Delivering electrical power for sustainable food production

Vattenfall IDNO case study Food Enterprise Park

Vattenfall IDNO supported a new food park in Norfolk with an upgraded grid connection and a new 132kV substation to provide 30MW of import capacity and 50MW of export.

Working alongside the ICP, East Solutions, Vattenfall IDNO helped deliver the required power for the site. East were responsible for design, engineering, and installation, and will be the site's O&M provider for Vattenfall on an ongoing basis.

Unfortunately there was not sufficient capacity in the local electricity grid to meet Food Enterprise Park's demand. They quickly absorbed the 3.7MW that was available and started planning how to secure more power. They commissioned a new 132kV substation to provide 30MW of import capacity and 50MW of export.

Clarke Willis, from Food Enterprise Park, explains:

"Working with an IDNO is excellent because we can start by releasing just some of the capacity we have secured to the businesses at FEP. We don't need all of the 30MW immediately, so we'll only be taking 5MW to start with and then we can release the additional power in stages as the development expands."

Reserving capacity in this way is not possible through a DNO, so working with an IDNO provided FEP a significant advantage. Because IDNOs adopt 'contestable works' they also pay developers an Asset Adoption Value, which can significantly help with project finances.

"The Asset Adoption Value rebate from Vattenfall was very useful. We worked out the adoption agreement and financials through one-to-one phone calls and the relationship, way of working and can-do attitude worked extremely well - it's the way we like to work."







Cutting Grid Connection Costs by 95%

The combination of a competitive Asset Adoption Value and a transparent tendering process helped Alumno reduce their grid connection costs by an astonishing 95%.

When Alumno Group began developing a new student housing project in Twerton, Bath, they were faced with a major obstacle: a prohibitively expensive grid connection quote from the local Distribution Network Operator (DNO). The costs associated with the contestable works were far higher than expected and threatened to derail the financial viability of the scheme.

Alumno turned to Vattenfall IDNO, who help developers connect to the grid faster and more affordably. By stepping in to adopt the new connection, Vattenfall was able to provide a dramatically lower-cost alternative.

Through a combination of a competitive Asset Adoption Value and a transparent tendering process for the contestable works - delivered with Network Power Connections - Vattenfall helped Alumno reduce connection costs by 95% compared to the original DNO quote.

Alumno's Director, Ron Plunz, said:

"We're incredibly glad we reached out to Vattenfall IDNO to adopt the grid connection for our latest student accommodation project. The original quote from the local DNO for contestable works was significantly higher than expected, but Vattenfall offered a much more competitive solution. Their Asset Adoption Value and tendering process helped us reduce our connection fees by 95% — a huge saving that made a real difference to the viability of the scheme. Their support, transparency, and expertise were outstanding throughout."

Vattenfall IDNO case study Alumno Group



Get in touch

To discuss how Vattenfall can support your project

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