

Whether solar panels are on the roof of a house, in an industrial setting, or in a solar farm, there are often questions about whether they cause glare.

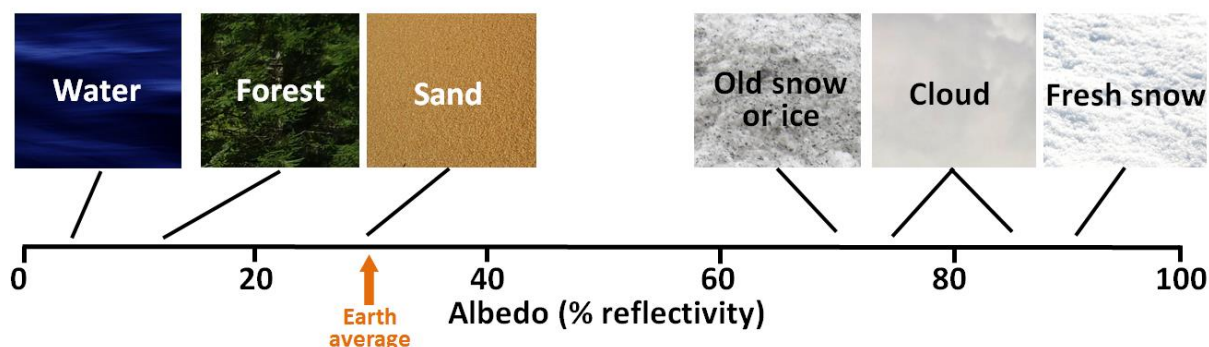
What is glare?

Glare (which occurs over a continuous period) or **glint** (a brief flash of light) can be a source of distraction and can leave after-images in the viewer's vision.

Glare hazard is difficult to define and is not the same for every person. It depends on factors including light intensity, size of the glare source, the portion of your vision it occupies and your distance from the source; as well as individual things like pupil diameter and distance from the pupil to the retina.

Natural and built surfaces can cause glare – the sun itself is of course the most obvious example, especially for drivers.

Examples of reflectivity from the Earth's surfaces



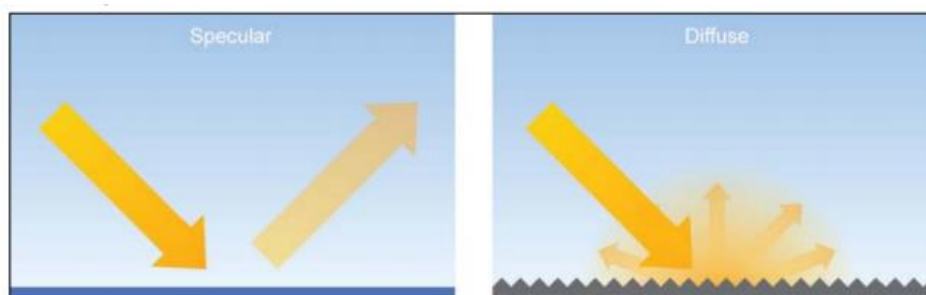
Some additional surfaces

Black asphalt	2%	White concrete	77%
Solar panels with anti-reflective coating	2%	Bare aluminium	74%
Solar panels (no anti-reflective coating)	5%		

Corop solar farm's panels

The solar panels will have an anti - reflective coating so they absorb sunlight rather than reflecting it. That's great for reducing glare but it also means a higher energy yield because there's more light getting to the solar cells.

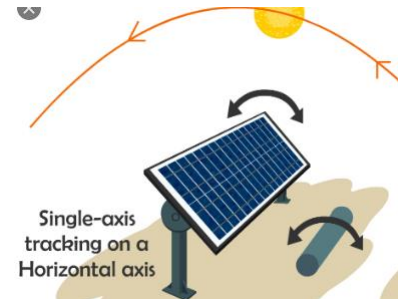
The panels are also designed to diffuse any reflection: they reflect the light in many different directions which reduces any impact in a specific location.



Will there be any effect on nearby houses and roads?

For the most part there is a good distance between Corop's solar panels and neighbouring houses. Any glare impact is reduced with distance, but we are providing native landscape as screening around the full perimeter of the site. It will grow to at least five metres tall – the same height as the solar panels at their maximum tilt.

The landscape is relatively flat so the screening will eliminate potential impacts for drivers and residents.



The layout of the solar panels also reduces the possibility of glare impacts. They will be aligned north/south so they can track the sun from east to west, moving on a horizontal axis to follow the movement of the sun. The maximum tilt of the panels is 65%, meaning that when the sun is at its lowest (sunset and sunrise) the small amount of light reflected would be upwards.

Is there any impact for aircraft?

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority notes requires consideration of any impact on **airports**, because the glare could present a hazard, particularly on approach and landing, and particularly control towers. There are no airports near the Corop site, but we know there are, or in the future could be, private airstrips.

As mentioned above, the glare of solar panels is similar to that from an asphalt road and is markedly less than that from sand or forest. Combined with the minimal amount of air traffic in the area, there is little if any likelihood of issues arising.

Like to know more? See our other fact sheets:

- What is a solar farm?
- Corop solar fast facts
- Maintaining a solar farm
- Protecting the environment
- Community benefits