

I am writing as a resident local to this proposed development. Whilst I appreciate the need for more sustainable energy and the Government drive to meet net zero targets, this should not be at the expense of the desecration of vast areas of our agricultural land and our rural landscape, something Government guidelines are meant to be protecting. The proposed development covers just such a vast area.

With regard to the landscape this currently is a beautiful area of farmland and woodland, not only sustaining diverse species of wildlife but also enjoyed by so many for walking and recreation (although footpaths and bridleways may be maintained this would be through a landscape of solar panels if the development goes ahead). This is not to mention the fact that the solar "farm" would mean the loss of the land for food production: surely an important factor when we are all meant to be reducing our carbon footprint and buying UK and locally produced foods. It would also remove areas of permanent pasture and of water habitat.

In addition the increased amount of traffic and road disruption would be huge whilst this proposed development takes place (over a 2 year period apparently).

There is also the potential danger of the use of lithium batteries and their safety, particularly if accidentally ignited and concerns over allegations of forced labour in Canadian Solar's supply chains. Additionally what is to happen to 2000 acres worth of solar panels at the end of their useful life? A solar cemetery?

The above are only a few examples of why I strongly object to the proposal put forward for the Mallard Pass Solar "farm".  
Frances Plummer