



THE PROJECT PROPOSAL

Castlebank Green Energy Ltd, an independent Irish renewable energy developer, intends to submit a planning application to Clare County Council for a proposed solar farm in Castlebank, Ardnacrusha Co Clare. The proposed development will displace over 7,000 tonnes of CO₂ while providing enough electricity to power more than 5,000 homes each year. In line with Community Benefit Fund Guidelines, governed by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI), and based on the current project scope, Castlebank Green Energy will generate a yearly community benefit fund of over €44,000 for the local area. This project will help meet Clare County Council's Solar Energy target of 300MW by 2030, as set out in the Clare County Development Plan 2023 - 2029 (Renewable Energy Strategy). The project will also contribute to the Irish Government's solar energy target of 8GW by 2030, as set out in the Climate Action Plan 2024.

Solar farms are modular in nature and the construction of the project is efficient. The solar energy development will comprise of photovoltaic panels and supporting infrastructure surrounded by secure fencing. The proposed Castlebank Green Energy project will consist of the construction of PV panels mounted on metal frames, new access tracks, underground cabling, perimeter fencing with access gates, a single temporary construction compound, substation, ancillary grid infrastructure and associated works.

Views of the proposed solar farm will be screened from the road network and adjacent lands via existing and strategic planting of trees and hedging. Existing hedgerows and field boundaries on site will be retained and enhanced through planting of native species. The site will also use ecological enhancement measures to protect the existing landscape.

WHY?

To limit the worst impacts of the climate crisis, we need to drastically change the way we produce energy around the world. Solar energy is a better choice for our planet because it doesn't burn fossil fuels that release carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

WHEN?

We expect to submit a planning application for the proposed Castlebank Green Energy project in the Summer of 2024.

WHERE?

The proposed development is located in Castlebank, Ardnacrusha, Co. Clare.





UNDERSTANDING SOLAR ENERGY

Solar energy is simply radiant light from the sun. It is inexhaustible and is harnessed using photovoltaic solar cells which convert sunlight directly into an electric current. It is a proven technology that offers many benefits. Renewable, non-polluting and available planet-wide, it contributes to sustainable development and job creation where it is installed.

At Castlebank Green Energy, we believe we can play a pivotal role in advancing Ireland's ambitious renewable energy objectives by harnessing the potential of solar energy to reduce carbon emissions and diversify Ireland's energy mix.

KEY FACTS

- ☻ Castlebank Green Energy will contribute to Ireland's Renewable Energy Targets and can potentially supply electricity to more than 5,000 homes.
- ☻ Castlebank Green Energy will generate a yearly community benefit fund of over €44,000.
- ☻ Solar electricity generation produces no carbon emissions, and has no moving parts.
- ☻ Farming of small livestock can continue on sites used for solar energy production.
- ☻ Solar panels use silicon, the second most abundant element on earth.



CASTLEBANK
GREEN ENERGY

If you have any observations, comments, queries or require further information about this proposed solar farm, our dedicated community team will be delighted to hear from you. Please contact Castlebank Green Energy as follows:

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- ☎ 061 975 200
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