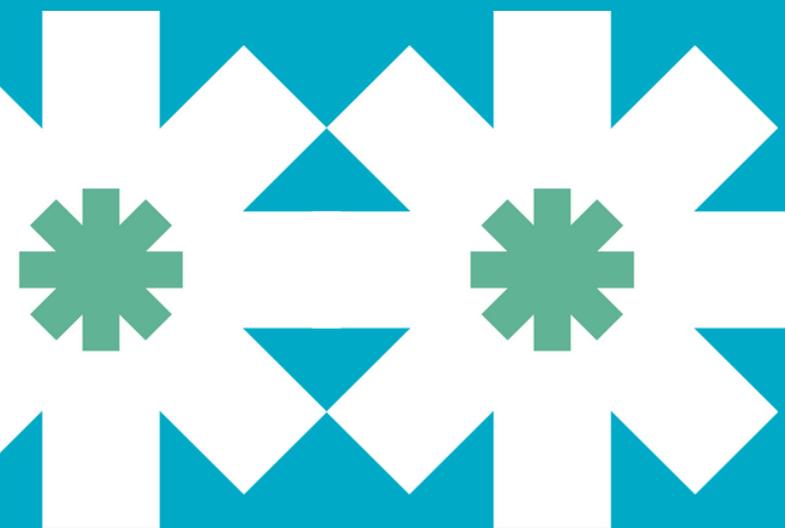


**TASWNY**  
ENERGY PARK



# Tasway Energy Park

Phase 1 Consultation Brochure



**Tuesday 21st October to  
Friday 5th December 2025.**

[taswayenergypark.co.uk](http://taswayenergypark.co.uk)

Thank you for picking up this brochure. Additional copies are available to share with friends or neighbours, and it can also be downloaded from our website.

As you read on, you will find key details of the proposed project and information on how to provide your feedback as part of the consultation.

# What is Tasway Energy Park?

## ABOUT THE PROJECT

Tasway Energy Park is a proposed solar and battery energy storage project in South Norfolk. If progressed, it could generate up to 700 megawatts (MW) of clean electricity - enough to power over 200,000 homes each year\*.

The project would support the UK's energy goals by increasing renewable generation, improving energy security, and reducing reliance on fossil fuels. It would operate for up to 60 years before being decommissioned.

As Tasway would generate more than 50MW, it qualifies as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) and will be progressed through the Development Consent Order (DCO) process, determined by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero. The DCO process provides a dedicated framework specifically designed to address the complexities associated with large, infrastructure projects.

## WHO ARE AUKERA?

Aukera is a renewable energy developer and investor operating across the UK and Europe. Aukera focuses on grid-scale solar, onshore wind, and battery storage projects and is involved in all stages of the project lifecycle, from development and construction to long-term operation. We currently have 250MW of renewable energy infrastructure under construction in the UK and are developing a further pipeline nationwide. Aukera also maintains an active development portfolio in Italy, Germany, and Romania.

We are committed to responsible development and meaningful engagement with local communities, reinvesting in new projects to support a sustainable and low carbon energy future.

\*Based on 2022 generation and average annual household use of 3,240kWh (Jan 2024, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero).

## ABOUT THIS CONSULTATION

We are currently in our Phase 1 consultation period. This consultation period runs from Tuesday 21st October to Friday 5th December 2025. A second phase of consultation is proposed to take place in 2026. This two-phased approach allows us to gather feedback at different stages, ensuring local input helps shape the proposals as they evolve.

At this early stage, the plans for Tasway Energy Park are still emerging, and we are keen to hear your initial thoughts. The project is expected to be submitted for consent in 2027, with an anticipated grid connection date of 2032. This timescale means there is plenty of opportunity for local communities to help influence the proposals as they develop.

We value the knowledge, views, and lived experience of local communities, and we are committed to ensuring that local perspectives are considered throughout the design and development process. This consultation is your opportunity to help shape the project before detailed design work is finalised in late 2026. Your feedback will, where appropriate, influence the layout and supporting proposals.

We encourage all participants to complete a feedback form, either online or in hard copy, to share their views during this consultation period.

# The need for the project

## SOLAR'S ROLE IN SUPPORTING NATIONAL ENERGY AMBITIONS

Tasway aligns with the UK's Clean Power 2030 mission pledges, supporting the commitment to rapidly scale up renewable generation, reduce reliance on fossil fuels, and strengthen national energy security. By generating clean, low-cost electricity, the project would make a meaningful contribution to achieving net zero while delivering tangible local and national benefits.

### Why South Norfolk?

The proposed location for Tasway has been carefully selected. South Norfolk offers:

- **Strong solar resource:** The area benefits from favourable solar irradiation, ensuring reliable and efficient energy generation.
- **Grid connectivity:** Proximity to key grid infrastructure makes it possible to deliver large volumes of renewable power into the system efficiently.
- **Land suitability:** The site provides sufficient space to host both solar arrays and battery storage while allowing for sensitive integration with the local environment.
- **Regional contribution:** Locating the project here supports Norfolk's role in the clean energy transition, building on the region's established renewable energy industry.

### Role in the Clean Energy Transition

Tasway would play a part in transforming the UK's energy system, delivering large-scale renewable power to help meet national targets and cutting emissions across the economy. The project would also support the Government's ambition for a fully decarbonised power system by 2035, providing the reliable, low-carbon electricity needed for homes, businesses, and industry.



# Tasway at a glance



Aukera will provide a community benefit fund to support local community groups and initiatives. We are now seeking your ideas for this fund.



Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) on-site, ensuring the solar farm can be as flexible as possible in delivering energy to the grid.



10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) to be delivered on-site, providing new and improved habitats, such as wildflower meadows, grassland areas, bird and bat nesting boxes, and beehives.



Solar panel areas can be used for sheep grazing, maintaining agricultural use and promoting topsoil recovery by increasing organic matter and improving soil structure.



By generating renewable, low-carbon energy, Tasway Energy Park will play a direct role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and supporting the UK's legally binding Net Zero target by 2050.



Contributing up to 700MW of clean electricity to the national grid, enough to power the equivalent of approximately 200,000 homes.



The project provides an opportunity to enhance existing Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) and introduce new permissive paths, improving local access and connectivity while encouraging walking and outdoor recreation.



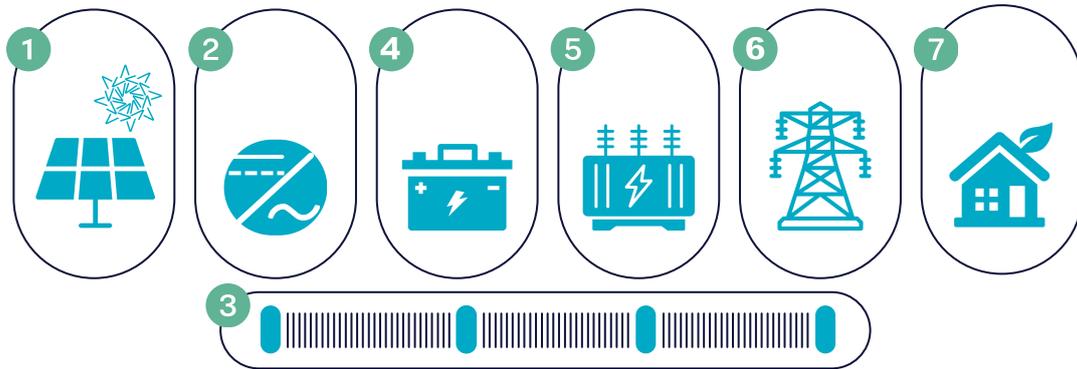
New and strengthened hedgerow and tree planting will create valuable wildlife habitats, supporting local biodiversity.



