

I am an avid supporter of alternative technologies as power sources and feel that a move to such technologies cannot be delayed in order to prevent further damage to our local environment and that of the entire world. HOWEVER, I strongly believe that the consumption of agricultural land with huge solar farms is the wrong way to go. A project such as the proposed Gate Burton Energy Park (and other similar schemes in the area) will render vast areas of formerly agricultural land unusable. I strongly believe that the erection of onshore wind turbines is a far more satisfactory way to shift energy production towards "greener" alternatives than are such projects as the GBEP. Onshore wind turbines are things of beauty to many eyes but, most importantly, they allow continued use of land for agricultural purposes, thus ADDING energy production to the existing income for the local and national economies rather than replacing agriculture with energy production. I would strongly request that permission for this huge solar energy "park" is declined and replaced with wind turbines such as those in use in numerous existing locations around the country.