

# ENERGY & UTILITIES

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Solar



# A DEDICATED ENERGY PRACTICE

Our dedicated Energy & Utilities team is made up of a large multi-discipline group of experienced professionals located across all Addleshaw Goddard offices with a proven track record of working with a blend of utilities regulators, Government, large energy companies and a myriad of developers and funders who are active in the sector.

Our work with the Regulators and Government on the development and interpretation of regulation ensures we understand the regulatory background. We are used to advising on the legal challenges faced by public bodies making decisions and exercising discretion against the background of complex and often ambiguous legislation. In addition, we understand the commercial challenges faced by those operating in the energy sphere, and have the know-how to deliver expert and pragmatic advice.

**We understand the industry from all angles which we see as key to providing you the support that you need.**

The practice comprises of a core team of partners dedicated to Energy and Utilities work, who have a deep insight of the industry and the people working in it. This team is closely supported by lawyers from across our full service disciplines who are used to applying their knowledge against the background of the energy and utilities sector.

## Our Solar practice

We have advised on a large number of projects in the solar sector at all stages from planning through to post accreditation and all the contractual arrangements to develop the site itself. We advise a mix of national and international developers, sponsors and investors including from the US, China, Spain, Germany and Switzerland.

We have also advised funders on a number of project financing both during and post construction and recently on a hybrid acquisition/project finance facility for a portfolio of solar projects.

We advise on all aspects of solar projects - our range of experience has included advising in connection with:

- ▶ planning applications, planning conditions and community benefit agreements;
- ▶ options and leases;
- ▶ Reports/Certificates of Title;
- ▶ due diligence exercises on consented schemes from shovel ready projects to accredited projects;
- ▶ grid connection offers and agreements, including shared connection arrangements;
- ▶ risk management including subcontracting arrangements and warranties with EPC Contractors, O&M Contractors, PV suppliers, and balance of systems;
- ▶ power purchase agreements (both to private and licences suppliers);
- ▶ joint venture agreements between shareholders of SPVs established for solar projects;
- ▶ financing of solar projects, advising on both borrower and lender side including security packages – legal charges, direct agreements, warranties;
- ▶ share purchase agreements and asset purchase agreements for various buyers and sellers;
- ▶ regulatory issues including H&S, CDM, RoCs/ FiTs and the accreditation with Ofgem.

## Our experience includes

Our experience in solar includes advising:

- ▶ **Trina Solar** on the purchase and development of a number of large solar projects, ranging from a large portfolio of sub-5MW projects to the largest ground mounted solar farm in the UK (50MW) to **Bluefield** where we advised on all aspects including the acquisition of project rights, the development of the site (including EPC, O&M and PPA arrangements) and subsequent disposal. The sale to Bluefield included an innovative construction finance package used as a pathfinder for other projects to follow
- ▶ **Bayerische Landesbank** on providing project finance to developers on various large scale solar projects both during and post construction
- ▶ **SunEdison** on the purchase of a large ground mounted pv project in the UK
- ▶ **Palmetto Capital** on a joint venture arrangement for the first ground mounted project in Scotland
- ▶ **McBride plc** on the development of rooftop solar projects on its industrial/commercial buildings
- ▶ **Royal Bank of Scotland, Royal Bank of Canada** and **Santander** on a facility to **Foresight** relating to a portfolio of solar projects
- ▶ **HSBC** on 5MW facilities on rooftops of a number of large industrial facilities in the UK
- ▶ **Abbey National Treasury Services plc** on the retrofit of up to 2,000 PV panels on social housing stock in the South-West of England
- ▶ **Hitachi Capital** on setting up products to lend directly to businesses and individuals seeking to install solar panels
- ▶ **Sensolar** on several projects in the UK and in particular on the ROO-FIT process, pre- and final accreditation in the context of FIT tariff changes to large scale solar
- ▶ a **UK company** on the design and build of solar solutions for the industrial, commercial and public sector the UK, continental Europe and the US including bespoke financing options and service/O&M arrangements
- ▶ two of the **big six energy suppliers** on an international solar project and an innovative biomethane project
- ▶ **Sun and Soil Limited** on installation, operation and property contracts for the provision of ground source heat pump and solar energy facilities at nursing homes, industrial greenhouses and garden centres
- ▶ **British Gas** on the purchase of and installation and operation and maintenance of several sites
- ▶ **Association of Greater Manchester Authorities** on a scheme to install photovoltaic cells across 10,000 social housing premises. The project had a capital cost of c.£10million
- ▶ **GE** in relation to the provision of a £20m facility for installing panels on 2000 roof tops under a roof lease scheme
- ▶ **fundors on 15 housing association schemes** to install solar panels on a 'rent a roof' licence/lease basis

## Contact

Contact one of the team for more information about how we can help your business

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Aberdeen, Doha, Dubai, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Hong Kong, Leeds, London, Manchester, Muscat, Singapore and Tokyo\*

\*a formal alliance with Hashidate Law Office

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