

Planning Application Statement: Installation of Solar PV Panels at Existing Radio transmitter site

Applicant: Andy Baker, Bauer Media. E: [REDACTED]

Site Address: Camp Hill Mast, A360, Salisbury SP2 0QA

Grid Reference: SU 11120 33757

Application Type: Full Planning Application

Proposal: Installation of two sets of 20 solar photovoltaic (PV) panels (each set measuring 2.3m high, 3.2m depth, 11.6m width) within the existing area of Camp Hill Mast location.

1. Proposal Summary

This application seeks planning permission for the installation of two arrays of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels within the grounds of the Camp Hill transmitter mast, which is within an operational water treatment site. The panels will be ground mounted but **will not require any ground excavation**, with all cable routing carried out **above ground** or on the existing infrastructure, thus avoiding any soil disturbance or habitat disruption.

Each array will comprise of 20 PV panels, with each structure measuring approximately:

- Height: 2.3 metres
- Depth: 3.2 metres
- Width: 11.6 metres

The PV arrays will be installed within the existing operational compound of the transmitter site occupying a portion of the 30m x 20m site (approx. 0.06 hectares). The proposed installation is over **400 metres from any residential properties**, ensuring minimal visual or amenity impact, this is further enhanced as the proposed PV panels are shielded by the water reservoirs on two sides¹.

This planning proposal benefits from a pre-Application enquiry [REDACTED] where the summary officer view was the installation is **Acceptable in Principle**.

¹ From the Pre-Application enquiry [REDACTED] "The proposals would not be visible from the east, south or west due to their location close to the water reservoirs within a secure fence and distance from the highway. There is the potential for the panels to be visible from the Public Right of Way (PRoW) SNEW11 to the north of the site, but the PRoW is on the northern side of a mature boundary hedge, at a lower level than the proposed site and would be viewed within the context of the reservoir and transmitter mast so considered acceptable.

2. Site Context

- The site is an **existing transmitter site** with a mast and transmitter equipment container. The broader site is an **existing water treatment facility**.
 - The area is **already developed and managed** as part of utility infrastructure.
 - The land is not designated as agricultural, green belt, or conservation area.
 - There are no designated heritage assets, listed buildings, or known ecological sensitivities within or adjacent to the site.
 - The location is **over 400m from the nearest residential dwelling**, offering natural screening and separation.
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3. Policy Considerations

This proposal aligns with the **Wiltshire Core Strategy** and relevant national planning policies, as follows:

Core Policy 1 (CP01) - Settlement Strategy

The proposal is for a renewable energy installation within an existing operational site and does not conflict with the spatial strategy. It supports local transmitter infrastructure and resilience without introducing new residential or industrial development.

Core Policy 2 (CP02) - Delivery Strategy

As a form of infrastructure enhancement that supports sustainability, the proposal complies with the aims of CP02. The development is appropriately located within a previously developed and operational site and does not require expansion beyond its existing boundaries.

Core Policy 3 (CP03) - Infrastructure Requirements

The installation supports essential infrastructure by reducing operational energy demand at the site. It requires no new public infrastructure and enhances the environmental sustainability of the existing facility.

Core Policy 33 (CP33) - Spatial Strategy for the Calne Community Area

If the site falls within the **Calne Community Area**, the development aligns with CP33 by supporting rural sustainability and renewable energy initiatives that do not harm the landscape or community.

Core Policy 41 (CP41) - Sustainable Construction and Low Carbon Energy

The proposal directly supports CP41 by:

- Enabling onsite low-carbon energy generation.
- Reducing reliance on grid electricity and fossil fuels.
- Demonstrating a practical commitment to sustainability via infrastructure.

Core Policy 42 (CP42) - Standalone Renewable Energy Installations

This proposal aligns with Core Policy 42, which supports standalone renewable energy installations where there are no unacceptable impacts. The development will:

- Contribute directly to the generation of clean, renewable energy.
- Support Wiltshire's and the UK's climate goals by reducing reliance on non-renewable sources.
- Avoid harm to local amenity, landscape character, or biodiversity.
- Does not require ground disturbance or heavy construction.