The project will support the local economy by creating jobs during construction and operation, while enabling farmers to diversify income through land leasing and ongoing site management opportunities.



# Principal components of the development



1. **Ground-mounted solar** panels collect energy from the sun.
2. **Inverters convert** the direct current (DC) electricity generated by the panels into alternating current (AC), the form of electricity used in homes and businesses.
3. **Underground cables** carry the electricity from the inverters to other locations around the site.
4. **Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)** store energy and provide flexibility in delivering electricity to the grid.
5. **Substation(s)** collect electricity from the inverters and BESS and transfer it to the National Grid.
6. **The electricity** is then transmitted through the existing transmission network.
7. **Clean energy** reaches homes and businesses across the UK.

## Once operational, the project will involve:

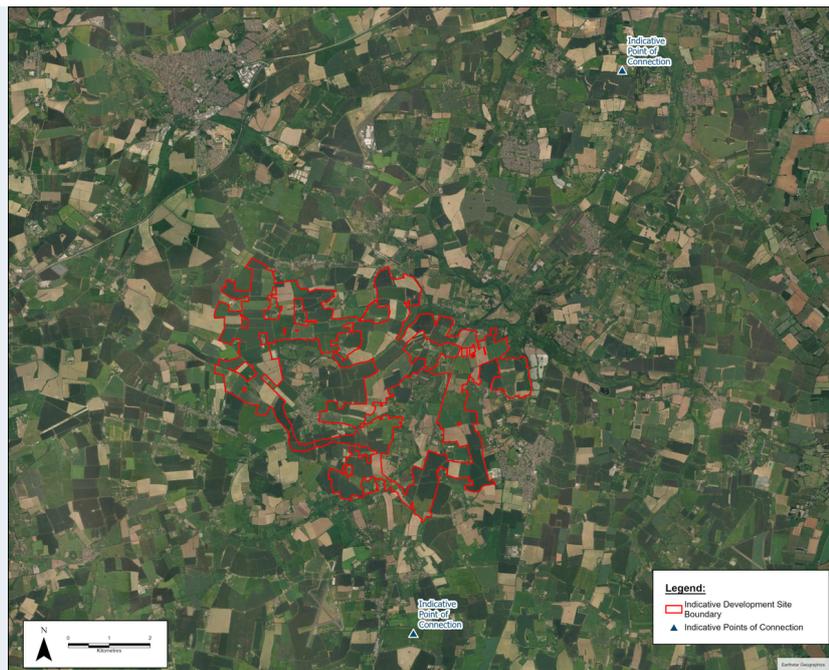
- **Security measures** including fencing, inward-facing CCTV, and limited infrared security lighting to secure the operational areas of the site.
- **Access routes** within the site to allow safe and efficient maintenance of equipment and operational infrastructure.
- **Environmental measures** to protect and enhance local habitats, supporting biodiversity across the site.
- **New permissive paths** providing additional recreational opportunities for the local community, connecting with existing walking routes where possible.

## CONNECTING INTO THE GRID

Aukera have a grid connection offer from National Energy System Operator (NESO) to connect to the National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) network via a proposed new "North Anglia" substation. The precise location is to be determined, and therefore two options are being considered:

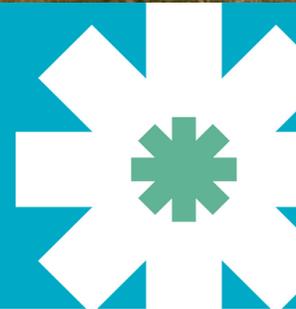
- **North** - assuming a connection to be located in proximity to the existing Norwich substation.
- **South** - assuming a connection at the substation options being considered by East Pye Solar.

Areas of search for the cable route will be established, with further assessments, including desk and field based surveys, to be undertaken where necessary to refine the routing.





# Strategic design principles



**Retain existing habitats, with appropriate setbacks, and where practicable enhance the green and water-ways connectivity across the site.**



**Conserve and enhance important key views, the settings of landscape and historic features e.g. Tacolneston Conservation Area, River Tas corridor and tributaries.**



**Improve access across the site where practicable through new permissive pathways and connections, recognising a wide range of users.**



**Protect national, regional and local designations with appropriate setbacks e.g. Fundenhall Wood, local wildlife sites and Listed Buildings.**



**Promote setbacks from residential properties and community areas, and design layout and material choices to minimise impacts on views and amenity where practicable.**



