

Blackford Farms Limited

PROPOSED SOLAR FARM DEVELOPMENT



Purpose of the meeting

Voluntary consultation to share proposals in advance of planning application

Agenda

01

OVERVIEW OF THE
DEVELOPMENT

02

PLANNING
APPLICATION

03

DEVELOPMENT
AND DESIGN
CONSIDERATIONS

04

CONSTRUCTION
AND OPERATIONAL
PHASE

05

SUMMARY

06

QUESTIONS

Attendees



Applicant



Project Partner



Contractor



Planning Consultant

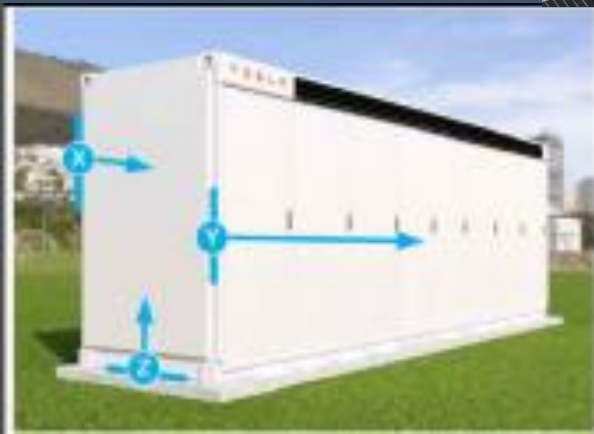
Overview of the Development



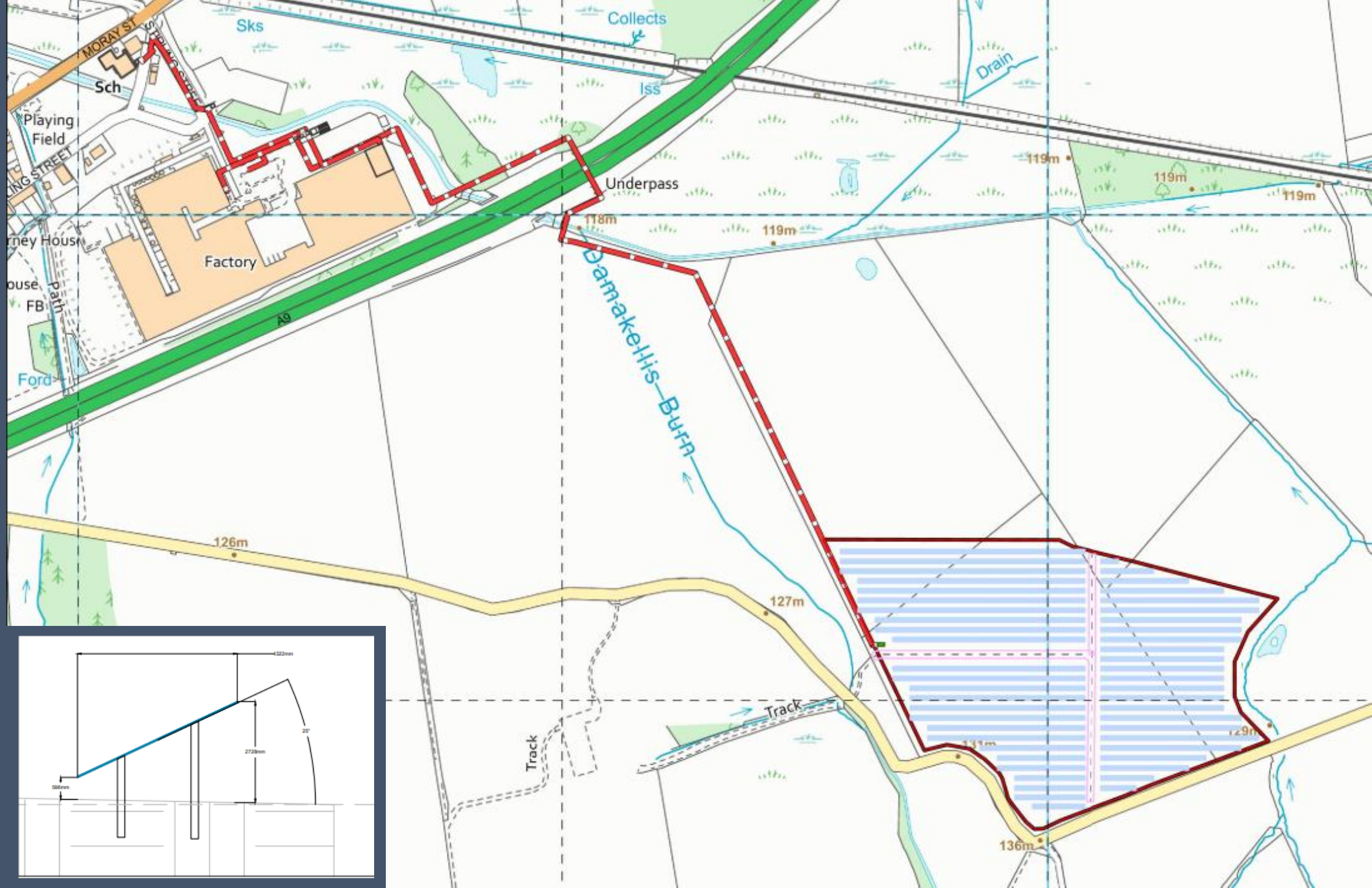
**2.5 MW Battery
Storage**

**Electric Vehicle
Charging**

7MW Solar PV Array



Location Plans



Transition to net zero emissions

CLIMATE CHANGE IS THE GREATEST THREAT WE FACE



THE UK'S
CONTRIBUTION
TO CLIMATE
CHANGE
WILL END
BY 2050



The Scottish Government has
proposed a legally binding
target of net-zero greenhouse
gas emissions by

