

**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 10:

Final Summary Statement

16th November 2023

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Previous document references:

REP-1-032

REP2-168 (WR summary)

REP2-169 (WR)

REP5-043 (Any further info)

1. As Chair of Mallard Pass Action Group (MPAG) it won't come as a surprise that I endorse and support all the submissions arguments and evidence put forward by MPAG. However there are issues and concerns pertinent to my own personal circumstances and views and I don't feel I have had the full opportunity to have my voice heard as Sue Holloway, the individual. This is purely due to the sheer workload of the Examination and letting MPAG and the community take precedence.
2. Since the application was lodged and the Examination ended it does not feel the Applicant has listened to any of the valid points I have raised in my representations as outlined below. They have made no attempt to make personal contact or hold a meeting about the points I raised during the Examination (despite being classed as a sensitive residential receptor), their only concern was to 'manage' MPAG.
3. Field 36 screening along the set back. The RVIA and Green Infrastructure Strategy plan mention 2 different approaches, one hedging, the other a tree belt. I have argued against the tree belt because:
 - a. it is in a place where a historic hedgerow used to be
 - b. it would look out of place in such an open vista compared to a hedgerow.
 - c. The screening would be less effective than a hedge in winter and would take much longer than 15 years to establish.
4. Book of reference plots 03-06 (field 36) and 03-07 (field 37) both are subject to CA for works 7 powers to create, enhance and maintain green infrastructure. As described in my WR this is an over-zealous application of CA rights being requested along the hedgerow adjacent to Carlby Road opposite my property. There is already an established hedgerow there, there is no justification for these CA powers. The Applicant is already applying pressure on landowners not to cut hedges, so even before/if consent is granted the baseline for visual assessment has been moved. Field 37 is for retained arable only (and north of Carlby Road on its own), so why CA powers are required for Works 7 is unclear.
5. Field 37 as stated above is being kept for retained arable. I do not accept the Applicant's argument that it is required for a skylark plot as there is plenty of space in field 36 and the adjoining fields east and west along Carlby Road which are also retained arable areas. Effectively the Applicant will be my

neighbour, with no certainty that at a later date or post consent they try and change the status of that field.

6. I still purport that the Applicant should revisit the access point on Carlby Road in person rather than just checking a desk-based swept path analysis as moving the access not only results in the needless felling of trees outside the Order Limits, but will move the access to a more dangerous point on the bend. I have driven it for the last 18 years and I have also watched every type of large HGV and farm equipment enter and leave the access with no issues whatsoever.
7. We talk about the importance of a sense of place and community being key to peoples' well-being. Whilst living in a very rural isolated and tranquil location which I love, I don't feel isolated as I meet so many people out and about whilst out walking. Some are very local, quite a few drive, park up and walk. What I will experience is true isolation if the solar farm is consented. Anyone that loves the countryside is not going to choose to walk amongst fields of solar panels, buzzing inverters, endless fencing and CCTV. People will vote with their feet and go elsewhere.
8. The prospect of a black curtain and the underbelly of the solar infrastructure over the beautiful countryside as my everyday view horrifies and depresses me. The land is finite and should be used for the purpose intended, in this case to produce food not to be carpeted into an industrial-scape. Every other possible alternative should be exhausted before resorting to this solution, which means Brownfield and rooftop, and lower grade land if absolutely necessary.
9. In concluding my position I am not ashamed or embarrassed to say that the Proposed Development has taken a huge toll on me personally. My mental well-being has really suffered over the last 2 years which in turn has affected my physical health. The ExA may see and meet members of the community during hearings and on site visits and see an external persona, but they never get the opportunity to understand how it really is affecting people inside or behind the scenes. The damage is real, maybe just not evident.

END
