

Press release

RWE secures consent for 180MW Byers Gill Solar and Battery Storage development project

- Based in the North East, Byers Gill is RWE's largest consented co-located solar and battery storage project in the UK
- The development project, once fully operational, would be capable of generating solar power equal to the needs of 70,000 typical UK homes.

Swindon, 23 July 2025

RWE, the UK's leading power generator, has received confirmation of planning permission for its Byers Gill Solar Farm located near Stockton and Darlington in the UK.

As the capacity of the Project was greater than 50 megawatts (MW) the application was considered under the UK's Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) planning regime. Following submission of the planning application in February 2024, RWE received the final decision from the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Located between Stockton and Darlington in the North East of England, the 180 MW (AC)⁽¹⁾ solar farm, subject to a successful financial investment decision being taken, would be combined with a 180 MW (AC) battery energy storage system. Co-location enables RWE to store power generated, ready to be released into the grid at a moment's notice during times of high demand, while further strengthening the UK's own energy security. Once fully constructed, Byers Gill would be capable of delivering enough low-carbon energy to meet the equivalent annual needs of over 70,000 homes. The project also aims to deliver economic, environmental, and community benefits to the local area, as well as significant biodiversity gains, continued agricultural use of the land, and creation of new local wildlife habitats.

Adam Swarbrick, RWE UK Head of Solar and Storage said: "This latest successful consent further strengthens RWE's solar and battery storage development pipeline in the UK, supporting the UK's energy security ambitions. Byers Gill is our largest co-located solar and battery storage development project to be consented in the UK, and the first to successfully navigate the detailed scrutiny of the NSIP examination process. This success is a testament to the expertise and capability that sits within RWE's development teams. Our next step is to work towards a successful internal investment decision."

RWE Renewables Europe & Australia GmbH | Corporate Communications & Public Affairs | RWE Platz 4 | 45141 Essen | Germany T +49 201 5179-5008 | communications@rwe.com | www.rwe.com/press



RWE has 11 solar projects under construction in the UK and earlier this month marked the energisation of its first UK solar site, Langford. Together, these construction and operational projects total 577 MW (AC) alongside 105 MW (AC) of co-located battery storage.

Pictures for media use (credit: RWE) are available at the RWE Media Centre

For further enquiries: Mark Fleming Media Relations RWE Renewables Europe and Australia M +44 (0)7825 608096 E mark.fleming@rwe.com

Editors Note

(1) Solar generation capacity and battery storage capacities are measured in megawatts (MW) of Alternating Current (AC.)

RWE

RWE is leading the way to a modern energy world. With its investment and growth strategy, RWE is contributing significantly to the success of the energy transition and the decarbonisation of the energy system. Around 20,000 employees work for the company in almost 30 countries worldwide. RWE is one of the leading companies in the field of renewable energy. RWE is investing billions of euros in expanding its generation portfolio, in particular in offshore and onshore wind, solar energy and batteries. It is perfectly complemented by its global energy trading business. Thanks to its integrated portfolio of renewables, battery storage and flexible generation, as well as its broad project pipeline of possible new builds, RWE is well positioned to address the growing global demand for electricity, particularly driven by further electrification and artificial intelligence. RWE is decarbonising its business in line with the 1.5-degree reduction pathway and will phase out coal by 2030. RWE will be net zero by 2040. Fully in line with the company's purpose - Our energy for a sustainable life.

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