

Welcome to Masdar Arlington Energy's public exhibition

We have organised this public exhibition in order to facilitate a space where you can learn and question us about our proposals to establish a battery energy storage system (BESS) in Catherine de Barnes.

Masdar Arlington Energy, investors in clean energy, is preparing a planning proposal to develop a battery storage facility just outside Catherine de Barnes village. Members of the project team are here to answer any questions you may have.

Our intention is to develop our plans further following consideration of your feedback, followed by a submission of a planning application to Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council.



Arlington Energy

About Masdar Arlington Energy

Masdar Arlington Energy is experienced in establishing battery energy storage systems across England. We have a proven record in developing, building, operating, and financing flexible energy solutions, having taken over 170 megawatts (MW) of assets through to operation in the past five years.

We strive to be engaging and approachable, with community consultation forming a key part of our development process. This is about understanding what is important to the local community and how we can provide additional benefits where possible.

What is a battery storage facility?

A BESS stores energy during times of low demand and high generation and feeds it back onto the local network during times of peak demand, providing much needed balancing services to the grid. This allows for a greater reliance on renewable energy generation, such as wind and solar power.

These assets aid in hitting net zero targets locally, as well as helping ensure that the UK meets its Net Zero goals through unlocking the full potential of renewable energy generation.

These facilities are typically modestly sized, with batteries housed in container like structures, requiring low levels of attention once operational. We would expect technicians, maintenance staff, and gardeners to visit approximately once a quarter.



The site

The plot is 3.5 hectares bordered by the Grand Union Canal to the east and south and Henwood Lane to the west which provides access to the site. To the north are more agricultural fields.

We recognise that any development on green field locations must be carefully considered and weighed against the benefits of creating nationally important battery storage facilities as we transition away from large scale fossil fuel energy creation.

This location, and other areas which surround large cities, have a particular acute need for battery storage as swings in energy demand are more prevalent due to the amount of residential and commercial uses in the locale.

The location of sites is somewhat driven by the National Grid, who identify where spare capacity exists for battery storage connections to be made.

We carried out an exhaustive search for land in areas that are considered suitable for battery storage in this location, which has been provided to us by the Grid.

With the pylons traveling across the site, we are very close to a point of connection to the Grid, which means we have no need for disruptive cabling works on the local road network, and we are maximising the efficiency of the storage process as there are no transmission losses from transporting stored energy over distances to connect it back into the grid.



Arlington Energy

Proposals

Our vision is to bring forward a development which aids the UK's drive towards Net Zero and sustainability.

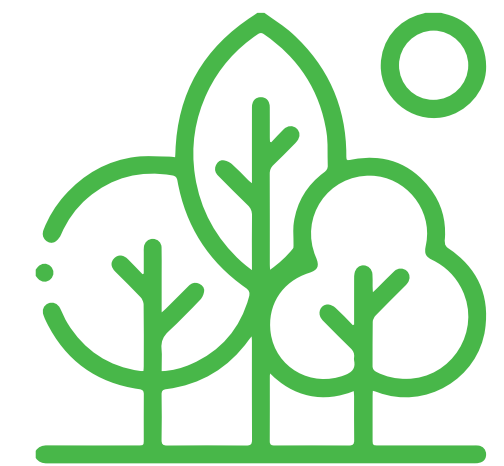
The proposals are in line with the priorities outlined by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, such as promoting decentralised energy and enhancing biodiversity.

Our proposal is to locate a new facility on land to the east of Henwood Lane and our plans have been developed with careful consideration of the local area:

- thought has been given to ensure there is low visual impact.
- noise and lighting have also been considered in the proposals. The battery storage facility will not produce any disrupting noise. The lights will be operated by sensors and therefore will reduce any wasted energy and light pollution emanating from the site.

Landscaping

A comprehensive landscaping plan is being developed to ensure that adequate visual screening is incorporated into the plans and that there are opportunities to improve local biodiversity.



Proposed location of the facility shown in green



Arlington Energy

Construction & Ongoing Operation

Construction

Considerate construction of the facility is of paramount importance.

Arlington will own and manage this facility throughout its life – the team look forward to working alongside your community in the years to come and will hold contractors responsible to high standards.

Whilst we envisage a certain amount of disruption during the construction of the facility, we are committed to working with stakeholders to alleviate the impact as far as possible.

Arlington will establish and manage a community liaison hotline throughout the construction period, providing a channel by which concerns can be raised and questions asked and ensure accountability of contractors working at the site.

There will be a requirement to submit a Construction Traffic Management Plan to outline the mitigation and vehicular numbers through these periods.

We would welcome feedback on how best to manage the site in a considerate manner.



Ongoing operation

The site will require limited management during operation, with visits from technicians at periodic intervals to inspect and maintain equipment, as well as from landscape gardeners who will manage the planting and other landscaping.

Community benefits



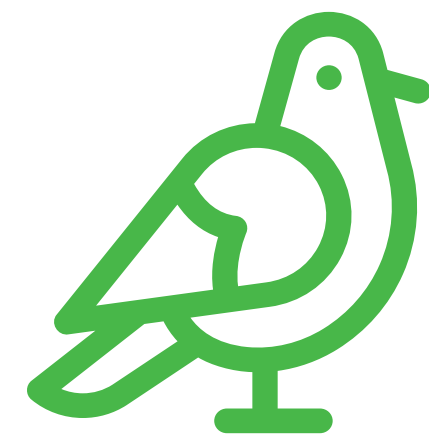
We will support the UK's drive to make the electricity grid greener. Flexible energy storage will be vital to getting the full benefit from renewable technology to tackle the climate crisis.



