

I am a local resident living within a few miles of the proposed site.

I object to the proposed development as solar farms should not be constructed on farmland. I understand that the country faces a dilemma over use of land and I am waiting with interest to read the government policy document on 'Land use' due to be published soon. The government has to decide whether Energy Security is more important than Food Security. The land where this project is proposed to be constructed cannot be used for both energy and arable food, and this situation will be finalised for the next 60 years depending upon the NSIP recommendation.

The BESS should not be located anywhere near to residential properties as the fire hazard, water contamination, gaseous lethal clouds and flooding are too great. Lithium Ion batteries are not safe and are likely to fail due to thermal runaway sometime during the life expectancy of this project. The recent car transporter fire off the coast of Holland should be a warning to us all. The applicant needs to take account of the quantity of fire water needed to cool a container containing a runaway battery fire. It will probably take three to four days of continuous cooling to lower the temperature to remove spontaneous ignition. This water will be contaminated and will need to be stored in a bunded area before it can be treated and released. This requirement is missing from the applicants current plans.

The Gate Burton Energy Park project must be considered in conjunction with the four other solar projects proposed for the area between Lincoln and Gainsborough. The visual impact alone will make this an industrial site and remove the open countryside that this area is famous for. The mental health of the residents will be impacted forever.

The recent change of owner company to a new limited company within Low Carbon makes you question the commercial viability of the project as it seems to have very limited financial support. This further supports the belief that Low Carbon intend to sell on this project once Planning Approval has been obtained. The applicant should therefore declare its financial commitment to developing this project until operation at least.

This project contains a number of significant risks. I would therefore request that the applicant publishes their Risk Analysis report so that the Inspector and other interested parties can take into account the developers understanding of the risks that the project has identified along with the proposed remedies.