**Minimise use of Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land where practicable.**

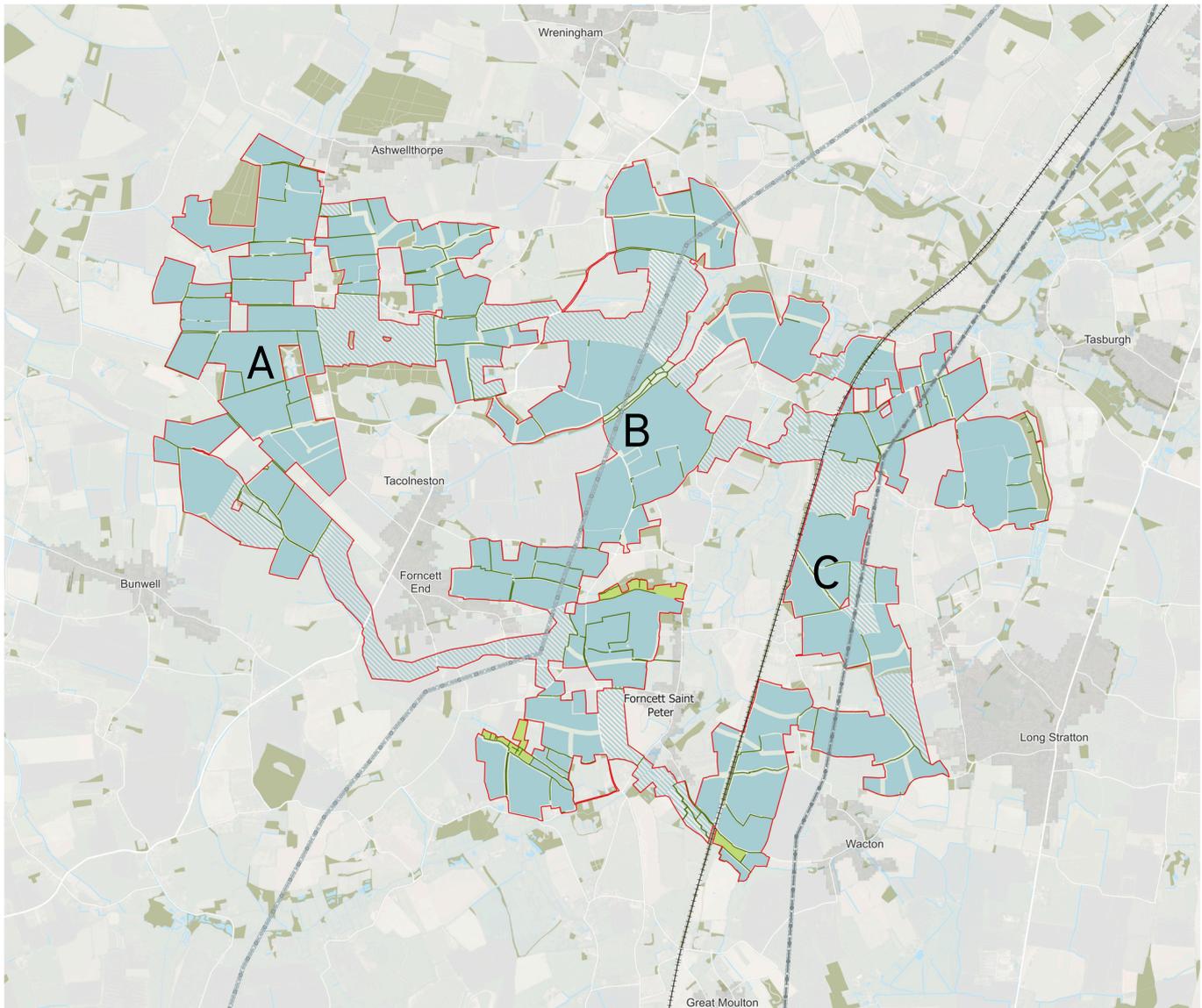


**Engage with the community to ensure the layout and design of the site is informed directly by local knowledge, and social benefits are aligned with local needs.**

# The Proposed Development

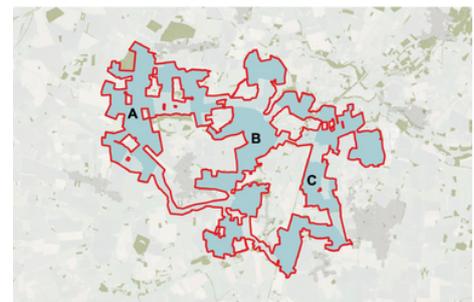
The proposed Tasway Energy Park would be situated in South Norfolk, adjacent to the River Tas. The proposals extend from Ashwellthorpe in the north, to Aslacton, and Wacton in the south. The proposals are split across three Areas defined as Area A – West, Area B – Central, Area C – East.

The initial proposals for each of the three Areas are shown on pages 7,8 and 9. These proposals can be downloaded in PDF format from our website ([taswayenergypark.co.uk](http://taswayenergypark.co.uk)), or seen in a large scale format at our events (see page 23 for details).



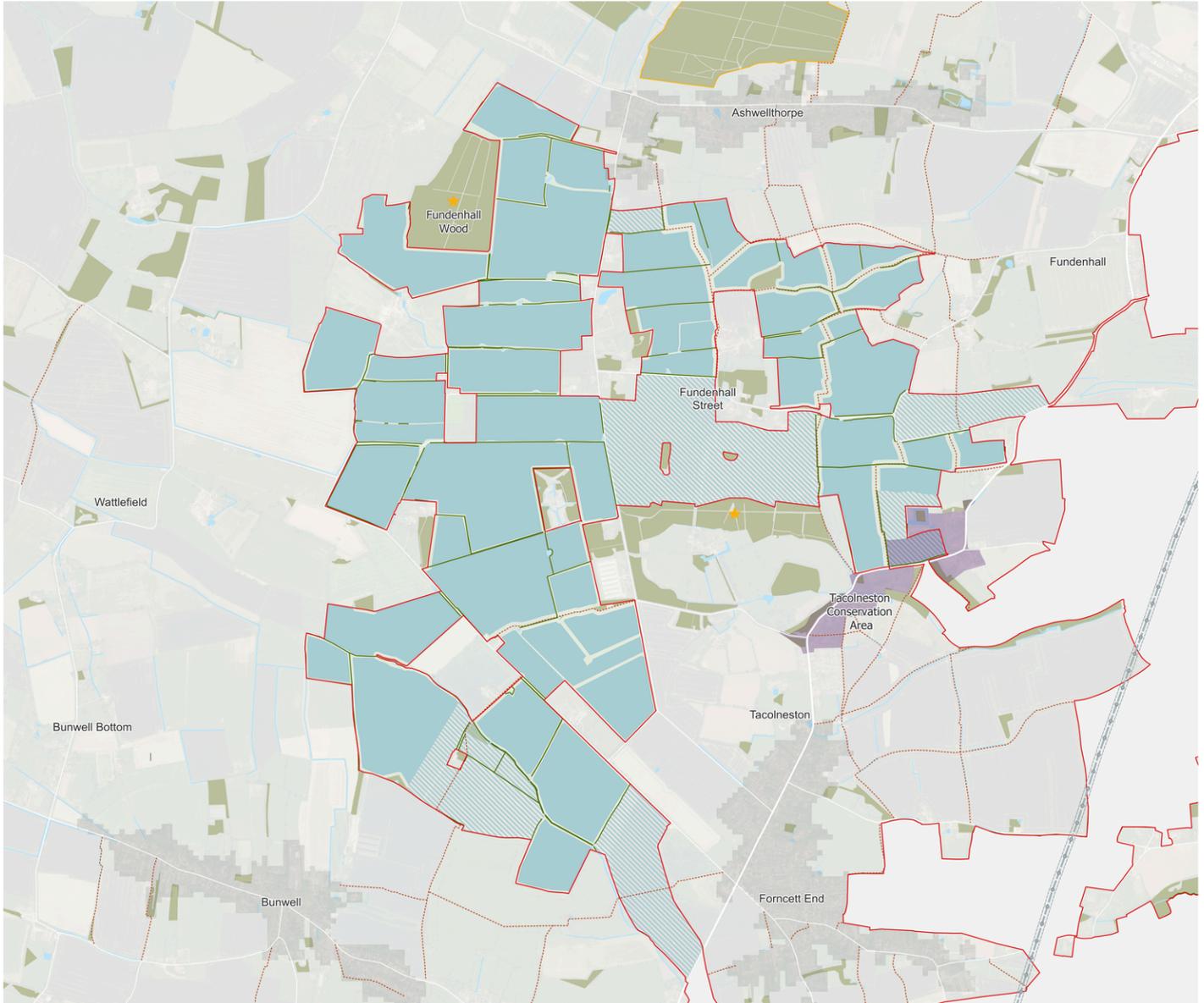
## Legend

- Indicative Development Site Boundary
- Potential areas for solar development, substation, and/or battery storage
- Indicative Interconnecting Cable Corridors (underground)
- Potential areas for mitigation/enhancement and/or retain as existing land use
- Existing ancient woodland/woodland
- Existing hedgerow/field boundary (potential to retain and/or enhance)
- Existing watercourse and/or surface waterbody
- Existing road
- Existing power line (including offset buffer)
- Norwich to Tilbury (including offset buffer)
- Existing railway line



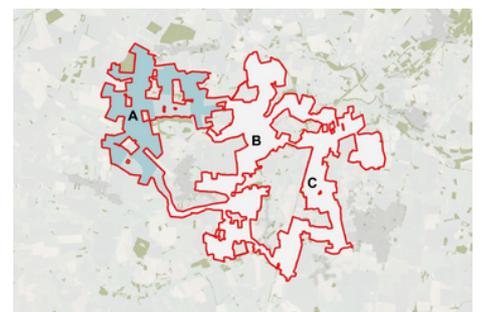
# Area A – West

This is the westernmost section of the Site. It stretches between Ashwellthorpe to the north and Bunwell to the South. Cables will be laid within either fields or the local road network to connect the individual land parcels within each Area. Installation will primarily use open cut trenching, unless environmental sensitivities require an alternative method (e.g. Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD)).



