British Solar Renewables Secures Planning Permission for Akeman Solar Park Following Appeal

Shepton Mallet, UK – 24 November 2026 - British Solar Renewables (BSR) has secured planning permission for Akeman Solar Park, a 20MW solar farm with a 1.5MW battery energy storage system (BESS) near Ramsden, Oxfordshire, following a successful appeal. The Planning Inspectorate issued its decision on 13 October 2026.

The decision comes as the UK Government seeks to accelerate the deployment of clean energy infrastructure to strengthen energy security, reduce electricity system emissions and support its Clean Power ambitions. Against that backdrop, planning decisions for renewable energy projects are expected to play an increasingly important role in determining whether deployment targets can be met.

The consent follows a redesign of the scheme after previous applications were refused. In response to planning and stakeholder feedback, BSR undertook a comprehensive review of the proposals, removing solar infrastructure from the western, southern and north-eastern areas of the site and reducing the overall development area by approximately 14 hectares. The revised layout increased open space within the site boundary and enabled additional biodiversity and landscape enhancements to be incorporated into the project design.

Once operational, Akeman Solar Park is expected to generate enough renewable electricity to power approximately 6,060 homes annually while avoiding around 8,600 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions each year.

The approved scheme is also forecast to deliver 48% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) for habitats and 51.6% BNG for hedgerows, significantly exceeding the statutory 10% requirement introduced under the Environment Act. Planned ecological enhancements include species-rich grassland creation, improved habitats for birds and the installation of nesting and roosting features for birds and bats.

For developers across the sector, the appeal decision highlights the continued importance of project design, environmental enhancement and community engagement in securing consent for renewable energy infrastructure.

Tim Humpage, CEO of British Solar Renewables, said:

"Akeman Solar Park shows how renewable energy projects can evolve through the planning process. By refining the design and increasing opportunities for biodiversity enhancement, we've secured a scheme that will contribute to clean energy deployment while delivering long-term environmental benefits."

Akeman Solar Park adds to BSR's growing development portfolio, which includes more than 700MW of successfully developed solar capacity and a pipeline of more than 1GW of projects across the UK and Australia.

About British Solar Renewables

British Solar Renewables (BSR) is a leading renewable independent power producer with over a decade of experience in solar PV and battery energy storage systems (BESS). The company operates with a fully integrated platform, taking sites through development, construction and in operation. With a strong presence in both the UK and Australia, BSR is advancing a pipeline of nearly 18GW of projects collectively. BSR partnered with ICG Infrastructure in July 2022. For more information visit: www.britishrenewables.com. Connect with us on LinkedIn and Facebook.