

This is a follow up from my original representation as a result of further information being made available from the applicants. This information is still woefully short of hard detail in particular which of the 3 options the applicants are to take.

1.The area affected in this proposal is rural based to a large extent on highly productive agriculture, the loss of which will, in these difficult economical times, reduce the produce available making the country more reliant on foreign goods and thereby increasing the carbon effect on the atmosphere through transportation.

2. There can be no doubt that the long term effect on the area will be to change it from a rural area to an industrial area with the land being, at best, a brownfield site if the solar equipment was ever decommissioned and removed. On that subject, no policy seems to be in place as to how the owner of the site will pay for the decommissioning.

3. The short term effect on the area will be:

a.the destruction of the roads in the area many of which are unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles

b.traffic noise from a significantly increased flow of construction traffic

c.congestion on the roads at the height of commuter traffic

d.the damage to houses through vibration (already significant from farm vehicles)

e.pollution from emissions from the vehicles

f. loss of amenity to the residents through the closure of roads and footpaths

g.loss of habitat to bats and birds (some on the red list of potential extinction)

4.There is still no satisfactory battery policy in place or the acknowledgment that the batteries are hazardous and the siting of one of them close to a thriving kennels is of considerable concern

5.This area is one of high employment with no explanation has been given as to where the workforce is to be found or housed

6.On a wider scale if the solar panels and equipment are to be manufactured in foreign countries there is going to be an increase in traffic for the goods to be delivered to this country at a time of pressure to reduced carbon emissions quite apart from the humanitarian aspect of "slave" labour being used for its production

7.The total cost of putting together the proposed scheme is substantial and it is of concern that the applicant has not displayed any evidence that it has sufficient financial backing to bring the scheme to fruition thereby causing even more concern with an unfinished construction.