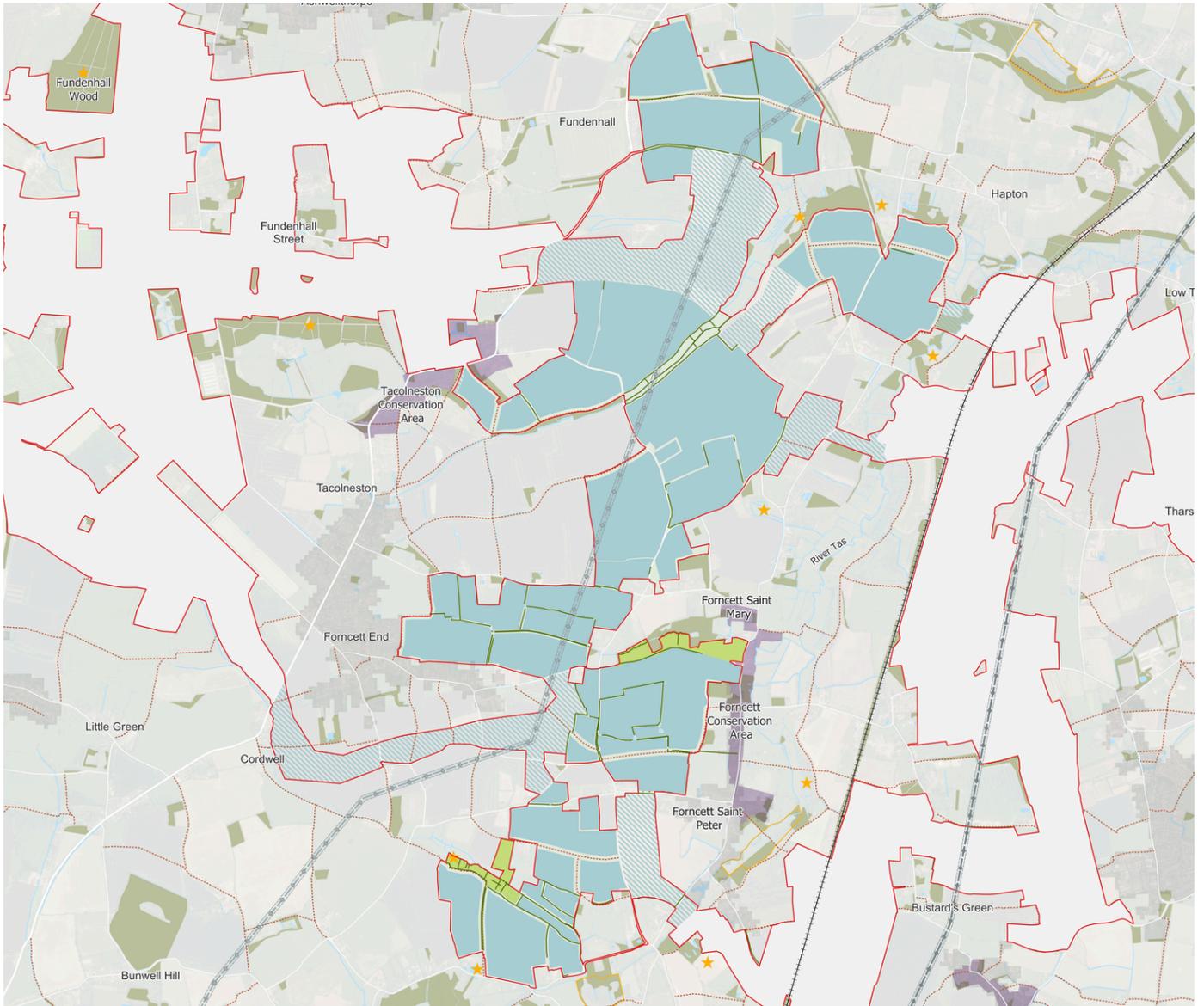
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- Conservation Areas
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- Existing watercourse and/or surface waterbody
- Existing road
- Existing Public Right of Way
- Existing power line (including offset buffer)
- Norwich to Tilbury (including offset buffer)
- Existing railway line
- ★ County Wildlife Sites



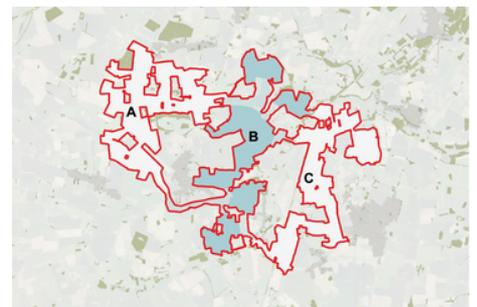
# Area B – Central

This is the central section of the Site. It is located between Tacolneston to the west and Great and Little Green to the east. Three locations on the River Tas are being considered to connect Area C - East to Area B - Central, with survey work well underway to assess the sensitivities of these locations.



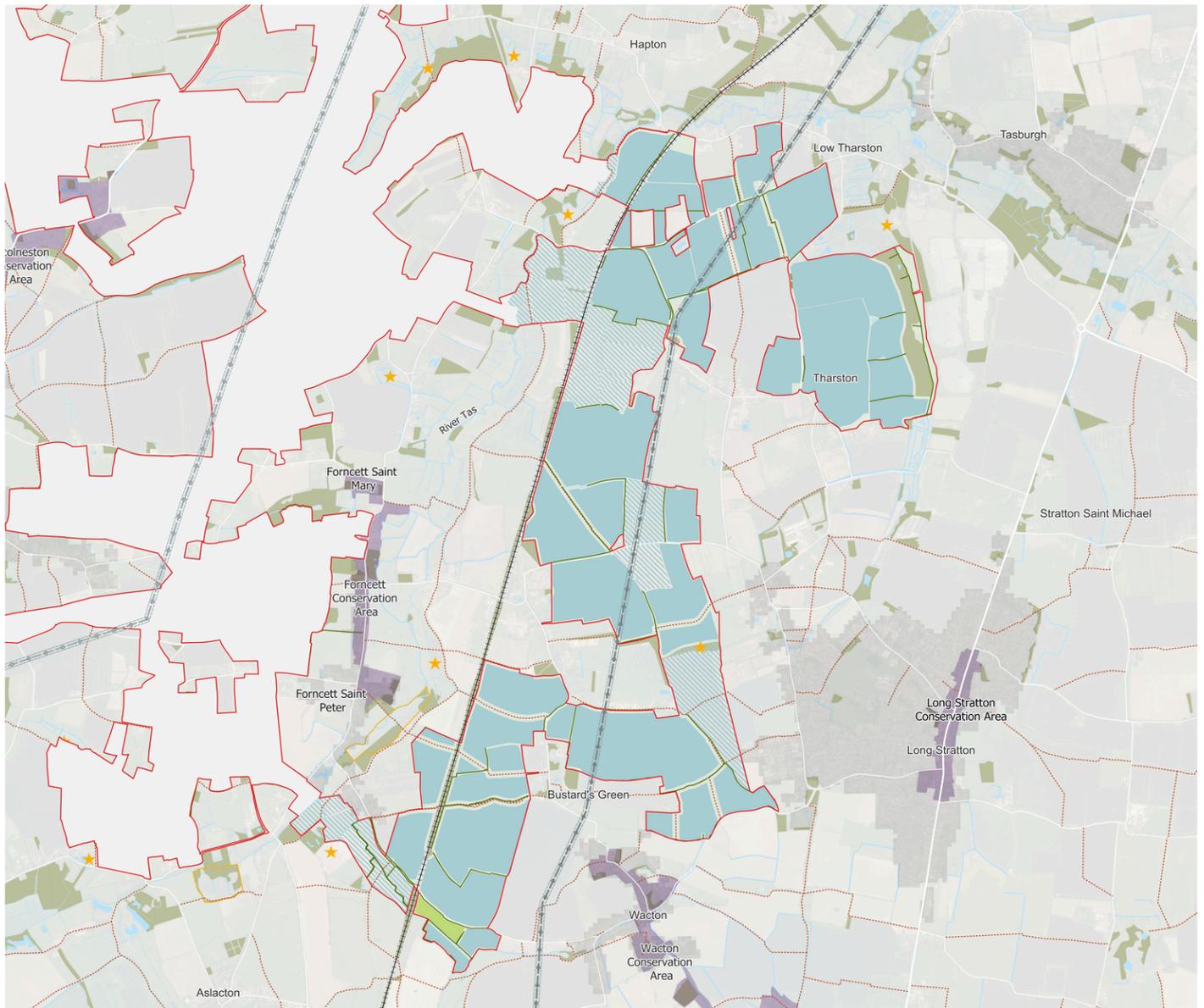
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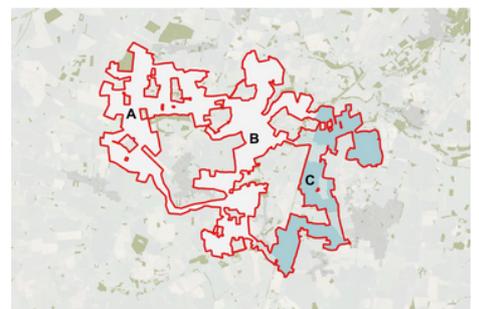
# Area C - East

