

13/06/2023

Mallard Pass NSIP Comments.

I object to this project on many issues. I grew up in this rural area and was so absorbed by the special way of life enjoyed here, I studied for an Agricultural degree at Nottingham University. On graduating, I never left the area and know it well...my backyard.

The use of decent farmland for anything other than food production or environmental protection is abhorrent. With international pressures on our supply chains, we need our produce land even more. This plan could not have been proposed by anyone interested in our rural life, but pure money making, off our location close to a 400KV substation near Ryhall.

The poor engagement prior to this formal examination was laughable. The project we believe will be a vehicle for Chinese investment on the back of dubious production facilities using slave labour. The clean up after forty years will be doubtful as the site performance will have dropped off and costs and methods of de-contamination of non-recyclables will probably end with the final owners folding their limited company for the taxpayer to pick up the tab, like fly-tipping, but on an immense scale.

The East Midlands area has scores of more suitable disused brownfield airfields, which often are contaminated with lead tetra-ethyl from WW2 bombers dumping fuel on an emergency landing approach (e.g RAF Cottesmore, unsuitable for housing over vast areas). These though do not always have the Nat Grid capabilities near though like at Ryhall. But offshore windfarms manage the long cable runs underground, so it can be done at a price.

We have just come back from the Netherlands where the shipyards at Vlissingen, the factories, bike and car parks, rail station, police station all have solar panels. There are small PV areas on the ground, but in the region of two or three acres that we saw on two long train journeys. Wind seems to predominate there in renewables. A small tidal generator was evident at the Scheldt dyke by the ferry. These small solar sites seem to be an obvious way forward.

The effect on the quality of life by this NSIP will be huge. We do not enjoy nearby theatres, sports centres, pools, all weather pitches, cinemas, indoor arenas. For these we must drive large distances. But we do enjoy our countryside and wildlife which we are now seriously in danger of losing forever for a project of dubious return in terms of electricity, environmental sustainability, economic benefits. The carbon payback will perhaps not be seen for decades either. These comments are not just nimbyism, but apply to all the Rutland and Lincolnshire proposals which are being profit lead in a huge wave at the moment.

Yours Sincerely

Julian Cardew BSc(Hons)