



Westhoughton Solar Farm

Equans used their expertise to convert an old drying bed at a water treatment works into a solar farm in just four weeks, giving United Utilities (UU) an efficient source of energy.

Equans has been on UU's solar power framework for a number of years and was tasked with identifying suitable sites at the water company's sites to install solar energy farms.

One site that was deemed suitable was at the Westhoughton Waste water Treatment Works in the North West where an unused drying bed was identified as an ideal location.

Making it suitable to use meant laying 1100kg concrete blocks directly on top of the bed with a ground mount mounting system placed on top to both secure the blocks and provide installation points for the solar panels themselves.

After the installation work was completed, Equans had to ensure the PV worked correctly with UU's existing generators as well as abiding by international safety and technical standards.

The end result of the work is a significant reduction on carbon emissions from UU, Britain's biggest water management company.

