

## Newsletter October 2025



**We first wrote to you in June 2025 to introduce Kilnside Energy Park, a proposed solar farm with battery storage located to the northwest of Great Casterton.**

Since then, we have been busy at work on the environmental surveys which will inform the project, and have begun to develop the project design that we will present as part of a consultation early next year.

This newsletter provides an update on recent changes to the land we are looking at for the project. We also wanted to share the answers to some questions we have received since launching the project. You can find an updated site plan inside this newsletter and the answers to some common questions on the back page.

We will be in touch again ahead of our statutory public consultation, currently planned for early 2026. As part of this, we will present detailed proposals alongside the initial findings of our environmental impact assessment.

In the meantime, please get in touch with us if you have any questions:



■ **Call us:** 0800 779 7886

■ **Email us:** [info@kilnsideenergypark.co.uk](mailto:info@kilnsideenergypark.co.uk)

■ **Send us post:** FREEPOST SEC NEWGATE  
LOCAL - KILNSIDE ENERGY PARK



## Our updated site

The land we are looking at for Kilnside has changed since we were first in touch earlier this year.

We have removed some land around Pickworth in response to early engagement. This means we are no longer proposing development in the fields to the north, east and west of Pickworth. We have included an additional field south of Pickworth - this is proposed for environmental enhancements or mitigation and would not have any solar development in it.

We have also added land to the south and west of the Great North Road, which was made available to us after we made the project public.

We will continue to refine our ideas over the months ahead and present a draft masterplan as part of our consultation next year.





## Answering your questions

### Who is proposing this project?

- Kilnside Energy Park is being developed by Aukera, a highly experienced developer and operator of renewable energy projects. It is responsible for designing, building and operating the project, as well as securing all of the required consents.

### Why is this needed?

- The UK is currently replacing many older, fossil fuel-based power stations which have come to the end of their lives. At the same time, demand for electricity is expected to more than double in the decades to come. To deal with this and to secure Britain's energy security, we need to replace fossil fuel sources with renewable energy such as solar and wind. Kilnside could make a significant contribution to this by supplying clean, homegrown energy into the National Grid.

### Is Kilnside linked to Mallard Pass?

- Kilnside Energy Park and Mallard Pass are two separate projects which are entirely independent of one another. They are not part of the same development and Aukera does not have any involvement in Mallard Pass. We will carefully consider potential cumulative effects from Kilnside alongside Mallard Pass and other consented developments as part of our Environmental Impact Assessment. The land we have removed from the project means Kilnside would now be further from Mallard Pass.

### Are you consulting on the project?

- We will hold a statutory public consultation on the project in early 2026. This will include in-person exhibitions, direct meetings and digital engagement. The consultation will invite feedback through multiple channels as we seek to refine our design of the project.

### Does Kilnside own the land required for the project?

- Kilnside would be located on land leased for the duration of the project. The owners of the land have no involvement in the design or development of the project.

### Do solar farm projects like Kilnside impact the UK's food security?

- No. The amount of land required for solar farms to meet the country's clean power goals is around 0.5% of land currently for farming in the UK. This would have a negligible impact on food security. More broadly, the Government has identified climate change as the biggest threat to the country's food security. Climate change could reduce the proportion of 'Best and Most Versatile' agricultural land from 38.1% to 11.4% by 2050. Solar farms like Kilnside have a key role to play in combatting climate change. They also support farming in the long run by allowing the soil under panels to lie fallow and recover in quality.

### How does this affect the countryside?

- Solar farms are temporary, time-limited developments, after which the land can be returned to its original use. By planting trees and hedges at the boundary and in key locations on the site, we can effectively screen the project from view. As we move through the design process, we will develop our ideas on how this new planting can best mitigate any impacts and promote biodiversity.

### Won't CCTV at the site will mean surveillance of local people?

- Any CCTV will be inward-facing and focussed exclusively on the security of the site. We will assess any impacts that could be felt by local people, and propose mitigation measures before construction starts.

### What's in it for the community?

- We want the local community to benefit from the project directly. We intend to establish a community benefit fund to support local initiatives and provide benefits to local people. At this stage, we'd really like to hear ideas what you'd like to see and what would be the most impactful things the fund could support.