

Written Representation by Thomas Davies

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1. The solar power plant would significantly adversely impact the character and appearance of the landscape. The expansive tranquil landscape of open green fields with far reaching views would turn into an industrial, utility-grade power complex, with fields of 3.3m high dark solar panels, shipping containers containing electrical equipment and miles of security fencing and CCTV.
2. The proposed development won't benefit the local community. The power generated by the solar panels will go straight to the national grid – this will not be a source of cheap electricity for people living in the vicinity of the solar farm. Residents living near to the site will have a significant adverse visual impact from the site, whilst there will also be a loss of the rural amenity of the extensive open views.
3. The mental health of 1000s of residents living in surrounding villages will be adversely affected by the loss of thousands of acres of countryside and the stress of having their rural location transformed into an industrial complex.
4. The sheer scale of the project is monstrous, and completely inappropriate for this location. The land area covered by this proposed development is larger than London Stansted airport, including runway, terminal buildings, access roads, railway station, car parks etc.
5. The construction of this facility (larger than Stansted airport) is proposed to be carried out with access via mostly single lane country roads. This will cause severe disruption and danger to members of the public.
6. Government policy through the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and draft National Policy for Energy EN3 is clear that ground mounted solar should use previously developed land, contaminated land, industrial land and agricultural land of grade, 4 and 5, not Best and Most Versatile (BMV) land of grade 1,2 and 3a&b. Following final survey work by Mallard Pass the solar area is 40.7% BMV land.