

## **Lightsource bp to hold new community consultation event for 49.9MW solar project proposal**

Lightsource bp, a leading developer, constructor and operator of utility-scale onshore renewables and energy storage solutions is putting forward a proposal to fund, develop and build a 49.9MW solar project on 258 acres of land along Old London Road, Maldon. Residents from the surrounding area are invited to attend a community information event where we will share details of the updated proposals and answer questions about the project.

The community information event will be held in Woodham Walter Village Hall on 22 January from 3pm to 8pm.

The proposed solar project will provide enough renewable energy to 23,102 homes, saving 13,099 tonnes of carbon emissions every year, the equivalent of taking 4,156 large family cars off the roads. This project is part of Lightsource bp's mission to accelerate the transition to a low carbon future.

An initial community information event was held in 2023 and since then the proposals have been updated to reflect changes in the site boundary. As well as generating low carbon energy, the updated proposal has been designed to create safe havens for local wildlife. The proposals are informed by a tailored Biodiversity Management Plan, which will be included in the planning application. These plans ensure that native plants and habitats flourish alongside the solar project.

The proposed site has been carefully chosen for their close access to a local grid connection and their natural screening by the surrounding landscape, which will help minimise views of the solar project from nearby areas.

**Aidan Collins, Head of Environmental Planning UK & Ireland, Lightsource bp said:**

*"Solar energy is not only low carbon and renewable, but it also generates domestic electricity. This makes solar an important part of meeting the global rise in energy demand efficiently and more sustainably, which is a core aspect of Lightsource bp's sustainability mission.*

*We want to ensure that local communities in and around the proposed location have all the information they need about this project. We're holding this information event to speak to members of the local community, and to gather feedback. This event is also a great way for the community to ask any questions they may have about the project or solar energy in general."*

Residents can obtain further information on the project, at any time, by getting in touch with the Lightsource bp team via [info@lightsourcebp.com](mailto:info@lightsourcebp.com) quoting 'Maldon'.

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