Given the remote location, existing utility use, and modest scale, the proposal is **entirely appropriate** under CP42.

Core Policy 50 (CP50) - Biodiversity and Geodiversity

As no digging, trenching, or groundworks are required, and the development takes place within a flat hardstanding operational site, there is **no expected impact** on biodiversity or geodiversity. The site contains no known protected habitats or species on the ground.

Core Policy 51 (CP51) - Landscape

There will be **no adverse impact on the landscape character**, as:

- The site is already an operational utility site with existing infrastructure.
- The PV panels are low in height (2.3m) and will not protrude above boundary fencing or existing plant structures.
- The development is fully contained within the existing transmitter site boundary.
- No landscaping will be removed or altered.

This ensures full compliance with CP51 in protecting and conserving the intrinsic character and beauty of the landscape.

Core Policy 57 (CP57) - Ensuring High Quality Design and Place Shaping

The design of the PV arrays has been developed to:

- Integrate into the existing operational layout of the transmitter site and the water treatment site.

- Minimise visual and environmental impact through sensitive siting.
- Requires **no ground disturbance**, thus protecting below-ground ecology and avoiding construction impacts.
- Be reversible, ensuring the ability to decommission with minimal impact in the future.

As such, the proposal aligns with CP57 by promoting sustainable development, safeguarding visual amenity, and respecting the local context.

Core Policy 58 (CP58) - Protection, Conservation and where possible enhance the historic environment, including the character and settling of heritage assets

There will be **no adverse impact on the Protection and Conservation of heritage assets**, as²:

- Cabling between the PV panels and the equipment container will be run in a protected surface duct to avoid digging in the area.
- The framework required to mount the PV panels will be fixed to concrete retaining blocks laid on the grass surface both to avoid digging in the area and to allow easy re-positioning or removal of the panels without disturbing the ground.

4. Environmental and Sustainability Benefits

The installation of solar PV panels at this site will:

- Reduce the operational carbon footprint of the transmitter equipment used for broadcasting.
 - Promote long-term energy resilience and sustainability.
 - Support Wiltshire Council's Climate Strategy and commitment to net zero emissions.
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² From the Pre-Application enquiry [REDACTED] comments from the Assistant County Archaeologist suggest that the Camp Hill site is of archaeological interest, although not a designated heritage asset. However, due consideration of this element has been undertaken in this planning application, which is why there will be no digging into the ground to install the PV panels or route the cables from the panels to the equipment container.

5. Design and Visual Impact

The low profile of the panels (2.3m height) and their location within an enclosed utility site ensures minimal visual or landscape impact. Due to the considerable distance from any dwellings and the existing screening of the site, the installation will not affect visual amenity.

6. Access and Construction

- **No changes to access** are required.
 - **No excavation** or major groundworks are needed.
 - Installation will be carried out within the operational standards of the water treatment plant, adhering to all relevant health and safety and building regulations.
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7. Conclusion

This proposal represents a **small-scale, low-impact renewable energy development** within an existing operational site. It supports both **local and national goals for sustainable infrastructure and carbon reduction**, consistent with national and local sustainability objectives.

The installation is **policy-compliant**, environmentally responsible, and delivers tangible sustainability benefits with **no adverse impacts** on the local community, landscape, or ecology.

We respectfully request that **Wiltshire Council grants planning permission** for this renewable energy, environmentally beneficial, and policy-compliant proposal.

