

Submission ID: 20410

Please find attached the notes I had hoped to give in full at the open floor hearing 2. Unfortunately 5 minutes was not enough time for me to impart the full content.

Hard copy of notes for Open Floor Hearing 2. dated 22nd August 2023

Proposed Development of Solar PV, Gate Burton Energy Park

M. J Dover GBEP-IP059

Solar PV has its place in the energy mix of the future, but I believe it belongs on all suitable rooftops, providing a more egalitarian contribution to resident/occupier and grid.

This would leave valuable arable farmland to produce much needed crops & help toward achieving a measure of UK food security, the need of which is currently highlighted by the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, imposed Russian Embargo, Russian imposed wheat grain export ban & Black Sea blockade.

Add to this the spectre of a 30% decrease in the annual global Rice harvest this year, which will inevitably force higher prices on the international cereal & Grain markets, The fact India has announced banning Rice exports altogether indicates how critical the food supply situation is developing.

Therefore the use of high yielding farmland for 60 years + for inefficient & intermittent Solar PV Schemes, that would impact on the UK's ability to offset its reliance on imported

site presumably to the Upper Witham, may well in heavy rain, remove the margin for safety and possibly breach the banks causing internal flooding to adjacent properties on Kexby Lane several of which have flooded in the recent past.

BESS The dangers of Lithium batteries and runaway fires are difficult to control or extinguish. Doubt exists that Lincolnshire fire & rescue have the manpower, funding or resources to adequately deal with the many BSS facilities planned for the area. I believe that presently there are no formal HSAW regulations regarding BESS to guide or control installation & operation.

The purpose of BSS is probably arbitrage, charging batteries from the grid cheaply & selling back to the grid at top rates. It is claimed it is spare electricity, but if a demand (charging batteries) is made on the grid, then surely generation must take place to satisfy that demand.

The Origin of manufacture of panels and associated equipments, most if not all of which is manufactured in China using mainly coal fired generation with China accounting for around 30% of global Co2 emissions.

Many of the solar panel / wafer manufacture is carried out allegedly by forced labour.

China controls an estimated 90% of rare earth mining.
China controls 87% of solar wafer processing
China controls 60% of lithium processing capacity.

will also be carried from site to roads pathways gardens & properties.

The proposed location of some of the construction sites is too near to residential homes on Kexby and water courses should be reconsidered. The traffic volume, workforce, plant movement, heavy equipment deliveries, noise nuisance dirt and piling will adversely impact those living in such close proximity within 25m of the proposed site. It will also involve the destruction of hundreds of metres of ancient hedgerows and part of a tree line of the wood opposite the row of cottages.

Probability of Glint & Glare from panels which will pose a danger to drivers at certain times of day, particularly on the Kexby Lane B1241.

I have requested that you visit this area during your accompanied inspection.

The exponential increase in daily Traffic vehicle trips including abnormal loads, HGV, light goods vehicles buses vans, cars & plant vehicles will adversely impact the area with The additional wear & tear to rural roads, that are not designed for such a weight or volume of traffic being subject to damage along with pedestrian paths kerbs & verges. How will the repairs of these roads etc be paid for

Flooding certainly part of the scheme lies within an area designated as having a high risk of surface water flooding. There is a fear that the compacted ground and the concentrated runoff from the many panels will exasperate this problem, Swales designed to carry surface water from the proposed solar

food stuffs at a time of supply volatility, high shipping charges & strained supply chains. Impacting on the ability to achieve a balanced level of food security.

This scheme along with 3 other huge Solar PV schemes are planned in the area in close proximity to each other, if passed the impact on the area, towns villages, communities & even the city of Lincoln.

Almost every facet of what is currently a normal way of life will be altered, the landscape, roads, wildlife, & countryside, rural views much reduced farming & tourism. Communities will be broken up and villages & hamlets isolated within an ocean of solar panels.

There will be a loss of traditional agricultural jobs, agricultural engineering, & farming supply businesses.

Tenant farmers stand to lose homes and businesses, whilst the possibility of long term jobs with the Solar scheme are remote, particularly post construction, with most being contracted out. Resulting in a probable loss (in the local employment sector) in job security.

The Construction period is estimated at circa 3 years, it will entail driving metal piling circa 66 hours per week, the noise decibel level will in all probability exceed the 90db level. This has a high potential to impact on sensory health, physical health & mental health.

Dirt, dust, & detritus matter will become an airborne pollutant blown from sites potentially effecting respiratory health, and

Feb 23 China signs deal with Bolivia for worlds largest lithium reserve.

For wind turbine renewables

China controls 75% of gearbox manufacture.

China controls 65% of generator manufacture.

China controls 60% of blade manufacture.

1st August 23 China restricts the export of rare minerals

Gallium & Germanium vital in semi conductors.

China has control of UK energy.

To produce these million + solar panels for GBEP:-

Millions of tons of toxic mining tailings, permanently scarred landscapes, toxic acidic lakes leaching poisons into the surrounding earth. Suffering child miners in The Congo and beyond, enforced minority workforces in Xinjiang.

I don't know where exactly on the account sheets the developers enter that.

Solar is notoriously inefficient in UK along with wind they rely on gas turbine generation for base load, still days, dull days & nighttime. So much so that currently West Burton (c) 299mw gas generation power station is being built to cogenerate with WB (b)

WB (b) is a Combined Cycle Gas Turbine, (high efficiency)

WB (c) will be an Open Cycle Gas Turbine (capable or ramping up to generating speeds quickly)

However open cycle although cheaper to build are more polluting (spent gases exhausting to atmosphere). They are also far more expensive to run.

With the government offering incentives to renewables developers mainly through tax breaks and Contract for Difference, firms are drawn here because of the amount of profits they can make with incentives LCOE and tax breaks.

A for profit operation at the expense of UK consumers.

These developers are Limited Companies & I thus could decide to sell the site, or choose to dissolve the company, when the margins or incentives are not as attractive. Leaving the administrators the problem of millions of solar panels etc. it's happened before here in UK,

Will this scheme be one of 4 huge DeLorien type scandals?
Are we as a Nation sleepwalking into the New Age equivalent of The South Sea Bubble?

I believe we could be, as more & more prospectors arrive here setting up companies to extract as much as possible out of the consumer via the exchequer.

But when you consider this scheme please remember that this area is collectively our home, the place we chose to live, surrounded by nature, wildlife, rural farms and the changing agricultural seasons.

There are more reliable alternatives to the desolation of farmland for little return.