

From: Alicia Kearns MP [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2024 2:51 PM
To: BEIS Correspondence <correspondence@energysecurity.gov.uk>
Subject: Mallard Pass Update: Presentation of Petition and Joint Statement to Government on Uyghur Forced Labour in Solar Supply Chains (Case Ref: AK28090)



Alicia Kearns MP
Member of Parliament for Rutland & Melton

Good afternoon,

Presentation of Mallard Pass Petition to the House of Commons.

I hope you are well. Yesterday I formally presented our petition against the proposed Mallard Pass solar plant to the House of Commons. It was fantastic to welcome some of the key volunteers and leaders from the Mallard Pass Action Group to join me and I want to reiterate my thanks to everyone who has given their time and support to this campaign.

Achieving 3,414 signatures is a massive achievement and testament to the community spirit of Rutland and the Stamford Villages.

The House of Commons clerks have confirmed that the petition has been accepted and forwarded to the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, who will have to formally respond within two months. With the final decision day for Mallard Pass scheduled for 17th May, I hope that this will help convince the Secretary of State to do the right thing and reject the proposal. I have also copied a version of the petition to deliver personally to a Minister in the Department.

You can watch the presentation of the petition here: [REDACTED]

Joint Statement on Uyghur Forced Labour in Solar Supply Chains.

I have also been working on garnering support for my joint statement to the Government asking for action to clean up the UK's solar supply chains from Uyghur slave labour. After several months gathering signatures, I submitted the statement to the Secretaries of State for Foreign Affairs, Energy and Trade this week.

Forty-three Members of Parliament and thirty-two human rights charities signed the statement calling on the Government to:

1. Introduce import controls to insulate our market from all goods made wholly or partially with forced labour.
2. Bring in complementary measures to enable the diversification of solar and other clean energy industry supply chains.
3. Implement targeted sanctions to bar offending solar companies from operating in the UK.

This is particularly urgent as the main developer behind [REDACTED]

You can see the full statement
here: [REDACTED]

And read more on why it is needed here: [REDACTED]

I have secured a debate in the House of Commons on 16th April to discuss this further and will continue to work to convince the Government to stop companies such as Canadian Solar from operating in the UK.

Thank you again to everyone who signed the petition, engaged with the planning inspection, and devoted time and energy to opposing Mallard Pass.

Best wishes to you and yours,

Alicia

Alicia Kearns MP

Member of Parliament for Rutland and Melton

Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee and Member of the Joint Committee for National Security Strategy