This area lies in the easternmost section of the site. It lies between Tharston to the West and Long Stratton to the east. The Great Eastern Main Line separates Area C - East and Area B - Central. Existing roads that pass under the railway - The Street and Wash Lane - are being considered for cable routing, where practicable.



## Legend

- Indicative Development Site Boundary
- Potential areas for solar development, substation, and/or battery storage
- Indicative Interconnecting Cable Corridors (underground)
- Potential areas for mitigation/enhancement and/or retain as existing land use
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Conservation Areas
- Existing ancient woodland/woodland
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- Norwich to Tilbury (including offset buffer)
- Existing railway line
- ★ County Wildlife Sites



# The Development Consent Order Process

## CURRENT STAGE •

### 1 Pre-application

Prior to submitting our application, we will conduct two consultations where we will consult on our proposals. This includes a Phase 1 early consultation, which is taking place now (Autumn 2025), as well as a second phase of consultation proposed for 2026. Engagement will be ongoing throughout the process. We will then proceed to submit an application for a DCO in early 2027.

### 2 Acceptance

The Planning Inspectorate has 28 days to review the application and decide whether to proceed to the next stage. They will consider whether all relevant documents have been submitted.

### 4 Examination

The application undergoes a period of examination which usually lasts six months. The Examining Authority gathers and reviews evidence and views, including supporting evidence provided by Aukera, statutory consultees and representations made by Interested Parties. There may also be a small number of hearings, including an open floor hearing, at which members of the public can register to attend and speak.

### 6 Post-decision

There is a six-week period for the decision to be legally challenged. This process is known as Judicial Review. If the DCO is made and there are no successful legal challenges, we would then be permitted to develop the site in compliance with the provisions in the DCO.

### 3 Pre-examination

Once our application has been accepted, we must publicise this and explain how people can register to become Interested Parties. Interested Parties will be kept informed of progress and opportunities to make representations or speak at public hearings. The Planning Inspectorate appoints an Examining Authority who hold a Preliminary Meeting to discuss how and when the application will be examined.

### 5 Recommendation & decision

The Examining Authority makes a recommendation to the Secretary of State on whether or not to grant development consent. This must be done within three months of the end of the examination period. The Secretary of State then has three months to make a decision.

# Our Planned Timeline

## **Phase 1 Consultation: October to December 2025**

Early stage consultation

## **EIA Scoping Report: January 2026**

EIA Scoping Report submission to the Planning Inspectorate

## **Contact with Landowners: Late 2025/Early 2026**

Initial contact with landowners to ensure all stakeholders are identified for future consultation

## **Phase 2 Consultation: Summer 2026**

Consultation on more progressed design layouts and preliminary environmental information

## **Gate 2 Decision: September 2026**

Grid Connection offer and confirmation of project components

## **DCO Submission: Early 2027**

Development Consent Order application submitted

## **Decision: 2028**

Determination by the Secretary of State, following the Examining Authority's report

## **Construction: 2030**

Commence construction of Tasway Energy Park

## **Connect and operation: 2032**

Connect to grid

# Environmental Impact Assessment

When planning a project of this scale it is essential to understand how it may affect the environment. This is where the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) plays a central role.

## What is an Environmental Impact Assessment?

An EIA examines potential effects on people, wildlife, land, air, water, and the wider environment. It ensures decision-makers, communities, and stakeholders have reliable information before the project moves forward. The assessment process will also help define the most suitable land configuration for solar panels and infrastructure, as well as opportunities for mitigation and enhancements benefiting wildlife and communities.

## Why is an EIA required for this project?

An EIA is legally required for projects likely to have significant environmental effects due to their type or scale. Its purpose is to identify likely effects (positive and negative). Where negative effects are identified, it proposes measures to avoid, prevent, reduce, or offset them. This ensures that when the Secretary of State - the “determining authority” - decides whether to grant consent, environmental matters are considered alongside social, technical, and economic factors.

Because of its scale and potential effects, Aukera is undertaking a full EIA from the outset to better understand the local environment. The DCO application will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement and documentation outlining the project’s scope, benefits, adverse effects, and mitigation.

## Why is the EIA important?

The EIA is important for three reasons:

- Transparency – clearly explains the potential impacts and benefits of the project on the environment.
- Accountability – ensures environmental effects are considered before consent.
- Improvement – helps Aukera refine and improve the design.

## How does the EIA process fit into the DCO?

The EIA process runs alongside preparation of the DCO and involves several stages:

### EIA Scoping

Scoping identifies key environmental receptors and impacts during construction, operation, and decommissioning.

Sensitive receptors are either ‘scoped in’ or ‘scoped out,’ and methods for assessment are defined.

We are conducting desk-based assessments and surveys, including ecology, landscape, and data searches. Work has focused on the three Areas, with cable corridor and grid connection surveys starting late 2025/early 2026. These studies provide a baseline and identify further survey needs.

An EIA Scoping Report is then submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, which issues an EIA Scoping Opinion, confirming the scope.

### Environmental Information for Phase 2 Consultation

To support Phase 2 consultation in 2026, information on early environmental assessment findings will be provided in accordance with legislative requirements.

At this stage, the design is still evolving and likely effects are being assessed. The PEI will present current conditions, potential benefits and adverse effects, and the sensitivity of features to likely impacts. It will be published for review and comment by authorities, statutory bodies, community groups, and the public.

### Environmental Statement

The final stage is the Environmental Statement, submitted with the DCO application, which provides a full account of significant effects, mitigation, and residual impacts. It also sets out professional expertise involved, giving confidence in the assessment.

Ultimately, the EIA is not just about meeting regulations but about delivering a project responsibly, with full consideration of views from the public, authorities, and statutory bodies. Environmental assessments will cover landscape, biodiversity, heritage, flood risk, traffic, noise, and more. The following pages look in more detail at these topics, explaining how they are assessed and what they could mean for the project.

