

“Investments that matter”





Downing



Downing LLP is a privately owned investment company based in London that holds over £1.4 billion of investment in assets within sectors that make a difference including renewable energy, care homes, health clubs and children's nurseries.

Since 2010, Downing has deployed over £600 million into renewable energy projects with our portfolio currently comprising core renewables (including solar, wind and hydro) and flexible power generation (including gas peaking plants, battery storage) assets.

In July 2021, Downing established a renewable energy project development business to grow an investment pipeline of best-in-class solar, wind and battery storage projects which will be offered exclusively to Downing managed funds. The current project pipeline is ~1.6GW.

The following information outlines our Development Process and site parameters which provide opportunity for landowners to host renewable energy developments

Development Process

STAGE 1

- Grid Connection Enquiry: Is a connection possible?
- Initial Site Feasibility: What grade is the agricultural land? Are there any SSIs? Any Conservation Areas? Etc.
- Initial Landowner Contact: We don't approach landowners unless there is strong confidence in the site progressing through Stage 2.

STAGE 2

- Site Visit: Round the table discussion to outline the project in detail, consider any landowner impacts and review as necessary.
- Progress Heads of Terms and commence Option & Lease agreements.
- Submit a full Grid Connection Application
- Detailed Site Feasibility: This begins the preparation for submitting a planning application.

STAGE 3

- Finalise Option & Lease and any other land agreements required.
- Submit a Full Planning application to the Local Authority. Engagement with the local communities regarding the project.
- Receive Final Planning Decision

Solar

- Sites suitable for developments of 30+MWp. 1MWp is equitable to circa 2.5 acres of land.
- Lower grade agricultural land – ie Grade 2 and below.
- Reasonable distance (1km+) from residential areas.
- Identifiable grid connection via substation or overhead lines.
- We will also co-locate BESS assets if there is suitable opportunity.

Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

- Standalone or co-located developments considered.
- 50MW/50MWh installations circa 2.5ha
- Identifiable grid connection via substation or overhead lines.

Wind

- Medium scale sites up to circa 30MW considered
- Circa 400Ha (1000acres) to allow for site mitigation, habitat management etc
- Distanced from residential settlements by 2km minimum to avoid visual and noise impact.
- Identifiable grid connection via substation or overhead lines.

Why Downing?

- Established investment group with over 30 years experience in the investment industry across a range of markets. Investing over £100 million per year in renewable energy projects.
- Significant team experience within the renewables industry across development, construction and management of renewable energy assets.
- Experience of working for landowner and developer which allows a strong understanding of the impacts and concerns on both sides. This allows for better working relationship with the landowner from initial contact and through the remainder of the development process.
- Long term index linked guaranteed financial returns.

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