

EN010127- Application by Mallard Pass Solar Farm Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for Mallard Pass Solar Project

ISH 2, Environmental Matters, written response to oral submission

Submission by John Hughes ref ID. 20036141.

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Agenda Item 4, Landscape and Visual effects.

b.) Methodology.

The methodology used for the project has been desked based with people sat in a room like this (*Kings Gate Conference Centre*) with no true understanding or appreciation of the landscape or topography as highlight by the local council. The receptor groups have been selected by Mallard Pass solar Farm and accepted by the council though no one has visited the site the determine they are representative of what is truly visible.

e.) Representative and illustrative viewpoints and photomontages

Follow on your request for wire line drawings I submitted (REP1-034 &REP2-173) in relation the substation on viewpoint and I asked the question on why no wire line drawing were presented at stage 1 and stage 2, wire line drawing would give a better visual representation of what is being proposed and the effect.

The Photomontages need to be represent seasonal changes because the photograph shown (VP11 Photomontage) does not show the true visual impact because of the time of the year the photo was taken which I believe was 32 days after the winter solstice.

Seasonal photomontages need to be represented as the topography will change with the seasons and Jun/July it can still be light at 9pm. Unless you were a resident to a local property the village or knew to local environment you would not know a substation exists in the photomontage, so if the photomontage is being presented to someone else who is not local they are not able to appreciate or see the true visual effect because of the season and time the photo was taken.

The applicant says the photomontages are to represent the worst case scenario with no foliage however with the seasonal change when the field becomes gold (*if it was planted with wheat*) and the background becomes green the visual effect becomes greater because of the colour of the buildings and structures.

f.) Proposed mitigation/enhancement measures (including growth rates and management/monitoring of new planting)

The current Ryhall 400Kv substation has mitigated planting and was submitted in its application, if you go back and view the mitigated planting there and observe I do question the proposed 0.4m growth rate per year.

Agenda Item 6, Landscape use and Soils.

a.) The effects on BMV land b.) Soil Management c.) Scope for Sheep Grazing and implications.

On the issue of food security, bread which we all eat, one local supermarkets with branches in Stamford and Bourne are struggling at times to produce wholemeal bread because of the effects on current food supply chains.

The applicant is saying agricultural land will not be lost because of the scope for sheep grazing, is it commercially viable and is there a market for the end product organic lamb?

Other local farms produce wheat, sell it to local chicken farms supporting the local economy and food chain, if no sheep graze the land then the agricultural land will be lost as their will be no production from it to support other animal food supply chains.

Agenda Item 10, Socio Economics.

a.) Permissive paths (including their effectiveness as mitigation, use and management)

One of the proposed permissive footpaths is running up the side of the ECML and if you were walking to it using the foot bridge over the ECML line on the left hand side of you would be the railway embankment and on the right would be the field of PV arrays, with the regards to the openness and attractiveness of the footpath it would not be something you would want to walk along because even as train spotter you would not be able to see a train

as you would be looking up the embankment. So is there any benefit to the local community and would they actually use them as the end destination is the Essendine Industrial estate.



ECML

Permissive Path

Essendine Industrial Estate