

From: Martin Brookes [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 12:01 PM
To: BEIS Correspondence <correspondence@energysecurity.gov.uk>
Subject: Fw: The moment of decision for Mallard Pass solar plant is fast approaching

From: Martin Brookes <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 31 January 2024 11:50
To: KEARNS, Alicia [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Subject: The moment of decision for Mallard Pass solar plant is fast approaching

Dear Alicia Kearns,

Thank you for reaching out and inviting me to share my thoughts on the Mallard Pass Solar Farm proposal. While I appreciate your efforts to gather feedback from constituents, I feel compelled to express a different perspective on this issue.

I understand and share your commitment to protecting our environment and transitioning to a more sustainable future. In fact, I strongly support the development of renewable energy sources, including solar power.

While I acknowledge the concerns raised regarding Mallard Pass, I believe the potential benefits of this project outweigh them. The significant reduction in carbon emissions, contribution to energy security, and potential economic boost for the region are undeniable.

Your suggestion that the solar panels have "blood money attached" is a valid concern worth investigating. However, it's important to recognise that this issue extends far beyond solar energy. The vast majority of goods we consume in our daily lives involve complex supply chains with potential ethical concerns. Simply rejecting renewable energy based on these concerns, without addressing the broader issue, feels like an ineffective approach.

Furthermore, I believe the potential for positive environmental impacts within the Mallard Pass project deserves consideration. Integrating beekeeping and wildflower planting around the panels could enhance biodiversity and local Rutland honey production. Grazing sheep under the panels could potentially manage vegetation and provide additional income for farmers. These initiatives demonstrate how solar farms can coexist harmoniously with agriculture and natural ecosystems.

While I respect your right to support minorities, I feel the voices of those who support the Mallard Pass project have been underrepresented in the current discourse. We, too, are a significant part of your constituency with a valid stake in this decision. I

urge you to consider our perspective and ensure a balanced representation of views when presenting your case to the Secretary of State.

I believe that a responsible and forward-thinking approach to energy development requires a nuanced analysis of the potential benefits and drawbacks, and a commitment to finding solutions that address legitimate concerns while allowing us to progress towards a cleaner and more sustainable future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Martin Brookes

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