LOW CARBON ENERGY

Safeguard your solar investment

A practical guide to optimising commercial solar performance

2050

The target for net-zero set by the UK government.

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Why solar maintenance is a non-negotiable for commercial energy users

For UK businesses investing in solar PV, maintenance is not optional — it's essential. Unmaintained solar assets degrade faster, underperform more frequently, and risk invalidating system warranties. That translates into missed generation targets, higher grid dependency, and lost financial returns.

At Low Carbon Energy, we deliver structured maintenance services designed to safeguard your energy generation, protect your investment, and maintain alignment with your financial and sustainability objectives.

The unseen costs of neglect

Without a proactive maintenance plan in place, the performance of your solar system will deteriorate over time. Industry data shows that annual performance degradation can exceed 20% within just five years if issues like dirt build-up, component wear, and environmental damage go unaddressed.

Inverters — the critical components responsible for converting solar energy into usable electricity — are particularly vulnerable to faults if not routinely checked and maintained. When these faults occur, they can lead to significant, unexpected production losses that impact your business operations.

Component failures, including electrical connections, cabling, and mounting systems, can escalate into costly emergency repairs if left undetected. Additionally, most manufacturers require evidence of regular maintenance to uphold warranty coverage; failure to meet these obligations can result in voided guarantees.
The consequences are clear: reduced cost savings, increased operational risks, weakened progress towards Net Zero targets, and greater exposure to volatile energy prices.

Building insurance requirements

When your business installs a commercial solar PV system, it becomes part of your building's fixed infrastructure. As a result, your insurer will typically view it as part of the overall asset they're covering.

Insurers include clauses that require evidence of regular inspection and servicing of solar PV systems. This isn't just a formality – it's tied to their risk assessment. A neglected solar system could lead to:

- Electrical faults
- Fire risks
- Weather-related damage
- Structural integrity issues (i.e. loose panels on roofs)

If systems are not maintained and something goes wrong, your insurer may refuse to pay out. Even if the incident isn't directly related to the panels, any failure to meet maintenance conditions could void your policy. Consequently, this would put the full financial liability back on your business.

Warranty protection

Commercial solar systems involve high-value components like inverters, optimisers, and panels. These typically come with manufacturer warranties ranging from 5 to 25 years, but those always come with conditions.

To keep the warranty valid, manufacturers often require:

- Routine visual inspections
- Electrical safety checks
- Inverter diagnostics
- Record-keeping of all maintenance carried out

They do this because neglect, not manufacturing defect, is the most common reason for system failure. If you can't demonstrate that your system was properly maintained, you may lose your right to claim.

Your business needs to find ways of

- Reducing energy consumption
- Improving energy efficiency
- Taking steps to offset emissions

As experts in the design, installation and maintenance of extensive solar-powered systems, we use the sun's energy to power your present and preserve your future.

To see how we can empower your business to reduce your carbon footprint, increase your efficiencies and achieve net-zero targets, just get in touch with one of our experts.

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