

My name is Susan Burgoin and I live in Wilsthorpe, approximately 3 miles from the proposed development and on fields that I regularly walk the footpaths and drive by on the way to Stamford and further.

This proposal removes valuable agricultural land which is much needed at these times when we are trying to lower our carbon footprint by importing less food from all over the world.

The transport of the solar panels and all associated machinery required to build and sustain this development will add to the existing infrastructure problems of poor access roads. There are no main or major roads that give direct access to the site, lorries will have to travel through villages and one route that has been shown goes through Great Casterton passed a primary school and a senior school, (the schools that my children went to when living in that village so I know how busy it is at the junctions with cars and buses) which with this volume and type of vehicles could endanger the lives of children going to and from the schools. These local roads are totally inadequate for commercial vehicles and are already in a bad state of repair. How is it 'Green Energy' when the vast majority of components used will be imported from China and/or other parts of the world. This development would appear to be for profit for the companies involved and their shareholders.

The change of environment for all local residents, visitors and tourists with an industrial scar of this size on the countryside is beyond imagination. The area is well known and well used for walks and bridleways for horses. There many varieties of wildlife from deer to butterflies, that will be lost. Public footpaths will be lost or diverted, some I understand will be replaced by 'permissive rights of way', which can be closed by the landowner. And the thought of walking at the side of solar panels (if allowed) doesn't bear thinking about. What will happen to the deer with the high fencing preventing them freely roaming the countryside. The view of the woods and copse that can be seen when driving by will be hidden by high fencing and solar panels. The very nature of the landscape will be changed forever. What will happen in 40 years time when it is alleged the development will be decommissioned – how will they be disposed off, together with the batteries and other components, what effect will this have on the already devastated countryside and the cost to carbon emissions to take it all away – scrapped? It is not recyclable – does it go to landfill? This will be the mess you are leaving for future generations when many brownfield sites and other more sustainable places could be used.

Finally we have been told that the power generated will go directly to the national grid and therefore the local community will not benefit in any way from this development – in fact it will blight the countryside, wildlife, flora and fauna will be lost and it will impact on all aspects of everyday life for generations to come. The huge size and scale of this project is totally out of proportion with the area where it is planned.