# Biodiversity, water resources, and flood risk

The site is characterised by the River Tas and its riparian corridor which separates Areas A and B, from Area C. This corridor is designated as part of The Broads Environmentally Sensitive Area. The Areas themselves are predominantly arable fields, interspersed with hedgerows, areas of woodland (including ancient woodland) and priority habitat, ditches and farm access tracks.

Four Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) are located within 1km of the site; Lower Wood, Ashwellthorpe SSSI, Flordon Common SSSI, Forncett Meadows SSSI and Aslacton Parish Land SSSI. Flordon Common SSSI is also a component of the Norfolk Valley Fens Special Area of Conservation. Fundenhall Wood, an area of ancient woodland, is bordered by Area A to the north west. Key areas of priority habitat follow the River Tas and its various tributaries that intersect the site.

We will assess the potential impacts on habitats and protected or notable species relevant to the project. We have completed a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal of the Areas, with the following species-specific surveys complete or underway; breeding birds, great crested newts, bats, badger and arable plants. We are commencing surveys to understand the habitats within the ditch and watercourse network across the site, and wintering bird surveys will commence later in the year. The scope of ecological surveys will be discussed with the local planning authorities and Natural England.

The project is also within the catchment of The Broads Special Area of Conservation, which is sensitive to nutrient pollution. Natural England will be consulted to discuss the level of assessment required.

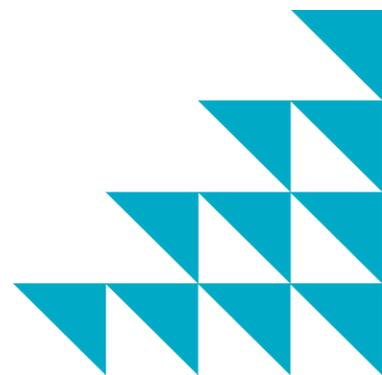


## Agricultural land and soils

This assessment will consider how the project may affect soil quality across the site. It looks at the type of agricultural land present, including its classification, and any sensitive soils such as peat that play an important role in storing carbon.

Provisional Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) mapping published by Natural England shows the site is mainly Grade 3 agricultural land (good to moderate quality), with smaller areas of higher-quality Grade 2 land in Area B, and lower-quality Grade 4 land along the River Tas and its tributaries. The updated England Peat Map also highlights peat deposits within the river floodplain and in woodland areas such as Fundenhall Wood to the north west.

We are currently undertaking detailed ALC surveys across the three Areas to determine the extent of each Grade, and the split between Grade 3a (good quality) and Grade 3b (moderate quality). The ALC surveys will also capture data on the extent of peat. Survey work will also focus on the extent and depth of peat along the River Tas, to help inform the location of the crossing and construction method.



# Cultural heritage and archaeology

There are numerous listed buildings and a number of Conservation Areas in and within proximity of the site; Talconeston, Forncett, Grade I Church of All Saints. The closest Scheduled Monument and registered parks and gardens are located to the east around Tasburgh and Lower Tasburgh, and not in direct proximity of the project.

We have commenced geophysical surveys to map buried archaeological features. The results of the surveys will inform the design and the future archaeological strategy, if required. Our assessment will consider the importance and likely scale of impacts on heritage assets, including buried features, and involve discussions with key stakeholders including Historic England and the Norfolk County Council heritage team.

## Landscape and visual

The site is characterised by the River Tas, and the local River Valleys Landscape Character Area landscape designation (as well as The Broads Environmentally Sensitive Area). Numerous Public Rights of Way and a dense network of single-track rural lanes cross the site, which are likely to be used for walking, cycling and horse riding. None of the Areas fall within a statutory/national landscape designation.

Initial site visits have been undertaken to understand the landscape and visual baseline and to identify receptors. We are then proposing to undertake viewpoint photography, with the local planning authorities to be consulted on the approach. The assessment will consider the potential impacts to the landscape character and residential visual amenity from the introduction of new infrastructure, including glint and glare issues, on a number of receptors (including residences and users of Public Rights of Way).

We will consider ways that we can reduce potential impacts through the design of the development and other measures, including planting and screening, which will be captured as part of the evolution of the site masterplan.

# Traffic and transport

Desk based appraisal work has commenced to understand the strategic and primary road networks that will provide access to the site. The trunk roads within the vicinity of the site include the A11, which extends to the west and the A140 to the east. The local road network includes the B1113, The Street, Fundenhall Road.

The traffic and transport assessment to support the DCO submission will look at issues such as road safety, congestion, road capacity and severance. The assessment will focus on the increased traffic flows on the surrounding roads being used by Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV) and workers during construction. Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AIL) will also be considered. During operation, access will be required from time to time for routine maintenance, as well as replacement of components.

Given the distribution of Tasway Energy Park across three areas, access will be required from a number of different locations. As part of our assessment, a detailed access review is being undertaken to develop suitable access points and routes for the site. This will be consulted on with Norfolk County Council.

## Air quality

During construction, air quality issues could arise from dust caused by excavation and movement of spoil and emissions from machinery and vehicle movements. The assessment will be predominantly desk-based, subject to consultation with relevant stakeholders, and the assessment will consider impacts to both human and ecological receptors.

During construction, a Construction Environmental Management Plan will be implemented to help control dust.

There would be only limited traffic movements during operation. Furthermore, impacts of emissions from site equipment and machinery due to maintenance activities are unlikely to be significant.



# Noise and vibration

In consultation with South Norfolk Council, noise monitoring surveys will be agreed and undertaken as part of the EIA process to establish the baseline noise environment. The assessment will consider both construction and operation noise sources, including the solar modules, BESS and on-site substations.

Good design and high-quality infrastructure will serve to reduce noise from Tasway Energy Park at source. However, sound attenuation measures may be incorporated into the design, if required.

During construction, a Construction Environmental Management Plan will be implemented to help control noise levels.

# Climate

The climate assessment will look at the project's greenhouse gas emissions during construction and product manufacture and impact on climate both now and in the future. It will identify the main sources of greenhouse gas emissions during construction, operation and decommissioning to find the most effective ways of reducing them.

During operation, renewable energy will be generated, replacing fossil-based energy in the National Grid. This has the net effect of reducing greenhouse gas emissions generated elsewhere in the national energy supply chain. These greenhouse gas emission reductions will likely provide significant beneficial effects for the climate.

# People and the community

A range of potential effects on people and the community will be assessed including effects on employment, community access and recreation. The assessment will consider potential negative impacts (e.g. temporary closure of Public Rights of Way during construction) as well as positive impacts, such as opportunities for upskilling and educational opportunities for the local population, along with maintaining or enhancing recreation opportunities (e.g. Public Rights of Way).



# Water

Tasway Energy Park will be designed to site all critical infrastructure either away from any areas with the highest risk of flooding, or above flood levels. Particular consideration will be given to the construction works required where the River Tas is to be crossed, or works are required within proximity of the ditch and watercourse network.

A Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy will be prepared to accompany the DCO submission. This will consider the watercourses, surface water flows and flooding issues for Tasway Energy Park. The assessment will set out a drainage strategy to integrate with natural drainage on-site to mitigate any potential flood risk created by the project. Consultation with the Environment Agency and Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board, will be undertaken during the assessment process.

## Land and groundwater

Parts of the project are within Source Protection Zones, designated to protect areas for groundwater abstractions. A number of historical landfill sites are within, or in proximity of the site, for example to the south east of Fornsett Saint Peter.

