Application by Mallard Pass Solar Farm Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Mallard Pass Solar Project – project ref. EN010127

Submission by Sue Holloway – unique ID ref. 20036112

Deadline 5:

Any further information requested by the ExA.

Sept 5th 2023

Post residential site inspection follow-up (property ID no. 7)

Following the residential site inspection on 18th August at my property, I didn't feel full justice was given to describing the features, and landscape and visual amenity from my living room or front garden.

Before Mallard Pass Solar Farm was known about, the landowner used to keep the hedgerows neatly trimmed as shown in the picture below on the left. I could see into the distance* to the railway line and beyond all the way across field 36, as was the case when you looked at the view from the upstairs bedroom window.

Even before anything has been approved landowners have been told **not** to cut their hedgerows by Mallard Pass and just to let them grow wild. This means the baseline for the assessment and the accompanied site visit has already been skewed as Mallard Pass has changed my visual amenity before any consent has even been granted. Of course I accept landowners could change their hedgerow management habits at any time, but in my case the landowner hasn't in the 18 years I have lived at the property, other than up until when Mallard Pass Solar Farm came on the scene.

This has already changed the status quo of my visual amenity when before I could sit on the sofa and look out through the window and enjoy the expansive rural landscape.

This action is not just in respect of my property but can be seen across the entire site. I doubt there were any hedgerows on the site visit that showed they had been trimmed, particularly in close proximity to sensitive residential receptors.



I would ask that some consideration is given to the unrepresentative baseline you saw at the residential site inspection taking the above point into account. Also with the hedgerows being in full leaf that also gives a very different perspective to the winter months when you can see straight through them, whatever height they are.

Please also note the difference to the trees when they are and are not in leaf, as shown on the RHS of the pictures.

(*Please note if I had a 'before' and 'after' picture looking straight across field 36 I would have used that to demonstrate the same point above.)