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The site would generate enough power for more than 13,000 homes

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By Heather Pickstock North Somerset reporter 00:00, 2 NOV 2023

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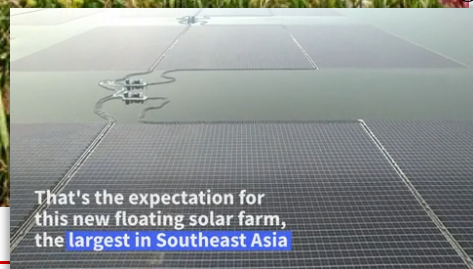
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Stock image of a solar farm (Image: JBM Solar)



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proposals to North Somerset Council to build the new solar farm and sub station on a 165 acre site off King Road between [Congresbury](#) and Langford.

The development, known as [Honey Hall](#) Solar Farm, will generate 48GWh of electricity a year - enough for more than 13,000 homes in Somerset. The new solar farm would also see Co2 savings of more than 800,000 tonnes a year, the equivalent of taking around 12,500 cars off North Somerset's roads.

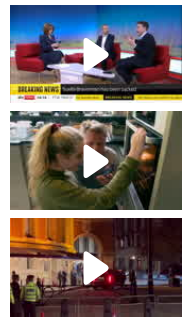
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The land, currently used for grazing livestock would see photo voltaic solar panels erected on posts through the site. The site would be connected to a 132 KV pylon to the west of Brinsea Batch.

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Livestock would continue to graze in and around the panels. [Hedgerows](#) and trees around the site will be maintained and allowed to grow to three to four metres in height to block views of the site.

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A spokesman for JBM Solar said: "The site's open and [rural](#) location and the fact that it is not shaded by any nearby features in the landscape make it highly suitable for this kind of development." As well as screening the site, wildflower meadows would also be created along King Road, Brinsea Batch and Honeyhall Lane.

Tree and shrub planting would also take place and a community orchard would be created. Beehives would also be peppered around the site and open to the community to use.



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'Species rich' grassland would be planted below the panels and new permissive paths created through the site to provide an alternative route to walking along King Road. The [development](#) would also feature an outdoor classroom and new seating along with information boards.

If granted, the solar farm would take around six months to construct. It would be decommissioned after 40 years with the land being returned to agricultural use. The spokesman said: "The [development](#) would have a lifespan of about 40 years.

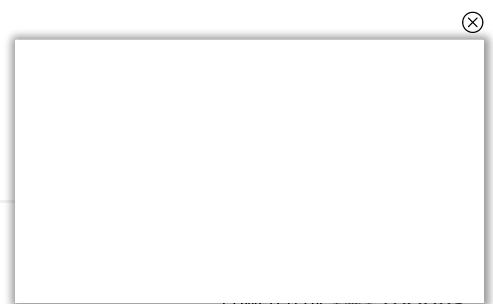
"At the end of the useful life of the facility, it will be decommissioned and all associated equipment removed apart from the sub station. It is considered the land can then be quickly reverted to agricultural use.

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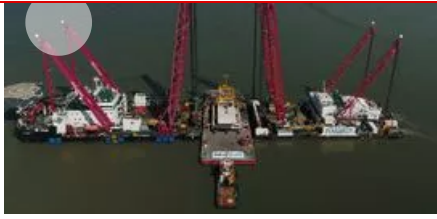


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"Therefore the proposed development will not lead to the permanent loss of **agricultural** land and at least 80 per cent of the site can still be used for the grazing of agricultural livestock.

"North Somerset Council declared a climate emergency in 2019 and published it's Climate Change Action Plan and set a target for the District to lead the way and become carbon neutral by 2030. **Solar** farms, such as Honeyhall Solar Farm, will make a meaningful contribution to the local, and national, climate commitments."

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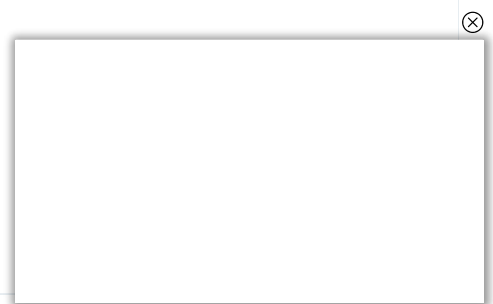
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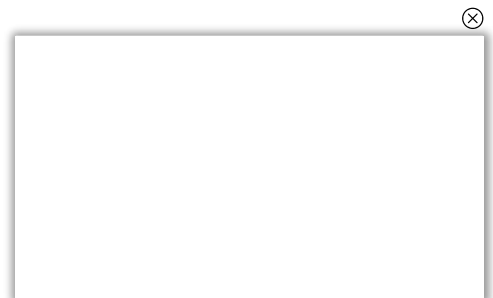
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