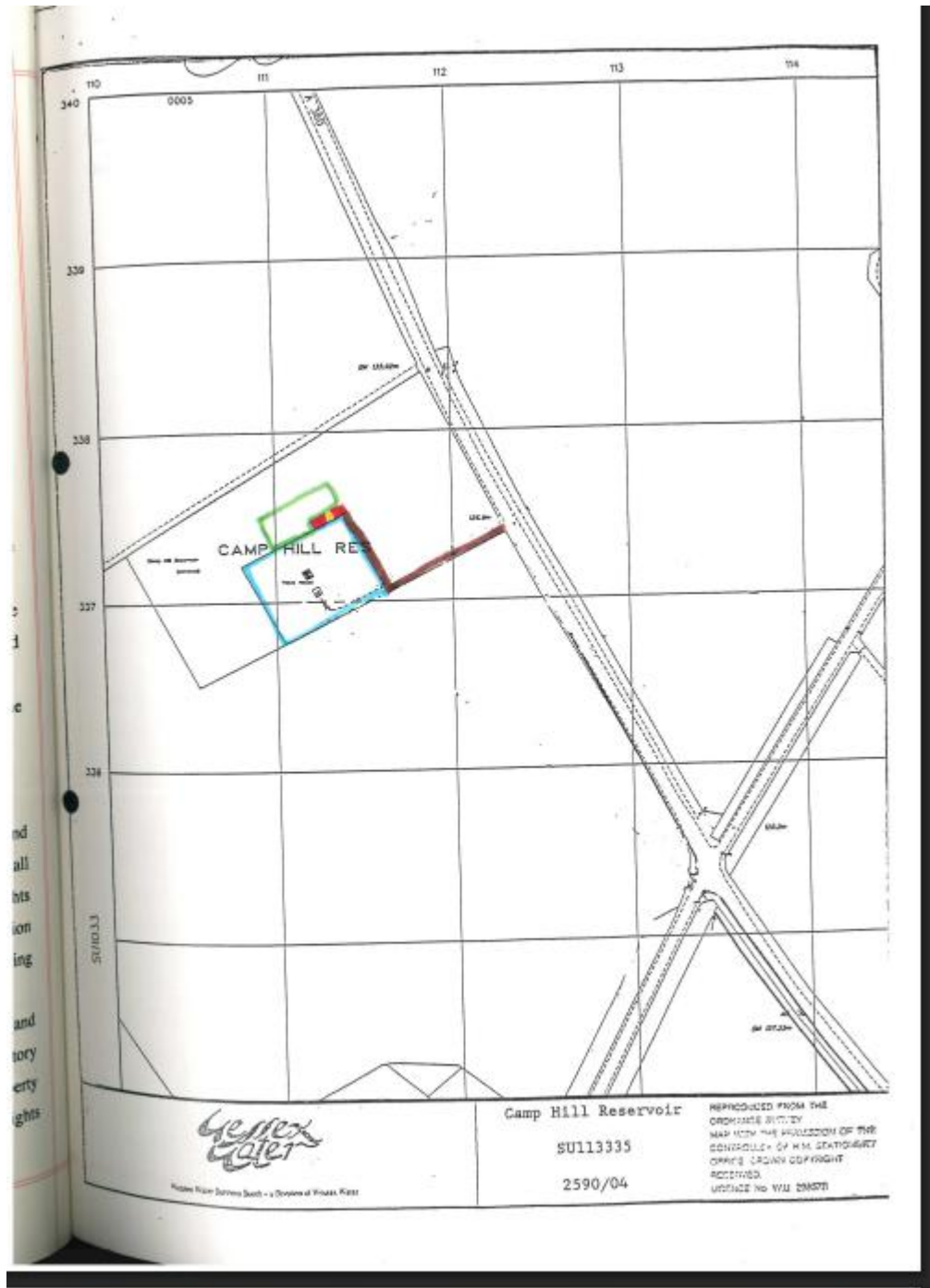
Supporting Documents contained in Appendix A:

- Site location plan
 - Block plan showing panel layout
 - Panel design specifications
 - Photo of existing mast
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Appendix A

Site Location Plan

Site Plan (From lease) Camp Hill transmitter is the area marked in green which is approx. 30m by 20m (0.06 Hectare) This site is within the Camp Hill Wessex Water site

