ESB Energy for generations

MILLTOWN SOLAR FARM PROJECT

Milltown Solar Farm Newsletter

Issue 1 - July 2025

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Milltown Solar Farm is a new renewable energy project located to the south of Kells, Co. Meath. It is being developed by Harmony Solar Meath Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of ESB.

The project has received full planning permission to generate 102MW of clean electricity; enough to power approximately 29,000 homes annually.

As part of this project, ESB is committed to engaging closely with the local communities surrounding the site to ensure the successful delivery of Milltown Solar Farm by 2027.

Milltown Solar Farm received full planning permission from An Bord Pleanála in March 2022 (Meath County Council planning reference number 21/396 An Bord Pleanála reference ABP-311460-21).

The project successfully obtained a capacity contract in the RESS 4 (Renewable Electricity Support Scheme) auction in October 2024.

Figure 1 Milltown Solar Farm - Site location map

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Construction Overview

Construction of the Solar Farm will involve the installation of ground mounted solar panels on light steel frames and the installation of associated underground cabling. The project consists of a northern parcel at Cortown and a southern parcel at Moyagher. The project will connect to the electricity grid through an on-site 110kV (kilovolts) substation located at the northern parcel. The two parcels will be connected via underground cable on public roads and private land.

Current Development Timeline

Summer 2025	Construction of the project is due to commence.
Winter 2025	Electrical and solar works due to commence
Spring 2026	Cable installation.
Summer 2027	Commissioning and project operational.

Traffic Management

Where will access to the Solar Farm site be?

The northern parcel will be accessed from a new site entrance which will be on the local L6835 road, approximately 1.5km West of Cortown. The southern parcel will be accessed from a new site entrance which will be on the local L8003 road approximately 300m north of Moyaugher Cemetery.

What is involved in the cable installation?

The installation of the connecting circuit will consist of an underground cable of approximately 2.9km from where it exits the southern parcel onto the L80021 to where it enters the northern parcel along the L6835.

Figure 2 Underground Cable Circuit

Solar components for delivery?

The solar panels and ancillary components are relatively small and are transported in pallets before being assembled on site. The pallets will be delivered in 40-foot containers that are transported by articulated lorries.

Will there be traffic diversions & delays?

A detailed traffic management plan will be agreed with Meath County Council prior to construction and the project team will continue to keep the community informed as plans for the works progress.

Diversion and traffic management measures will be kept to a minimum when the detailed traffic management plan is put in place. However, there will be temporary disruption along the road for the installation of the underground connection circuit.

The project team will arrange updates and communications on this. Your patience in this regard is much appreciated. We would encourage those who feel they may be impacted by the traffic management measures to please contact the community liaison officer.

Once constructed and operational the only traffic to occur will be for occasional maintenance visits. The impacts of such traffic will be negligible.

Community Benefit Fund

The Milltown Solar Farm project will have a Community Benefit Fund which will distribute grants to organisations in the local area once the Solar Farm is operational. The fund is to be used for the wider economic, environment, social and cultural wellbeing of the local community. ESB has an independent dedicated administrator for Wind and Solar Farm Community Funds, and they are called SECAD. This is their application portal website: www.communitybenefitfunds.ie and there is a help section on the site that communities may find helpful, including links to webinars. While the solar fund is not operational yet, we encourage you to start thinking about the kind of projects you might submit and the supporting information SECAD require.

Contact Us

The project team is committed to keeping the local community up to date with the construction of Milltown Solar Farm. Updates will be available through our project website as the project progresses.

Our Community Liaison Officer (CLO), Barry Faulkner, and members of the project team are available to meet you to discuss all aspects of the project at your convenience.

Website: www.milltownsolarfarm.ie

Email: ESBSolarFarms@esb.ie

Phone: 086 167 8448 (CLO - Barry Faulkner)

Post: Milltown Solar Farm Project,
ESB Head Office,
27 Fitzwilliam Street Lower,
Dublin 2,
D02 KT92,
Ireland.

