Solar PV's Role in Sustainable Agriculture

Gerard Kenned Commercial Sales Manager

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Commercial Solar -Approach to Solar PV

- Initial Enquiry
- Thorough analysis of electricity consumption over 12 months period or 1/2 hr MRSO data in KWh.
- Examine Existing and Proposed Energy Site Demand (future proofing).
- Existing connection viability, Challenges?
- Max import capacity or KVA supply.
- Complete Analysis.
- Interpretation of data.





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An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Commercial Solar PV

- Survey existing electrical infrastructure.
- Assess the area available for solar pv equipment including inverters, epm, AC cable runs and embedded generation protection.
- Calculate Solar pv energy production figures based on roof space available (roof survey), slope and azimuth angle. Or Ground mount option if roof space is not available.





 Finally propose a Solar PV solution, including design, installation costing and payback calculations.

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Benefits of Solar PV in Agriculture

- Solar PV offsets the rising cost of imported electricity.
- Energy security and sustainability
- Future potential to sell excess energy back to the grid



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Reduce Your Carbon Footprint

- Solar PV is a zero-carbon technology.
- Provides significant environmental benefits as the process does not produce greenhouse gases.
- Each kilowatt-hour (kWh) of electricity produced can save approximately 0.23kg of CO₂ emissions compared to electricity imported from the national grid.

Ongoing:

Minimal maintenance/onsite issue - "built in" review by Solarco it required.

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Case Study- Hill Top Agri Farms, 150 KWp Cork

- Dairy and Pig farm.
- 150 KWp system.
- Project completed in two months-After Survey.
- Generates 135,000kwh of electricity per annum.





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Case Study-Botany Mill, 160KWp Dublin

- Produces 135,835 KWh p.a, at current unit cost (0.2988€) this results in a saving per annum of €40,587.50.
- 160 kW Capex- Supply & Fit €139,750.
- ROI 3.4 years.

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Daytime usage VS Solar pv production

Knockfee Farm, Co Tipperary

- Tillage farmer.
- Mill & Drying facility
- 50% of daytime usage Potential eleimation of summer demand
- ROI 4years



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