### **Re-thinking solar**

## From cost-centre to strategic advantage



Why your energy mix is now a board room issue

## Energy prices are a key driver for UK food inflation

- UK food prices have increased 25% since 2021
- Energy accounts for one third of this increase

#### But it's not just about cost...

- Customers increasingly demand visible action on sustainability
- Geopolitical risks are highlighting the need for greater resilience in energy supply





#### The energy market is evolving

**Increased volatility** driven by gas prices and intermittent generation

Addition of energy storage **increasing complexity** of solutions

**Government support** for quicker planning and grid connection timelines

**Cost of solar decreasing** with lower panel prices and improved efficiency

Lots of opportunity, but complex choices



Solar only or solar plus battery?

PPA or capex?

Onsite or near-site?

Grid export or export limitation?

Permitted development or full planning?

Lowest price or highest savings?

Your options for sourcing renewable energy

Today's focus: Private wire & onsite solar



## Consumers are increasingly demanding transparency and sustainability from brands they trust

#### **Highest transparency**



#### Key takeaway

Many organisations in the food and beverage sector have decarbonised their electricity supply through off-site PPAs and green supply contracts.

In a region like Europe, where renewable energy adoption is accelerating, consumers are now expecting more transparency. An onsite strategy across multiple locations can give you more control over energy costs, increase trust with consumers, and further align with long-term sustainability goals.

Lowest transparency

#### The savings case for behind-the-meter solar

Industrial prices vs. 15-year PPA\* (£/MWh)



#### Onsite solar provides speed while private wire gives you scale

#### **Onsite** Solar at your site



- ✓ Efficient use of space (roof, ground and/or carpark)
- Can be implemented fast fewer stakeholders to engage and shorter permitting processes

VS

#### Private wire Solar near your site



- Utilization of adjacent land landowner is an additional stakeholder
- Can address large share of consumption at lower cost through economy of scale

Two main models for funding your project	Investment		POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT (PPA) (Opex) No investment required	BUILD AND OWN (Capex) 100 % by customer
	Payment model		Per kWh	System purchase, O&M and upgrades
<b>PPA or CAPEX</b>	Tenor		10+ years	Multiple contracts with varying tenor
	Pay-back		Savings day 1 (0 days)	+10 years
_	Risk	F Z	Supplier bears risk and is incentivized to maximize performance	Borne by customer

All cost components throughout the asset lifetime are included in the PPA





#### Where and how do you start?

#### What is a "good site"?

- Available surface
- Owner of building
- Insurance

How do you secure the land lease? How do you get internal buy-in?

What's your risk-appetite?

#### What does the process look like?



Leading food and beverage manufacturer powering their operations with 9MW private wire Global chocolate and coffee manufacturer looking to reduce their emissions and electricity bills

Largest site consumes **72 GWh** per year, with potential for **up to 14MW** of behind-the-meter solar

Alight secured the grid connection, planning consents and a third-party land lease from a neighbouring farmer with space for a **9MW solar system** 

The customer will be receiving electricity at over a **50% reduction** compared to the UK industrial average price

#### A leading European solar developer and IPP

At Alight, we're on a mission to kick carbon off the grid by helping energy-intensive businesses switch to solar. We **finance**, **develop**, **own and operate onsite and offsite solar projects** across Europe and sell the clean energy to businesses at a low, fixed cost backed by a power purchase agreement (PPA), always independent of government funding or subsidies.

By 2030, we aim to have an installed capacity of at least 5 GW across Europe, paving the way for a more sustainable future. We take a long-term view of the projects we develop, investing in the communities where we operate.

# <image><image><image><image><image><image><image>

Our customers







## Thank you!