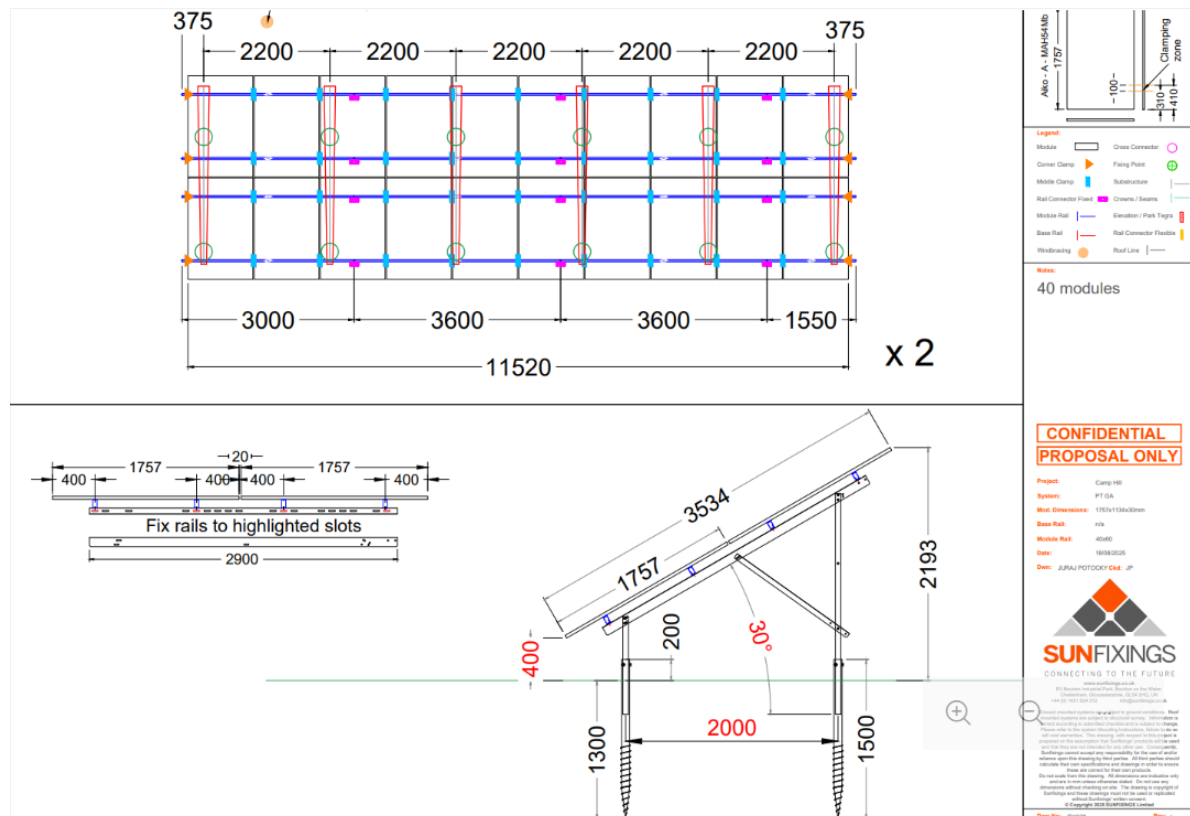


Location of PV Panels within Site

Proposed location of PV Panels (In front of radio transmitter mast) The panels may be mounted behind each other if the width exceeds the boundary of the leased plot



Proposed layout of PV panels, please note that the ground fixings will be concrete blocks as opposed to Ground screws as shown below (Please see following page).





PARK TEGRA **BALLAST**

Our standard structure is designed to support 2 modules high in portrait orientation. This allows more space within the array for more modules. There isn't a limit to how many modules can be installed in 1 line.

Ideal for hard ground types where traditional screw or pile systems are unsuitable. Instead, the frames are securely connected to concrete ballast.

The support feet are designed to connect to concrete ballast using chemical anchors. There are a minimum of 2 fixings per support foot.