A Preliminary Risk Assessment will be produced for the DCO submission, containing a desk-based analysis of the site conditions. The assessment process will consider potential impacts on source protection zones, sites of geological importance and land contamination from the proposed construction works.

## Other environmental topics

Other environmental topics will be considered within the project design, technical documents and management plans as part of the DCO application but won't necessarily have their own chapter within the Environmental Statement. These topics could include; glint and glare, waste and electric and electro-magnetic fields. The full scope of the Environmental Statement will be informed by the EIA Scoping Opinion.





# Cumulative effects

Aukera are aware that there are already some consented and proposed solar projects in South Norfolk, and other energy and infrastructure schemes being proposed that interact with our site and grid connection areas of search. As part of the EIA process, we will assess the combined impacts of these projects both during construction and operation, ensuring that the impacts of Tasway Energy Park are considered alongside that of other nearby existing and proposed renewable energy and infrastructure projects.

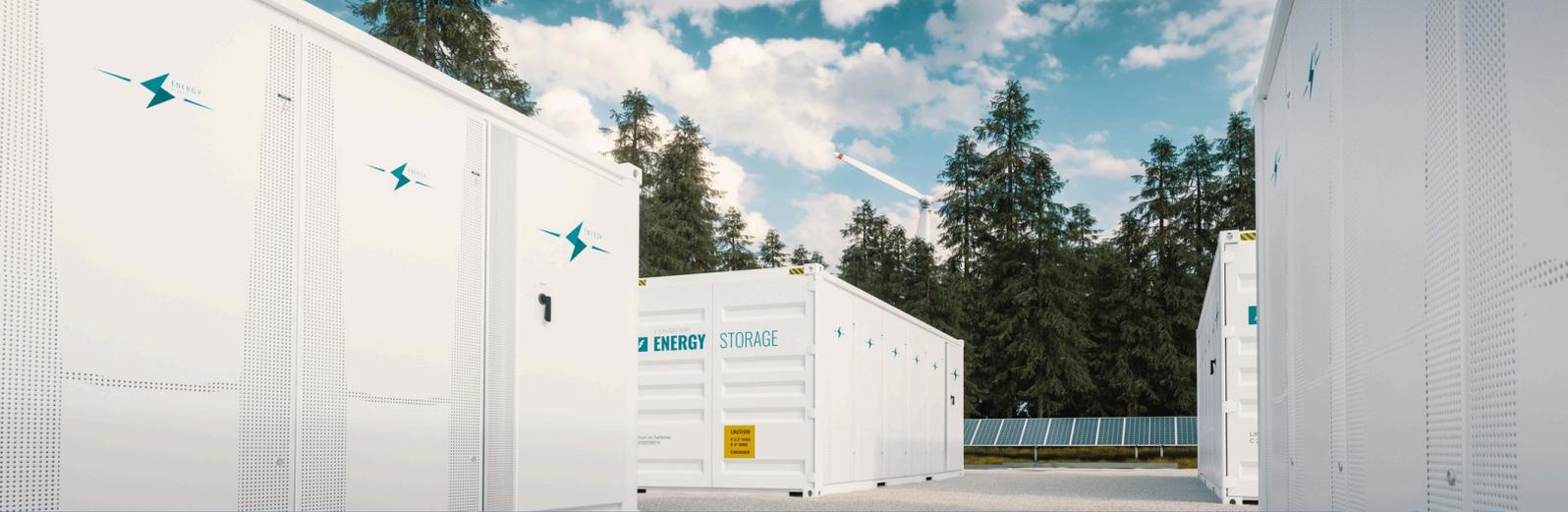
## Environmental mitigation

Environmental mitigation refers to the measures proposed to avoid, prevent, reduce or offset the adverse environmental impacts of a project. Mitigation measures may include adopting technologies that minimise pollution or emissions, implementing best management practices, altering the design to reduce potential impacts, and establishing environmental monitoring and management systems.

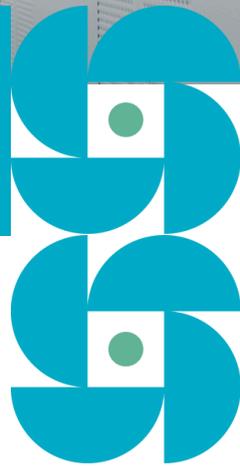
A suite of management plans will be produced alongside the Environmental Statement, which are likely to include; a Construction Environmental Management Plan, Soil Management Plan and Landscape and Ecology Management Plan. We will be engaging with stakeholders on the content of these management plans as the project progresses.

## Other documentation submitted with the DCO application

A number of other documents which will be prepared to support the DCO application. These may include a Planning Statement, Water Framework Directive and Habitats Regulations Assessment. In addition, a Flood Risk Assessment will be produced and Biodiversity Net Gain assessment completed, with measures incorporated through the design process to achieve a minimum of 10% BNG.



# Battery Energy Storage Systems



## Fire and Environmental Safety

Aukera are proposing, at this stage, that Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) will be a part of the proposed Tasway Energy Park. BESS plays a role in maximising clean energy generated, by storing excess electricity at times of high generation and low demand, meaning this can be disbursed into the grid at times of low generation and high demand. BESS also plays a part in balancing the grid, thereby reducing the already low likelihood of overloading at substations.

Through extensive testing, certification, and site-specific safety designs, including fire suppression and real-time monitoring, BESS are highly reliable and secure. While the risk of fire is extremely low, the safety measures implemented during design and construction significantly reduce both its likelihood and potential severity.

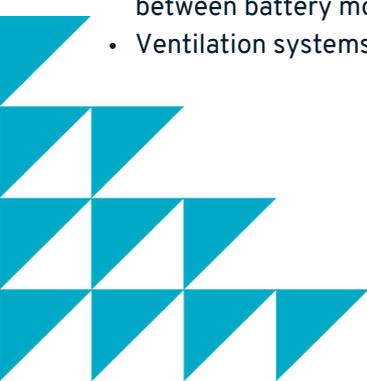
## Regulation

A key element of the BESS safety guidelines published by the UK's National Fire Chief Council (NFCC) is ensuring that there is adequate spacing between individual battery units to prevent a fire in one BESS unit propagating to adjacent units. The NFCC guidelines were published in 2022 and included in the UK's National Planning Policy Framework in 2023. While local Fire and Rescue Services are not statutory consultees in planning, Aukera will seek to engage with the Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service at an early stage.

## Safety Systems

Typical safety systems which are used on BESS facilities, include:

- Automated fire suppression systems which are design to extinguish electrical fires within the enclosures.
- In the event of a detected failure or a thermal runaway, the BESS can automatically disconnect the affected battery module to prevent the spread of fire.
- Fire resistant barriers and containment systems will be installed to prevent the spread of fire between battery modules and to the surrounding environment.
- Ventilation systems will also dissipate heat and gases.





# Construction, operation, and decommissioning

Tasway Energy Park will move through three main stages: construction, operation, and decommissioning. At each stage, impacts will be carefully managed and local communities kept informed.

## Construction

If consent is granted, it is estimated construction would begin in 2030 and last around 2-3 years. Work will be phased and include setting up temporary compounds, preparing the land, installing solar panels, battery units, substations, and internal access roads, as well as laying underground cables to connect the site to the National Grid. Landscaping and biodiversity planting will also be carried out.

