

Who we are



Energia Group is a modern, independent all-island energy utility with diversified business interests across renewable and flexible electricity generation.

Energia has over 300MW of operational renewable energy projects in Ireland. Energia Group will be investing over €3 billion in Irish renewable energy generation over the next 5 years, including solar PV, which is a key element in helping Ireland achieve its target of 70%.

Contact details

We pride ourselves on our reputation for being responsible developers and good neighbours in the communities where we operate.

For further information, please call our Community Liaison Officer on **048 9068 5992**, or email us at **clo@energia.ie**

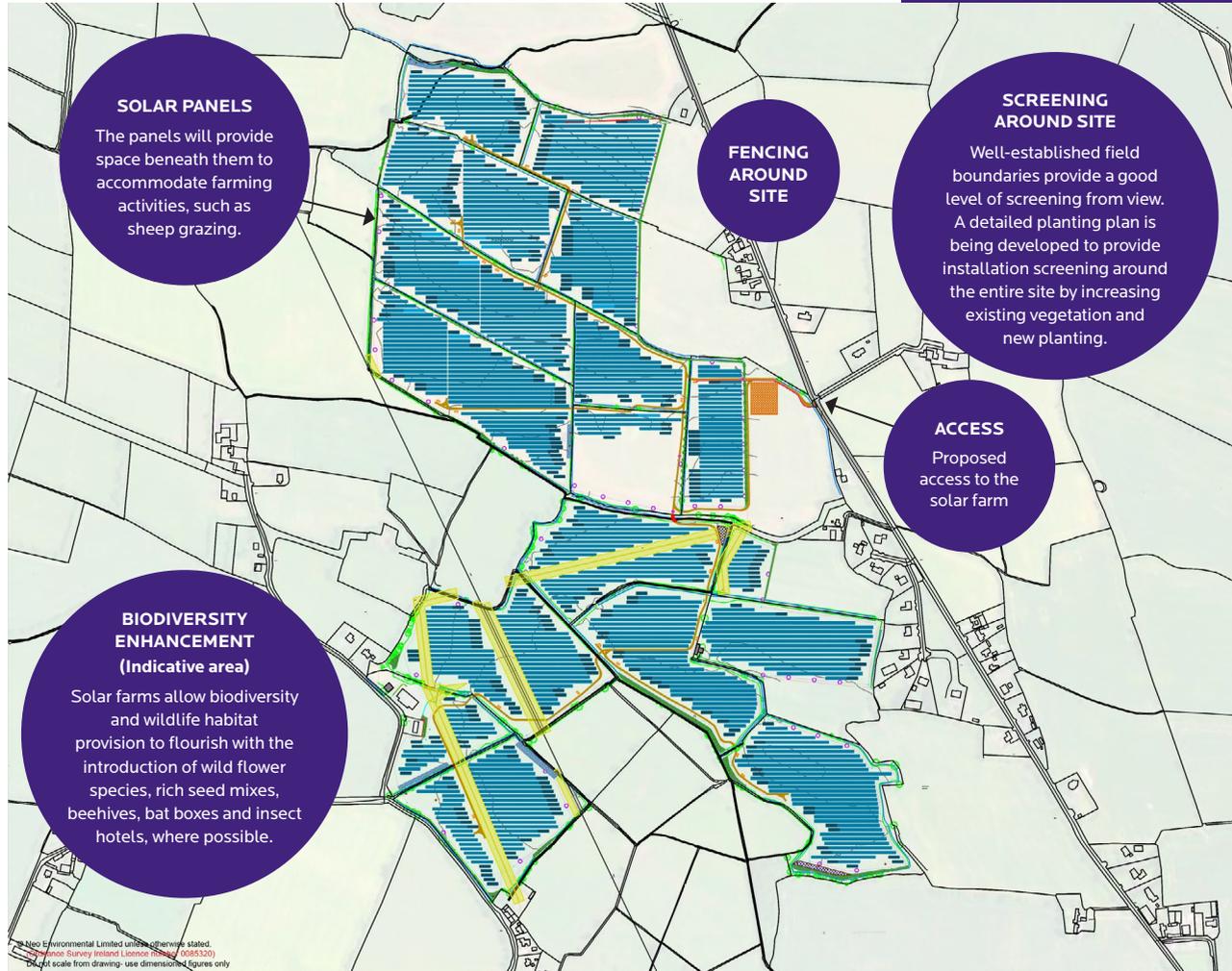
Proposed solar PV development Paddock, Co. Meath



Energia Group is developing plans for a solar energy installation in the townland of Paddock, near Ratoath, in County Meath.

The proposed development will connect into the local electricity network and will have an export capacity of up to 70MW MEC, **generating enough renewable electricity to meet the annual energy needs of around 21,000 Irish households every year.**

The site has been carefully selected and is well screened with mature trees and hedges. We are undertaking a wide range of environmental assessments, including landscape and visual, heritage and archaeology, ecology, hydrology, glint and glare, and more.



SOLAR PANELS

The panels will provide space beneath them to accommodate farming activities, such as sheep grazing.

FENCING AROUND SITE

SCREENING AROUND SITE

Well-established field boundaries provide a good level of screening from view. A detailed planting plan is being developed to provide installation screening around the entire site by increasing existing vegetation and new planting.

ACCESS

Proposed access to the solar farm

BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT (Indicative area)

Solar farms allow biodiversity and wildlife habitat provision to flourish with the introduction of wild flower species, rich seed mixes, beehives, bat boxes and insect hotels, where possible.

Why is this project important?

The Irish Government has declared a climate emergency and its Climate Action Plan has set ambitious targets for decarbonisation through increased levels of renewable energy generation. Solar energy will play an important role in achieving these targets.

What happens when the sun doesn't shine?

When light shines on the photovoltaic (PV) cells in a solar panel, it creates an electric field, causing electricity to flow. The more intense the light is, the greater the flow of electricity. Even cloudy days can have good visible light levels and generate solar energy – particularly during our long hours of daylight during the summer months.

What security measures will be used on site?

The solar installation will be enclosed by fencing, approx. 2m high. CCTV cameras will be in operation but will be strategically positioned to ensure they do not breach residents' privacy.

How long will construction last?

Construction times are generally short, lasting between three to four months. A traffic management plan will be put in place, when the solar installation is being constructed, but disruption is expected to be minimal.

Key site statistics

 Up to 70MW MEC (export capacity).

 Equivalent to the energy needs of more than 21,000 homes.

 CO2 savings of over 26,000 tonnes per annum.

 Equivalent to taking more than 13,000 cars off the road every year.

 Community benefit fund will support local community group projects.

Will there be an increase in traffic?

Once constructed, solar installations require limited maintenance access.

Do solar farms pose a health risk?

Unlike fossil fuels, such as coal or gas, generating electricity from solar energy creates no harmful emissions. The electrical equipment we use meets international engineering and safety standards.