This is a 30–40-year project, meaning that the site will be returned to agricultural farmland once the development has reached the end of its commercial operation. Nevertheless, the final scheme design will ensure its appropriate integration into the site setting throughout its lifetime, carefully considering the purposes of the Green Belt in the short, medium and long term.



The development will provide important local network balancing services, helping to avoid localised blackouts and contribute to lowering energy bills.



There will be a significant local biodiversity benefit on the site as we undertake landscape enhancement works, with emphasis on woodland planting where possible to support and align with local objectives.

Norrington Gate Case Study

Masdar Arlington Energy recently received planning permission to a similar facility (150MW) close to the village of Broughton Gifford in Wiltshire.

We diligently worked with the local Parish Council, Wiltshire Council and local residents, to ensure our plans were mindful of the local consensus. Masdar Arlington are committed to working closely with the local community and listening to any concerns, including implementing considerate construction practices to minimise disruption.



Arlington Energy



- Application boundary
- 1** Access point and route from Henwood Lane
- 2** Battery and converter compound
- 3** Transformer and switch gear compound
- 4** 2.4m palisade security fence
- 5** 1.2m stock fence
- 6** Temporary construction laydown areas
- 7** Overhead powerline and gas main with easements. Development and planting set outside of overhead powerline (southerly call-out) and high-pressure gas main (northerly call-out).
- 8** Rural lanes are characteristic of the local landscape; development is set back from Henwood Lane.
- 9** Existing trees, hedgerows and scrub along field boundaries and the Grand Union Canal to be retained to maintain existing levels of visual containment. Root protection areas to be observed.
- 10** Proposed native, species-rich hedgerow
- 11** Proposed native woodland block planting to the perimeter of compounds to provide further visual screening and to help assimilate the proposals into the wider landscape pattern.
- 12** Proposed species-rich habitat. A tussock grassland mix with low growing native mixed scrub planting.

Thank you for attending the public exhibition for our Catherine de Barnes battery storage facility.

We want to hear the views of the community before we submit a planning application to Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council.

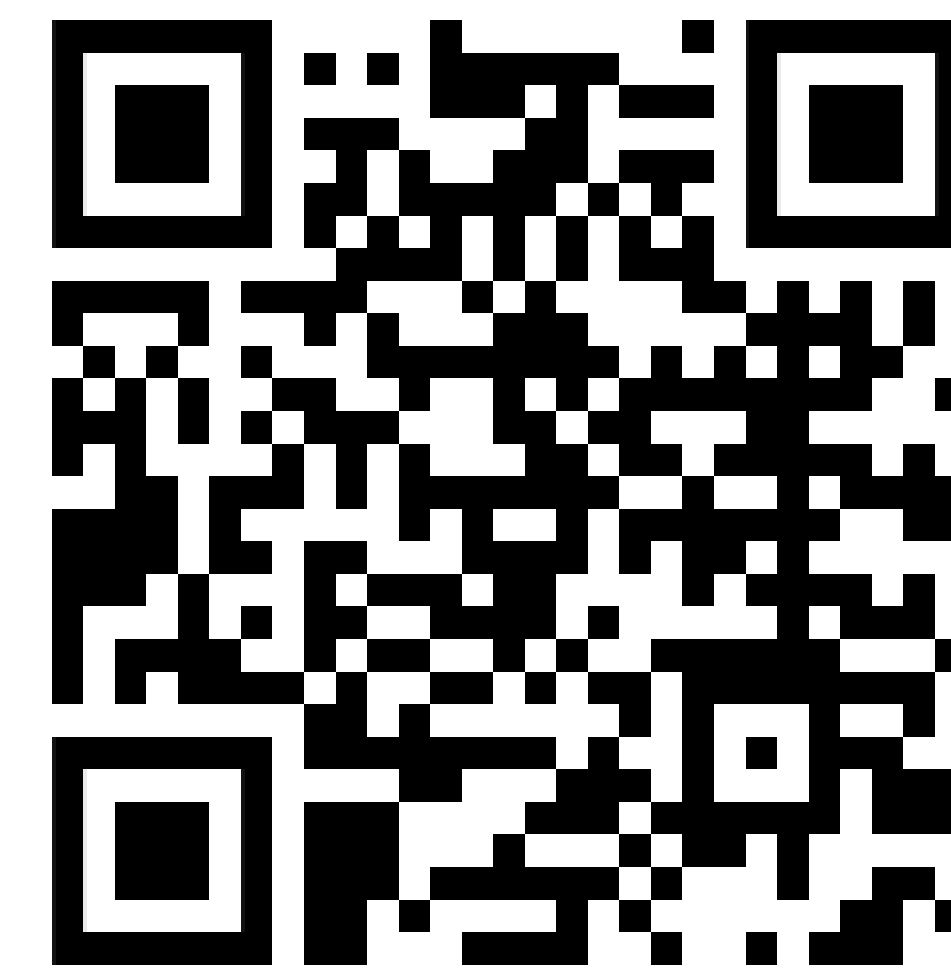


Find out more

Please take a few moments to let us know your thoughts by completing a feedback form or by visiting our website:

www.catherinedebarnesbatterystorage.com

Scan to visit the website



Email us at:
catherinedebarnes@jbp.co.uk

Call our Freephone number on:
0800 130 3270