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Déan teagmháil linn

Tá sé i gceist ag foireann an tionscadail pobal na háite a choinneáil ar an eolas faoi thógáil Fheirm Ghréine Bhaile an Mhuilinn. Tabharfar tuairiscí chun dáta ar láithreán gréasáin an tionscadail de réir mar a dhéanfar dul chun cinn ar an tionscadal.

Tá an tOifigeach Teagmhála Pobail Barry Faulkner agus daoine eile d'fhoireann an tionscadail ar fáil le bualadh leat ar do chaoithiúlacht agus gné ar bith den tionscadal a phlé leat.

Suíomh Gréasáin: www.milltownsolarfarm.ie

Ríomhphost: ESBSolarFarms@esb.ie

Fón: 086 167 8448
(Oifigeach Teagmhála Pobail - Barry Faulkner)

Post: Feirm Ghréine Bhaile an Mhuilinn
Ceannáras Bhord Soláthair an Leictreachais
27 Sráid Mhic Liam Íochtarach
Baile Átha Cliath 2
D02 KT92
Éire

Tabharfaidh foireann an tionscadail tuairiscí chun dáta ar an ábhar sin. Ár mbuíochas libh as bheith foighneach linn. Iad siúd a cheapann go gcuirfidh na bearta bainistíochta tráchth isteach orthu, moltar dóibh teagmháil a dhéanamh leis an oifigeach teagmhála pobail.

Nuair a bheidh an fheirm tógtha agus ag obair, ní bheidh aon trácht ann seachas cuairteanna cothabhála ó am go chéile. Is beag difear a dhéanfaidh trácht den chineál sin.

Ciste Sochair Pobail

Beidh Ciste Sochair Pobail ag baint le tionscadal Fheirm Ghréine Bhaile an Mhuilinn óna mbronnfar deontais ar eagraíochtaí sa cheantar nuair a bheidh an Fheirm Ghréine ag feidhmiú. Úsáidfear an ciste ar mhaithe le folláine eacnamaíoch, chomhshaoil, shóisialta agus chultúrtha phobal na háite. Tá riarthóir neamhspleách faoi leith ag ESB a bhíonn ag plé le Cistí Pobail Feirmeacha Gaoithe agus Gréine - SECAD. Is é www.communitybenefitfunds.ie an láithreán gréasáin atá acu chun iarratas a dhéanamh. Tá leathanach cabhrach ar an láithreán gréasáin a bheidh áisiúil ag pobail agus naisc ansin chuig seimineáir ghréasáin agus áiseanna eile. Cé nach bhfuil an ciste gréine i bhfeidhm go fóill, molaimid daoibh smaoineamh faoi na cineálacha tionscadal a chuirfeadh sibh isteach agus an t-eolas tacaíochta a bheidh de dhíth ar SECAD.

Comhpháirteanna gréine atá lena seachadadh

Tá na painéil ghréine agus na comhpháirteanna a bhaineann leo réasúnta beag. Úsáidtear pailléid le hiad a aistriú ó áit go háit agus cuirtear le chéile ar an láthair iad. Déanfar na pailléid a sheachadadh i gcoimeádáin 40 troigh á n-iompar ag leoraithe altacha. Déanfar seachadtaí chuig an bhfearann thuaidh tríd an M3 go dtí bóthar an R164 agus soir ansin ar an L6835 go dtí an bealach isteach chuig láithreán an fhearainn thuaidh. Déanfar seachadtaí chuig an bhfearann theas trí acomhal 9 ar an M3, ar aghaidh ar an N51 i dtreo Bhaile Átha Buí, agus ar dheis ansin ar an R164 go Baile Forda. Ag Baile Forda, cas ar dheis agus lean ar aghaidh ar an L6836. Ag Reilig Mhaigh Achair, cas ar chlé agus ar chlé arís isteach san fhearann theas.

An gcuirfear trácht ar mhalairt slí agus an mbeidh moilleanna ann?

Comhaontófar plean mionsonraithe bainistíochta tráchta le Comhairle Contae na Mí roimh an tógáil agus coinneoidh foireann an tionscadail an pobal ar an eolas de réir mar a théann na hoibreacha ar aghaidh.

