

Mallard Pass Solar Farm Executive Summary to support Written Representations

Submitted by: Helen L Woolley BSc (Hons) and Geoffrey W Woolley

Unique Reference nos. Helen Woolley MPSP-AFP156 Geoff Woolley MPSP-AFP155

1. In my Written Representations I aim to set out in more detail how this scheme will affect us should it go ahead and explain in more detail why we have such strong objections to the scheme.
2. We have a deep understanding, love and appreciation of the countryside, natural environment and rural life and have chosen to live in the area which will be significantly affected by Mallard Pass Solar Farm for the last 40+ years.
3. Our primary concerns with regard to the scheme are:
 - The size and scale of the scheme, it will dominate the landscape changing the character of this deeply rural area giving rise to significant adverse effects on the landscape character of both the site and the wider landscapes. It will significantly adversely affect the health and wellbeing, and the quality of the lives of the communities affected and those who use the area for recreation.
 - It is sited entirely on greenfield land, in this case high quality, productive agricultural land which includes significant BMV land, this is a finite and diminishing resource (Defra Food Security Report 2021).
 - This is contrary to the guidance of draft NPS EN-3 2023 and does not take into account relevant elements of Defra's Food Security Report.
 - That the whole site covers 852 ha yet the area which will actually generate electricity is to be approximately 426ha with the remaining half (426ha) being used for mitigation must raise questions on the suitability of the site.
4. We are identified as affected persons and our everyday lives will be significantly affected during all phases of the scheme:
 - We live just 185m away from a field of PV arrays and will have clear visibility of parts the solar PV area from our property looking Southeast, south/southwest and west. It is unlikely that mitigation will effectively screen the panels.
 - A secondary compound directly opposite our house a similar distance from the panels is proposed. This will inevitably result in significant increase noise and vibration particularly during construction but also ongoing from inverters and security kit.
 - The DCO boundary is immediately outside our property with increased traffic levels, extensive roadworks and traffic controls planned which will cause huge inconvenience to our every day lives
5. I conclude that the Mallard Pass Solar Farm if approved:
 - as a utility-scale solar scheme will industrialise a deeply rural landscape
 - because of its unprecedented size and scale a robust SWOT analysis of its true impact will not be possible
 - will have a dramatic and adverse impact on the landscape in which it is located
 - takes high value BMV and other productive agricultural land from production impacting UK Food Security
 - will be an inefficient provider of renewable energy given energy output relative to the land required
 - will have an immeasurable adverse impact on the people and communities who live in the area and the many who use the area for recreation.

I therefore reconfirm that I am totally opposed to Mallard Pass Solar Farm

