

I still wish to strongly object to the proposed Mallard Pass Solar Factory.

I have tried to follow the NCIP process as a member of the public but I have found the sheer complexity of it somewhat intimidating.

I did accompany the Planning Inspectors on their onsite inspections and this only strengthened my concerns at the complete overpowering block nature that the panels will have which will surrounding villages in this area of the country.

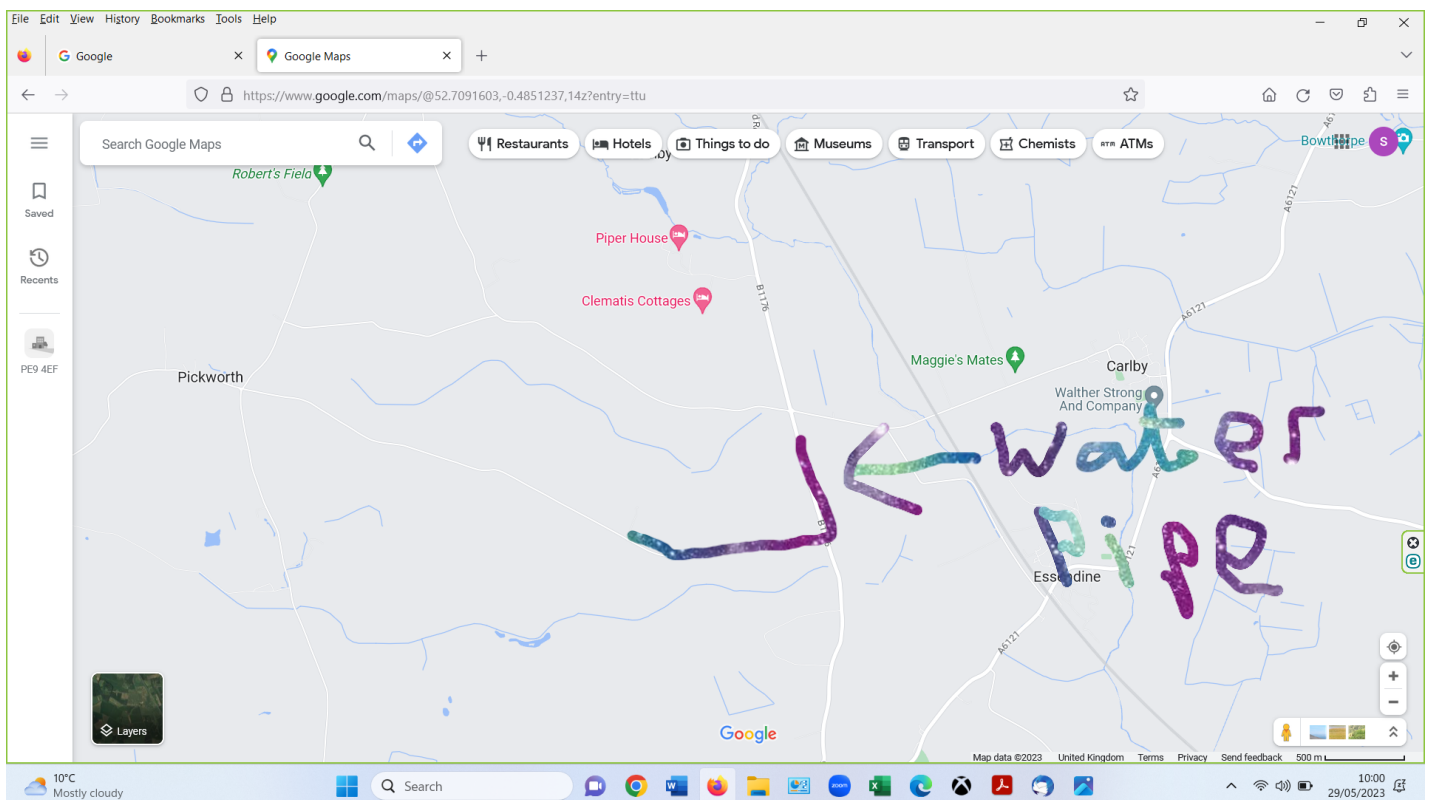


This picture was so impactful and I felt even the Developer who was present was shocked by the impact and questioned the height of this 3.3metre post, telling me even he did not believe this was the correct height and that it would block so much of views from well used footpaths.

