

25<sup>th</sup> August 2023

**Subject: Invitation to Public Consultation Event for the Menear Solar PV and Battery Storage Project**

Dear Sir/Madam,

We hope this letter finds you well.

Anesco are currently in the process of completing pre-planning surveys to accompany a full planning application for a proposed Solar PV and Battery Storage project at the land forming part of Menear Road, Treverbyn, Trethurgy, Cornwall, PL25 3JT.

We are hoping to progress to a full planning application with Cornwall County Council over the coming months. As part of this process, we are committed to engaging with the local community to discuss all aspects of the proposed development in greater detail.

We would therefore like to invite you to a Public Consultation Event, where you'll have the opportunity to:

- Learn about the Menear Solar PV and Battery Storage project in detail.
- Engage with our project team and ask any questions you may have.
- Share your valuable perspectives, concerns and suggestions.

**Event Details**

- Date: **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023**
- Time: **2pm – 6:30pm** (Drop-in sessions)
- Location: Treverbyn Parish Council Office, Rockhill Business Park, Stenalees, St.Austell, PL26 8RA

The consultation will be held in the form of drop-in sessions, so please feel free to attend at the most convenient time for yourself during the event.

Please see the back page of this letter for some background information for the proposed Menear Solar PV and Battery Storage site.

Your participation really does matter as we work towards a greener, more sustainable future and we hope to see you at the event.

Yours sincerely,

**Steven Williams**

Project Developer

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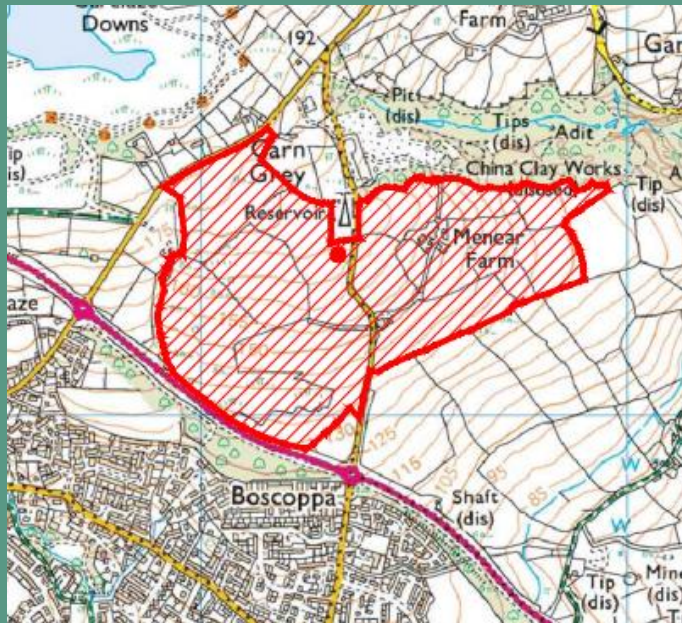
**Email:** [steven.williams@anesco.co.uk](mailto:steven.williams@anesco.co.uk)

## Background

Anesco Limited is proposing to develop a 15MWp Solar and 5MW Battery Storage Farm on the land at Menear Road, Treverbyn, Trethurgy, Cornwall, PL25 3JT.

The proposal involves the construction and operation of a Solar and Battery storage installation that will connect into the electricity network, comprising solar modules, solar inverters, battery cabinets and associated works, including landscaping. The grid connection location will be on an overhead cable that passes through the boundary of the site. The application area will be approximately 47 acres and planning permission will be sought for a period of 40 years.

In response to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) screening request, Cornwall County Council, adopted a screening opinion on the 29th April 2022 concluding that the proposal is not an EIA development.



## Climate change emergency

In June 2019, the UK government became the first major economy in the world to pass laws to end its contribution to global warming by 2050. What this means is that by this date, the UK's greenhouse gas emissions will be carbon neutral. Creating a better environment now, and for generations to come. Carbon neutral is about finding a balance between the total greenhouse gas emissions being produced, and the total emissions being removed from the environment.

## About solar technology

Solar is the most popular renewable technology in the world and is an incredibly clean source of renewable energy. Unlike other renewable technologies, solar panels have no moving parts and therefore operate silently. They are also low in height and can be hidden behind hedgerows or fencing, minimising the visual impact on the landscape.

## The Menear Solar and Battery Storage Project

The energy produced from the proposed solar farm at Menear solar and battery project is equivalent to the amount of energy expected to power approximately 2,558 average UK homes and result in an approximate saving of 2,264 tonnes of carbon dioxide (equivalent) emissions per annum. Projects of this kind also present biodiversity enhancement opportunities.

The site is not located within an AONB (Area Outstanding Natural Beauty), National Park or other designated landscape area.

The solar farm would be set back from residential properties, which would limit views of the development within the local area. A full landscape and visual impact assessment is currently being formulated and will be submitted as part of the planning application. It is anticipated that further planting and hedgerow re-enforcement will be put in place.

## Biodiversity Enhancements

The RSPB 'State of Nature Report' highlights the severity of the decline in British wildlife. It details that of the 8,431 species that have been assessed using regional Red List criteria, 15% have been classified as threatened with extinction from Great Britain. Climate change is driving widespread changes in the abundance, distribution, and ecology of the UK's wildlife, and will continue to do so for decades or even centuries to come.

Solar farms present an excellent opportunity for biodiversity. The proposed solar farm will be installed on piles with minimal disturbance to the ground. The solar panels have no moving parts and the infrastructure typically disturbs less than 5% of the ground. The posts upon which the panels are mounted take up less than 1% of the land area. Because panels are raised above the ground on posts, more than 95% of a solar farm field area is still accessible for plant growth and potentially for wildlife enhancements. The proposed solar farm would have a lifespan of 40 years which is sufficient time for appropriate land management to yield real wildlife and biodiversity improvements within the local area. A site-specific biodiversity plan will be devised to cover the lifetime of the proposed solar farm, working closely with the ecologists, and conservation organisations to ensure that the biodiversity enhancements are most appropriate to the local area.