From: To: Subject: Date:

Cleve Hill Solar Park Cleve Hill

Date: 12 June 2019 13:34:11

Attachments: <u>image00</u>

Dear Sir

The Town Council has formed a Working group to consider the application at Cleve Hill. The Members of this group are Cllrs Belsom, Irwin and Perkin.

I wish to register a representative from this working group to attend and speak at the Open Floor Hearings on Tuesday 16th July (am) and Monday 22 July (pm).

I also wish to register a representative from the working group to attend the Accompanied Site Visit on Wednesday 24th July.

I attach a summary of our points. The full written submissions will be submitted by the deadline of Wednesday 26th June.

Kind regards

Adrienne Begent

Deputy Town Clerk





Faversham Town Council, 12 Market Place, Faversham, Kent ME13 7AE



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Principle objections regarding the proposal at Cleve Hill

1. Scale.

The site of this power station is larger than the nearest town. The North Kent Coast is a unique part of our countryside and hasn't changed for hundreds of years. The site will include an SSSI and the Seawall. The Solar panels will vary in height maximum 3.9m and will extend over 436 acres the equivalent of 218 football pitches.

2. Construction.

There will need to be breaks from the construction for nesting birds in the Summer and also in Winter for migratory birds. This means that for the local residents' noise and pollution from the construction will be for a far greater period of time.

3. Access.

Access will be along narrow country lanes These roads are not suitable for the type of lorries or the amount of lorry movements expected. Junction 7 of the M2 is already running at and over full capacity and is becoming an accident hotspot. As is Junction 6.

4. Risk of Flooding to Faversham.

The marshes are a protective floodplain for Faversham. The seawall is the responsibility of the Environment Agency. If in the future this responsibility became under the control of the Cleve Hill operators' they would be able to raise the height of it in order to protect their assets. We are concerned what impact this would have on our town.

5. Batteries.

We are concerned about the battery technology that will be used. This is an emerging technology that is still being tested and developed. We have concerns regarding the health & safety aspect of this technology and feel that it is not clearly specified in the application.

6. Wildlife / SSSI / Agriculture.

The area of the site forms part of the North Kent Marshes Environmentally Sensitive Areas. We are very concerned, with the inclusion of the SSSI in this application. It appears this has been done to assist the developer with their application in achieving the biodiversity of the site. It is very worrying that an SSSI will be in the hands of a private power company. The long, term protection of the SSSI is paramount. The Developers propose to create 'grazing land' under the panels for Sheep. Some of the land in the application has crops grown on it for at least the past 40 years although it is not grade 1 agriculture land.

7. Economic Value.

There are hundreds if not thousands of visitors that love to walk this part of the Kent Coast. People who visit this area often stay in the local hotels and guest houses. Helping to keep the local economy buoyant.