After all my research, reading and listening I still have concerns regarding:

- The figure of 350 megawatts that is claimed to be produced in the Mallard Pass solar factory. Performances recently reported is more likely to be 11% of what is claimed
- Manufacturing process in mining, making and shipping the solar panels to the UK from China is considerable and by no means zero carbon. When the sun is very hot these solar panels do not work to capacity as they overheat, they also give an instability to the National Grid with their fluctuation in generation, sometimes causing additional gas powered stations to produce extra capacity to stabilize the grid.
- Ethical production of these panels is somewhat questionable
- Project Design Principles - The solar panels are by far too much a 'black overbearing block' on the landscape. The maps produced by the Developers shows the established wooded areas, however these green spaces will be very much hidden from view by the height and block nature of the solar arrays as the photo above clearly shows

- Natural habitat corridors and the ability for ground nesting birds to breed are still not clearly addressed.
- People - The general public from the affected villages and nearby towns enjoyment of the surrounding countryside is blighted by this blocked out landscape and given the essential need for people to exercise, enjoy the outdoors and improve their mental wellbeing in a calming green natural space this is very harmful to people and their mental health. Some villages and hamlets only have footpaths as their main recreation again the photo above clearly demonstrates what people will be viewing
- Environment and Mitigation – On the Pickworth Drift there is a badger set which has been established all the time I have lived here (some 30 years) I am not convinced that enough allowances has been given to several badger sets in this area.
- Visual Impact – mitigation planting to scene panels as mitigation. I am not convinced these will be maintained and allowed to grow. There seems to be no assurances that once planted these will not be neglected
- Connectivity – The Developers have still not reassured me or made any contact with me regarding our private water pipe



- The Site - There are brownfields sites 'Woolfox air field' within a 10 mile radius of this planned site, this is directly on the edge of the A1 with no housing to be blighted. The developers have not shown any thought that they have considered this.

- Construction and Traffic- I still feel the lanes around this site and the verges are going to suffer greatly and be very unsafe for pedestrians, cyclist and car users. Especially with a very large housing development in the pipeline north of Stamford all of which will be added to the road usage.
- Battery Energy Storage Systems. Mallard Pass say, they have removed battery storage, however, stated in the consultation document **“not to bring this aspect of development forward at this time”**. Given that a lot of the information and surveys produced so far have been spurious I am concerned that this is a back door tactic by Mallard Pass and not one that can be trusted.
- Land Use – with the current world crisis I am still concerned that the loss of agricultural land potentially forever will have a collective detrimental affecting on life for UK citizen, I know we need to generate green power however there are other green options such as roofs and brownfields sites, redundant and closing coal power stations (such as Radcliffe Power station) that are beneficial sites for this purpose.
- Consultation Process – I still feel that resident in the area, are still not fully aware of what is coming if this application is successful. I have been appalled at the lack of public engagement in this process the leaflets produced have been misleading. The timing of the public consultation deliberately in the build up to summer holidays and children finishing school years when parents are at their most busy has, in my opinion been done deliberately, not to engage fully with residents. The graphics used have been very “creative” showing a view with grass nearly as high as the panels! VERY MISLEADING. The consultation in Stamford Town Hall was not even advertised outside the venue on the day. All in all, a good job at minimal public engagement.

Given all my thoughts above I still strongly opposed to this solar factory in the scale that it is being proposed as it is overbearing to the community and engulfs the whole area and will have a huge social detrimental impact of peoples living conditions and wellbeing.

If the Planning Inspectorate are mindful to allow this scheme, I would urge that provision is made for the upkeep of the mitigation planting for the whole length of the scheme by an independent body so that responsibility for maintenance, replacement and upkeep is managed fairly

Thank you for reading my submission.

Sarah Gresty

[REDACTED]