Construction vehicles would need to transport materials to temporary construction compounds located in each of the three Areas. Existing farm and field accesses will be used where possible, with some temporary or upgraded accesses if required. We will assess how construction vehicles will access the site and use the wider road network. A detailed Construction Traffic Management Plan will be prepared with Norfolk County Council before works begin.

Temporary construction compounds will provide offices, welfare facilities, and storage areas. The site will remain closed to the public during construction, with security measures in place.

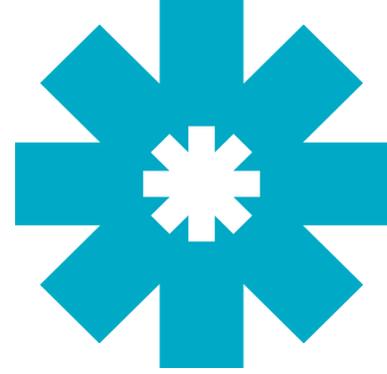
## Operation

Once complete, Tasway will generate clean electricity for up to 60 years. A small team would be needed to operate and maintain the site. During the lifetime of the site, components, including individual panels, may need to be replaced, requiring a limited number of HGVs.

## Decommissioning

At the end of its life, infrastructure will be removed, with materials recycled wherever possible. A Soil Management Plan will guide the process, ensuring the land is restored to its pre-construction condition and can return to agricultural use.

# Community benefit fund



## Community Benefit and Tasway

Tasway Energy Park will establish a Community Benefit Fund to support local projects and initiatives. The fund is designed to provide financial support for community groups, schools, and local organisations, helping to enhance facilities, support education, and deliver social or environmental projects within the surrounding area. Managed transparently and in consultation with local residents, the fund will ensure that the benefits of the energy park are shared with the communities nearby, contributing to long-term local wellbeing and development.

Aukera Energy, as the developer, is considering seriously its approach to community benefit for Tasway Energy Park.

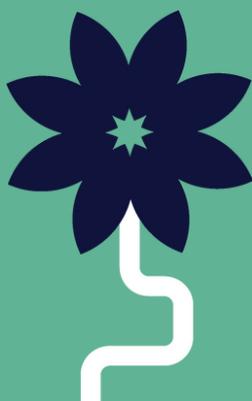
Aukera's approach will be informed and shaped by the Government potentially making community benefit funds mandatory for solar and other energy projects.

## Have Your Say!

We are keen to engage with the community at an early stage, ahead of submitting our DCO application.

Local charities, community groups, and stakeholders are invited to contact us and complete our survey (available online or in hard copy) to share ideas for projects and initiatives that could benefit from the community benefit fund.

Your feedback will help ensure our contributions deliver meaningful and lasting benefits. We encourage you to attend one of our consultation events and respond to the community engagement section of the survey.



## Policy Context

Aukera, like many other solar industry stakeholders, welcomed the 2025 Government consultation on introducing mandatory community benefit funds for low-carbon energy infrastructure including solar projects. This would require solar energy developers to provide community benefit funds to local communities hosting their projects, replacing the current voluntary system. The consultation was published by the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) in May 2025, seeking views on the design and scope of these funds as well as shared ownership models for renewable projects.

### Key aims of the consultation include:

- Establishing community benefit funds as monetary and non-monetary contributions to support local communities near energy infrastructure, covering cash payments, local investment, education, and environmental projects
- Establishing a minimum, mandatory amount linked to project scale, ensuring fairness and ensuring a positive legacy for communities
- Ensuring fund management would be local, allowing communities to decide how to use the money for their priorities
- Gathering feedback from developers, government and communities to start to develop community benefit protocols and guidance which will form the basis of a mandatory model

The consultation concluded in July 2025 and Aukera will commit to implementing any future guidance or requirements, as well as making sure we go above and beyond these where possible.





# Your feedback

We value your feedback and want to hear your views on Tasway Energy Park.

Your comments will be reviewed and considered as we develop the proposals.

You can share your feedback by completing a form and returning it at one of our events, posting it to us using our Freepost address by 11.59pm on Friday 5th December 2025, or completing the form online via our website. If you require alternative ways to provide feedback or have accessibility needs, please let us know.

After this consultation, all responses will be analysed to help shape the development of the proposals for Tasway Energy Park ahead of submitting the application in Early 2027. We expect to hold a second consultation phase before submission, providing another opportunity to review the updated designs and share your feedback.



01508 820125



[www.taswayenergypark.co.uk](http://www.taswayenergypark.co.uk)



[info@taswayenergypark.co.uk](mailto:info@taswayenergypark.co.uk)



**FREEPOST TASWAY ENERGY PARK**

You may also access our feedback form by scanning this QR code on your smartphone:



# Phase 1 consultation information

## ONLINE

Visit our dedicated consultation webpage at [taswayenergypark.co.uk](https://taswayenergypark.co.uk) to find detailed information about Tasway Energy Park and our commitments to the local environment and beyond. The website will be regularly updated with the latest news, documents, and announcements throughout the consultation and planning process.

## JOIN US AT OUR CONSULTATION EVENTS

Meet the team and learn more about Tasway Energy Park by joining our in-person events or online webinars. These sessions provide an opportunity to speak directly with our specialists, ask questions, and share your views in an open and welcoming setting. Your feedback plays an important role in shaping the project, and we look forward to hearing from you.

### In-person events

Friday 24th October 2025 Noon-8pm	Thorpe Hall, Muskett Rd, Ashwellthorpe, NR16 1FD
Saturday 25th October 2025 11am-5pm	Forncett Village Hall, Low Rd, Forncett St Mary, NR16 1JG
Friday 14th November 2025 Noon-8pm	Bunwell Village Hall, 10 The Turnpike, Bunwell, NR16 1SW
Saturday 15th November 2025 11am-5pm	Tacolneston Village Hall, West Way, Tacolneston, Forncett End, NR16 1BZ

### Online events\*

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
5:30pm - 7pm

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
5:30pm - 7pm

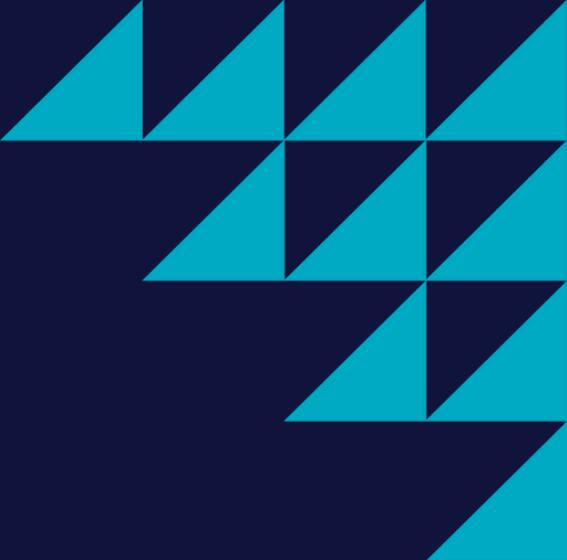
\*Register online on our website via the link or QR code on the previous page.

## MATERIALS IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS

Upon reasonable request, documents can be made available in alternative accessible formats for free, such as large print and alternative languages. All requests should be made by email to [info@taswayenergypark.co.uk](mailto:info@taswayenergypark.co.uk) or via our dedicated phoneline at 01508 820125.

## DEPOSIT LOCATION

A physical copy of the Phase 1 Consultation Brochure, plus a number of feedback forms will be available for inspection at Long Stratton Library for the duration of our consultation period, from Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025.



# AUKERN