Beidh a laghad cur isteach ar thrácht agus bearta bainistíochta tráchta agus is féidir nuair a chuirfear an plean mionsonraithe bainistíochta tráchta i bhfeidhm. Bíodh sin mar atá, seans go mbeidh cur isteach sealadach ann ar an mbóthar agus an ciorcad nasctha faoi thalamh á shuiteáil.

Bainistíocht Tráchta

Cén áit a mbeidh na bealaí isteach chuig an bhFeirm Ghréine?

Beidh bealach isteach nua chuig an bhfearann thuaidh ar bhóthar áitiúil an L6835, thart ar 1.5km laistiar den Bhaile Corr. Beidh bealach isteach nua chuig an bhfearann theas ar bhóthar áitiúil an L8003, thart ar 300m lastuaidh de Reilig Mhaigh Achair.

Céard a bheidh i gceist le suiteáil an chábla?

Is éard a bheidh i gceist le suiteáil an chiorcaid nasctha ná cábla faoi thalamh thart ar 2.9km ar fad, a rachaidh ón áit a dtagann sé amach as an bhfearann theas ar an L80021, go dtí an áit a dtéann sé isteach san fhearann thuaidh ar an L6835.

Fíor 2 Ciorcad an chábla faoi thalamh

Forléargas Tógála

Agus an Fheirm Ghréine á tógáil, beidh sé riachtanach painéil ghréine talamh-suite a shuiteáil ar fhrámaí cruaiche tanaí chomh maith le cábla faoi thalamh a shuiteáil. Beidh an tionscadal comhdhéanta d'fhearann thuaidh sa Bhaile Corr agus fearann theas ar an Maigh Achair. Déanfar an tionscadal a nascadh leis an eangach leictreachais i bhfostáisiún 110kV (cileavata) a bheidh suite san fhearann thuaidh. Beidh an dá fhearann nasctha trí chábla faoi thalamh ar bhóithre poiblí agus ar thalamh príobháideach.

Amlíne Forbartha

Samhradh 2025	Tá an obair thógála ar an tionscadal réidh le tosú
Geimhreadh 2025	Tá an obair leictreachais agus gréine réidh le tosú
Earrach 2026	Suiteáil an chábla
Samhradh 2027	Déanfar an tionscadal a choimisiúnú agus cuirfear ag obair é

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Nuachtlitir Fheirm Ghréine Bhaile an

Tionscadal nua fuinnimh in-athnuaite laisteas de Cheanannas, Contae na Mí is ea Feirm Ghréine Bhaile an Mhuilinn. Is é Harmony Solar Meath Limited a dhéanfaidh an tionscadal a fhorbairt, ar fochuideachta ar lánúinéireacht ESB é.

Tá lánchead pleanála faighte don tionscadal seo le 102MW d'fhuinneamh glan a ghiniúint, méid a bheidh in ann cumhacht a sholáthar do bhreis agus 29,000 áit chónaithe in aghaidh na bliana.

Mar chuid den tionscadal seo, tá gealltanas tugtha ag ESB go mbeimid ag plé i ndlúthchomhar leis na pobail áitiúla thart ar an suíomh le go n-éireoidh linn Feirm Ghréine Bhaile an Mhuilinn a chur i gcrích faoi 2027.

Fuarthas lánchead pleanála d'Fheirm Ghréine Bhaile an Mhuilinn ón mBord Pleanála i mí an Mhárta 2022 (Uimhir thagartha 21/396 le Comhairle Contae na Mí / Uimhir thagartha ABP-311460-21 leis an mBord Pleanála)

D'éirigh leis an tionscadal conradh acmhainneachta a fháil i gceant faoi Scéim Tacaíochta Leictreachais In-athnuaite 4 (RESS) i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2024.

Fíor 1 Léarscáil láithreáin Fheirm Ghréine Bhaile an Mhuilinn

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Nuachtlitir Fheirm Ghréine Bhaile an Mhuilinn

Eagrán 1 - Iúil 2025