodapr.com

Write to FREEPOST PAGODA PR (no stamp or further address needed)