9.77kg/m² Weight (exc. ballast)	1200-2400kg Estimated ballast ^{per frame}	Portrait Module orientation	30° Standard module angle
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Aluminium, stainless & galvanised steel (EN ISO 1461)
Material

+44 (0) 1451 824 312
info@sunfixings.co.uk
R3 Bourton Industrial Park, Bourton on the Water, Cheltenham, Glos, GL54 2HQ, UK
WWW.SUNFIXINGS.CO.UK
V042018



SUNFIXINGS
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Neostar 2S

AIKO-A-MAH54Mb

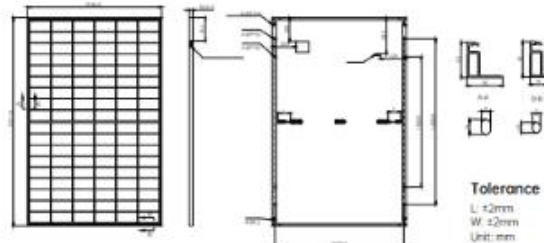
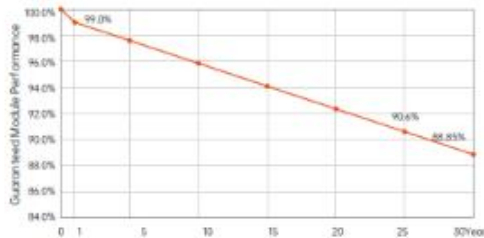
470W
Output

23.6%
Efficiency

≤1%
First-year Degradation

≤0.35%
Annual Degradation from Year 2-30

30-year Linear Performance Warranty



Electrical Characteristics (STC: AM1.5 1000W/m² 25°C NOCT: AM1.5 800W/m² 20°C 1m/s)

Power Tolerance: 0~ + 3%

Module Type	AIKO-A440-MAH54Mb		AIKO-A445-MAH54Mb		AIKO-A450-MAH54Mb		AIKO-A455-MAH54Mb		AIKO-A460-MAH54Mb		AIKO-A465-MAH54Mb		AIKO-A470-MAH54Mb	
Test Conditions	STC	NOCT	STC	NOCT	STC	NOCT	STC	NOCT	STC	NOCT	STC	NOCT	STC	NOCT
P_{max} [W]	440	531	445	535	450	539	455	543	460	546	465	550	470	554
V_{oc} [V]	40.82	38.55	40.88	38.60	40.94	38.66	41.00	38.72	41.06	38.77	41.12	38.83	41.18	38.89
V_{mp} [V]	34.38	32.47	34.44	32.52	34.50	32.58	34.56	32.64	34.62	32.69	34.68	32.75	34.74	32.81
I_{sc} [A]	15.92	11.26	14.02	11.54	14.12	11.42	14.22	11.50	14.25	11.52	14.29	11.55	14.32	11.58
I_{mp} [A]	12.80	10.22	12.93	10.32	13.05	10.41	13.17	10.51	13.29	10.61	13.41	10.71	13.54	10.80
Module Efficiency	22.1%		22.3%		22.6%		22.8%		23.1%		23.3%		23.6%	

Product Specification

Cell Type	N-Type ABC
Front Cover Mono glass	3.2 mm tempered glass
Frame	Black Anodized aluminum
Cable	4mm ² (IEC) 12AWG (UL) ±1200mm
No. of Cells	108(6*18)
Junction Box	IP68, 3 bypass diodes
Connector	Original MC4
Weight	20.6kg±3%
Dimension	1757*1134*30mm
Package Detail	37pcs per pallet / 222pcs per 20'GP / 962pcs per 40'HC

Temperature Ratings (STC)

Temperature Coefficient of I_{sc}	+ 0.05%/ °C
Temperature Coefficient of V_{oc}	- 0.22%/ °C
Temperature Coefficient of P_{max}	- 0.26%/ °C

Installation Guide

Operation Temperature	-40°C ~ +85°C
Maximum Series Fuse Rating	25A
Protection Class	Class II
V_{oc} and I_{sc} Tolerance	±3%
Maximum System Voltage	DC1500V
Maximum Static Loading	Front 5400Pa Back 2400Pa
Hail Test	40 mm diameter hail at 23 m/s
Fire Rating	IEC Class C



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*AIKO reserves right to update the specification without notice
VS.2.202501.DsDr.EN

