

Solar Pumps

Objectives

Provide a solar-powered fixed or a mobile solar water pump unit that is capable of pumping water from a safe supply to livestock water troughs.

Background

Having a well-installed water supply and storage system is vital for appropriate livestock management on scored fields. Water troughs provide alternative drinking points to natural water sources which can become damaged if overused by stock. Solar pumps can be a sustainable and cost-effective method of supplying water to these water storage and provisioning systems.

Site Suitability

- This action can only be selected on parcels with an Eligible hectare > 0.
- This action is available on CP parcels only that will be claimed by the participant for the remainder of the ACRES contract.
- This action can only be selected on fields that have a scorecard submitted and is available on any scorecard.
- The bed of the watercourse should not be disturbed.
- Water troughs supplied by Solar Pumps NPI must not be located on or within close proximity to an archaeological monument or result in new or additional tracking of vehicles or livestock on or near a monument or archaeological feature. Ongoing monitoring will be required to ensure that archaeological monuments are not impacted upon.

Requirements

1. Install a solar powered fixed or mobile pump that is capable of pumping water from a safe supply to livestock water troughs and/or a water storage tank.
2. The initial location of the solar pump must be identified and marked on the map submitted. Each solar pump applied for is only eligible for one NPI payment and once claimed must be retained for the remainder of the ACRES contract.
3. The solar pump must be purchased new with the system including a pump, solar panels, battery back-up, and inlet hose. There is no payment for any concrete base to mount the system on or for digging wells.
4. The participant must retain receipts displaying the serial number for the pump for the remainder of the ACRES contract and for twelve months after the date of submission of any claim for payment.
5. The pump must be available for use to supply water troughs in a CP Parcel. It must be stored on the farm holding when not in use.
6. Where a Solar Pump has been grant aided under TAMS or any other National/EU funded Agri-environment or Capital investment Scheme from 01 January 2018, this cannot fulfil the requirement for this ACRES Solar Pump NPI.

Additional Guidance:

- The pump should be suitably protected from livestock or wildlife damage.
- The pump should abstract water from a watercourse or waterbody with an adequate supply - inadequate supply can lead to environmental issues, poor quality water supply, and pump failure.
- All water troughs or containers connected to the solar pump should be located at least 20m from a drain, pond, lake or watercourse.

Picture 10: Example of installed Solar Pump



Source: ACRES Burren Aran