

Warleigh Barton Solar Park



Commissioned	March 2013
Site area	28 acres
Installed capacity (MW)	4.9MW
Annual production (MWh)	4,768MWh
Households powered per annum	1,538
CO2 emissions saved (tonnes per annum)	2,204 tonnes

Overview

Warleigh Barton Solar Park is sited in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, where the Tamar Valley's excellent irradiance makes solar a natural renewables choice. The development satisfied local landscape and ecology sensitivities, with highly efficient project management helping to navigate both the planning processes and a tight winter construction programme.

Biodiversity

The Tamar estuary is a vital breeding ground for many species: a factor governing much of the solar park's development. Prior to construction a number of important wildlife habitats were present; these have since been enhanced and hedgerows retained, with a management regime specially devised to create diversity. Wherever possible, existing grass on the site has also been retained; arable areas have been converted to grassland, while arables immediately beyond the site's boundaries have been converted to meadow in a mix of grass and wild flowers. Additional trees were planted to include a hazel coppice ideal for dormice. Bat boxes have also been attached to selected trees, while the landowner is continuing to host a number of hives on behalf of neighbouring beekeepers.