# Proposals for Solar Farms Stir Local Communities in Widnes and Clearfield County



### Proposal Underway for New Solar Farm at Former Widnes Golf Course

**Widnes, UK** – Halton Council has proposed the construction of a substantial solar farm at St Michael’s golf course. The site, spanning 28 acres and situated between Ditton Road and Speke Road, has been closed since 2004 due to contamination issues, including the presence of arsenic and leachate. The planned "Widnes Solar Park" aims to generate four megawatts of energy, significantly increasing the capacity of the council's existing solar infrastructure.

If approved, the microgrid, which includes arrays of solar panels and necessary infrastructure, would serve multiple local facilities, including the municipal HQ, Lower House Lane depot, DCBL Stadium, and a new leisure center. Construction is expected to take around 13 weeks with a lifespan of 40 years, before a six-month decommissioning period.

The project plans can be viewed under reference number 24/00234/HBCFUL on the council’s online portal.

### Community Response to Solar Farm Proposal in Clearfield County

**Clearfield County, USA** – Residents of Girard Township gathered at Leconte Mills Fire Hall to discuss their opposition to a proposed large-scale solar farm by Swift Current Energy. Sparked by federal funding, residents claim they were only made aware of the project recently, despite its planning stages reportedly beginning two years ago.

Concerns among the community include potential property devaluation, wildlife disruption, reflectivity of solar panels, and deforestation. Additionally, engineers highlighted that the generated power would primarily benefit New York, raising further local discontent.

A petition against the project is being organized, and residents plan to voice their concerns at the upcoming Girard Township meeting on July 10th.