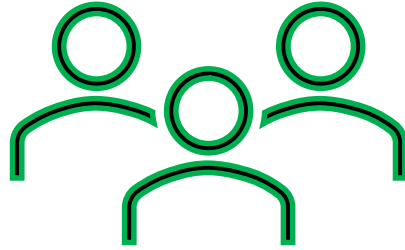
2045 at the latest



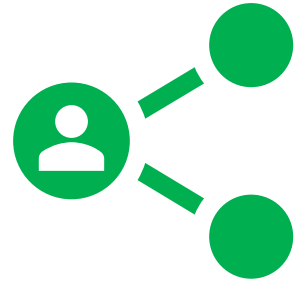
Key Benefits



**Significant Carbon
Reductions**



**Wider Community
Benefits**



**Demonstrator Site
for Scotland**

The development helps address the risks of climate change and supports national ambitions to transition to a low carbon economy

Planning Application

Planning Application

ANTICIPATE SUBMITTING IN APRIL

- Pre-application was submitted to Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) in **January 2021**
- As the proposed energy generation is below 20MW, the application is classed as a **local development**
- Planning application **submission pack** will include:
 - Planning statement
 - Location plan, site plan and elevations
 - Layout drawings, schematics and technical data sheets
 - Flood risk assessment
 - Ecology reports
 - Landscape and visual impact assessment
 - Archaeological desk-based assessment and cultural heritage and historical impact assessment
 - Landscape strategy
 - Glint and glare assessment
- Blackford Farms anticipates submitting the planning application during **April 2022**

Development and Design Considerations

Development and Design Considerations

FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT

Flood Risk Assessment

- SEPA consider Solar Farm developments as “**Essential Infrastructure**” as they are energy generating technologies and they can be located within a floodplain
- Research shows **solar panels do not significantly increase surface water runoff** as rainwater can drain freely onto the ground beneath at the same rate as it currently does
- Flood modelling results have informed the design and location of the solar PV panels and two small substations



Development and Design Considerations

ECOLOGY

Ecology

- A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal was undertaken to **establish the habitats present, or potentially present**, which may be affected by the proposed development
- Initial findings incorporated in design changes to **avoid potential adverse impacts upon species** wherever possible
- Blackford Farms has undertaken **early engagement** with PKC and NatureScot to share the proposals and mitigations being considered and this feedback has informed our design proposals
- **Recommendations** to avoid disturbance for species and habitats during construction will be adopted
- Further ecology surveys are being carried out and will be submitted as part of the planning application

Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)

- The development has been designed to **minimise potential effects** on other landscape features present on, or immediately adjacent to, the site
- LVIA undertaken to **consider the potential effects** of the proposed development on the landscape and visual amenity (views)
- PKC were consulted on the **scope and extents** of LVIA including the **viewpoint** locations below
 - Viewpoint 1: Core path BLFD/5/2 at Cauldhame Wood
 - Viewpoint 2: A9 near pedestrian crossing point at Blackford
 - Viewpoint 3: Blackford Cemetery
 - Viewpoint 4: A9 near Loaninghead Lodge
 - Viewpoint 5: Cairn at Kinpauch Hill
- A **glint and glare assessment** has been undertaken and will be available on the planning portal
- **Landscape mitigation strategy** has been prepared and will be implemented as part of the development



Viewpoint 1: Core path BLFD/5/2 at Cauldham Wood - Current v As built



Viewpoint 2: A9 near pedestrian crossing point at Blackford - Current v As Built



Viewpoint 3: Blackford Cemetery - Current v As Built



Viewpoint 5: Cairn at Kinpauch Hill - Current v As Built



Construction and Operational Phase

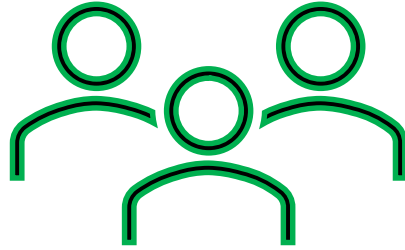
Construction and Operational Phase

- Core paths / public right of way networks **do not require to be altered** to accommodate the proposed development
- Construction is anticipated to take around **8 months**
- Intention is to have a **one-way traffic system** during construction (subject to weight restrictions on bridge)
- Once operational, anticipated traffic movements associated with the development will be **minimal** and likely to be quarterly for **routine maintenance purposes**
- By-in-large, the installation will be **monitored remotely** and will not require any permanent staff to be located on site

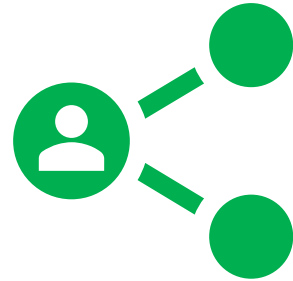
Key Benefits



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**Wider community
benefits**



**Demonstrator Site
for Scotland**

The development help address the risks of climate change and support national ambitions to transition to a low carbon economy

Thank you for listening

If you have any further questions, please feel free to submit them
to *blackfordsolar@highlandspringgroup*