

I do not understand why solar projects have been prioritised in this area. This seems like a highly ineffective and inefficient use of our productive farmland and I strongly object to this project and the three other large scale projects planned for the area, totalling approximately 10,000 acres, (West Burton, Cottam, Tillbridge).

The amount of land proposed for this project is vast, literally stretching from one village to the next. Currently the view across the land is endless green fields, crops, animals grazing. This will all be lost if this project goes ahead. Solar is fully dependent on weather and light and at night time they become redundant. A solar farm in winter can only work on potential daylight for an average of 8 hours. They are much less efficient than we are led to believe. They have a shelf life, after this they go to landfill, creating another problem.

I have seen far more innovative installations of solar panels. For example, the full length of motorway central reservations with a roof of solar panels covering a cycle path underneath, ground level car parks having solar panel canopies, providing shade for cars. In fact France has made it law that new car parks over a certain size must be built with solar panel canopies. Disused MOD sites could be alternative spaces as these large sites are often abandoned with no plans for alternative use and already have public restrictions, fences, security in place with could be upgraded to suit. Vertical wind turbines along highways can turn constantly with passing traffic. I have attached photo examples of some of the other alternative solutions.

Why are the disused power station sites not being used for the solar projects? This project plans to connect to the Cottam power station which was decommissioned in 2019. This is in the process of being demolished. Why not fill the site with solar panels?

Solar panels should be added to transportation such as cars, buses, lorries, trains so they effectively will power themselves meaning charging points would not need to be used as much and electric trains for example would take less power from the grid. All business with roof space such as warehouses, supermarkets, commercial retail parks and industrial trading estates should have solar panels enforced as part of the planning process.

Renewable energy is obviously beneficial to our planet, but I struggle to see how covering vast amounts of land in glass and disrupting nature is being respectful to the Earth. Our countryside is not the place for these projects. This is all about the greed of people with no principles.



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The French government has passed a law which will require all car parks with more than 80 spaces to install solar canopies over at least half the area they cover. The move is expected to generate around 11 gigawatts of energy – enough to power nearly 8 million homes and the same as around 10 power stations.

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[E https://www.electrifying.com](https://www.electrifying.com) › article

Solar panels to be legal requirement in French car parks - Electrifying.com

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