

## Your Solar and Battery Storage Development Partner

As part of the Bluefield Group, we offer a unique, long-term partnership to landowners



## Why Partner with Bluefield?

The Bluefield Group are pioneers in the UK solar sector, having invested over £1bn in solar to date.

The Group currently operates over 100 solar PV assets, situated across agricultural land and industrial sites. The portfolio under management has an aggregate capacity of over 800 MWp, located across over 3.500 acres of land.

We are currently seeking new solar and battery storage projects, for which we offer an attractive 40 year land rental income and a long-term partnership with landowners.

We understand the importance of building successful, long-term relationships with landowners, engaging with the local community and enhancing the quality of the land.

We do not look for short-term gains and have not sold on any of our assets once they have been constructed.

- Our development team has a 13-year track record of successful solar project development, with a combined aggregate capacity of over 1GW
- We will cover all costs throughout the project including: legal and professional, planning, grid and build costs.
- You deal only with the Bluefield Group throughout the development, construction and operation of the solar or battery storage asset
- We offer a generous 40-year land rental income
- We work closely with you to integrate the project with your business and to maximise its environmental and biodiversity benefits
- We encourage dual usage of the land, including enabling the grazing of sheep throughout the project lifetime
- We will engage with the local community early in the development process

Bluefield is your one-stop partner throughout the lifetime of the project



## Why Consider Solar and Batteries?

Solar is the fastest growing energy source globally. The UK already has a large solar resource, with solar supplying up to 25% of the UK's electricity on some days.

Solar benefits from being quiet, having low visual impact, being relatively easy to install and requiring little maintenance. Our solar farms are also designed and managed to enhance biodiversity and the local environment.

Battery energy storage systems (BESS) enable

the energy from solar and other sources to be stored and then released to the grid when the power is required. They can also assist the grid to cope with wide fluctuations in power generation and demand.

As a landowner, Bluefield offers you the opportunity to diversify your business, receive long-term fixed income, enhance the environment and work with a proven partner, whilst continuing to own your land.

## Key features of solar and battery projects

The solar panels are mounted on frames which are either driven into the ground or surface mounted. Their height above ground is up to 2.8m.

Battery energy storage systems (BESS) are typically containerised and can be co-located with solar projects or stand-alone depending on land and grid availability.

Project infrastructure for both types of project includes fencing (usually deerstock), CCTV, transformers and a customer sub-station.

Electricity is exported at distribution or transmission voltages via overhead lines or direct to local substations.



# Enhancing the Environment and Engaging with the Local Community



Bluefield Development has an enviable track record in achieving successful planning outcomes. We will work closely with you from the beginning to design a scheme which has the strongest chance of receiving a positive response from both the local planning authority and the local community.

It will be designed to enhance the local environment and biodiversity during its operational phase and enable animal grazing. We engage with the local community at all stages of development and operation and encourage the use of the projects as educational resources.



### **Solar Development Timeline**

#### Weeks 1-6

#### SITE ASSESSMENT

The suitability of your land is assessed from a planning perspective and the availability of grid capacity locally.

#### Weeks 6-18

#### GRID APPLICATION **PROCESS**

If your land has potential, we ask for a short period of exclusivity to allow us to spend money on a grid application.

#### Weeks 18-60

#### **SIGN OPTION AGREEMENT** AND PREPARE PLANNING **APPLICATION**

We engage with the relevant local authorities and communities and carry out the necessary surveys to inform the planning application.

#### 40 years

#### **OPERATION & MAINTENANCE**

Our in-house asset management and operations & maintenance teams will oversee the long-term care for the solar farm / battery project.

#### Post-planning **CONSTRUCTION & 1ST LEASE PAYMENT**

We construct the solar farm / battery project and enter into the lease, paying the first quarter's rent.

#### Weeks 60-76

#### PLANNING APPLICATION **PROCESS**

The planning application is submitted and we continue to work alongside the local authorities and communities to ensure a positive planning outcome.

## What land are we looking for?

30-300 acres for solar and 2 -4 acres for battery storage

Cost effective grid connection via nearby overhead power lines or substations (we will investigate this at our cost)

Predominantly lower grade agricultural land or Industrial and Brownfield land

Well-screened, mainly flat or south-facing land

Good site access for construction and maintenance

No restricted covenants or rights to the land that may restrict a solar farm/BESS (e.g. hunting/shooting etc.)

No intrusive easements / rights of way which may unduly constrain a solar farm/BESS

Not within an area of especially high landscape or ecological value

## Contact

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