

Battens Farm Solar Park



Commissioned	March 2014
Site area	67 acres
Installed capacity (MW)	13.1MW
Annual production (MWh)	12,618MWh
Households powered per annum	4,070
CO2 emissions saved (tonnes per annum)	5,832 tonnes

Overview

Battens Farm Solar Park was developed over two adjacent fields in Wiltshire as a companion business to the landowner's existing organic farm. Following a trouble-free consultation phase notable for its few objections, the construction process will be remembered for exceptionally poor weather. However, a combination of diligence and expertise on the part of key contractors and managers saw the project completed in record time for our development partner. On commissioning, solar energy was fed without problem into the National Grid by way of existing power lines conveniently close to the site.

Biodiversity

The site's design has taken due note of a number of key biodiversity issues. Among these are a 2m hedgerow and a mature forest which surround much of the site, with a single oak tree in the centre of an eastern field marked for preservation. Before construction began, a comprehensive badger survey ensured that no setts would be disturbed near the panel array. Immediately after installation, biodiversity was further enhanced by the introduction of bird and bat boxes, new flocks of sheep to graze the land, reseeded grassland and the planting of a medley of wild flowers at the site's entrance.