

I wish to make a brief additional representation on the above topics.

Landscape. Longfield Solar Farm will have a significant impact on the landscape and visual amenity on what is a beautiful part of the Essex countryside.

In the documentation provided by the developer the following are worthy of note;

Para 6.5.4 acknowledges the fact that the scale and speed required to meet the current and future need identified is likely to have some negative effects on the landscape and visual amenity which may not be able to be mitigated.

Para 10.8.18 notes medium sensitivity and medium magnitude effect (in construction) with moderate adverse significant effect.

Para 10.8.39 the scheme would result in the loss of some key characteristics, namely the agricultural character and reduction in the sense of openness given the change of land use.

Para 10.8.59 People walking the Essex Way would experience moderate adverse effects.

Para 10.9.2 It would not be possible to mitigate every adverse effect due to the requirements of solar generation.

It should be noted that to the best information available mitigation planting has not started and it would take at least 15 years for it to have any significant impact.

Noise and Vibration

It is noted that noise is a topic that needs to be considered. There are NPPF and other guidelines on the subject. It is noted from the ES that there are properties near Boreham on the Waltham Road that could be effected.

The ES appears to undervalue the noise factors particularly during the construction phase.

BESS

The dangers of fire and explosion caused by thermal runaway from Lithium ion batteries is of concern to many. It is important these issues are considered thoroughly in the inspection process

CONCLUSIONS

The authors main representation is based on the loss of valuable agricultural land. Land is finite and the trade off from food to energy production would be negative.

The added concerns of the effects on Biodiversity add to the concerns that the Longfield site is an inappropriate place for a solar farm.

Landscape is a further reason to reject the scheme