

Sturton by Stow Parish Council

Q2.1.6 Q2.1.7 & Q2.1.8

Cumulative Impacts Assessments

There are at least two more solar sites not listed in documentation and are in the immediate vicinity.

Stow Park (Luminous Energy) sited between Sturton by Stow parish – Westwoods and Marton.

One Earth Project which has just been announced – Sept.2023 - and is projected to be sited south of Dunham Bridge (A57) – each side of River Trent.

These both have potential to not only impact land usage but also the construction processes.

They should both be considered for cumulative impacts by communities as well as burdens of application approval by West Lindsey DC and Lincolnshire County Council.

The additional project of Fosse Green Energy to south of Lincoln will also place an extra burden upon Lincolnshire County Council.

Q2.6.1

Draft Consent Order

There is a limit of 60 years proposed.

The decommissioning and restoration of the solar site is not adequately addressed within the dDCO.

There is a clause within Burbo Bank and multiple offshore renewable energy DCO's for the inclusion of abatement of works abandoned or decayed. This would prevent inoperable solar sites becoming derelict prior to the expected decommissioning date.

Abatement of works abandoned or decayed

8.—(1) Where Work No. 1(a) and Work No. 2 or any part of them are abandoned or allowed to fall into decay, the Secretary of State may, following consultation with the undertaker, issue a written notice requiring the undertaker at its own expense to repair and restore or remove Work No. 1(a) and Work No. 2 or any relevant part of them, without prejudice to any notice served under section 105(2) of the 2004 Act.

(2) The notice may also require the restoration of the site of the relevant part(s) of Work No. 1(a) and Work No. 2 to a safe and proper condition within an area and to such an extent as may be specified in the notice.

(3) If the undertaker fails to comply in any respect with a notice served under this article within the period of 30 days beginning with the date of service of the notice, the Secretary of State may take whatever steps the Secretary of State considers appropriate to achieve the result required by the notice, and any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State in doing so shall be recoverable from the undertaker.

It is noted that Burbo Bank is wind generation, but there is no reason why this cannot be used for a solar generation situation.

Q2.9.3

Cumulative Assessment – General Dimensions

Stow Park (Luminous Energy) and One Earth Solar should also to be shown on a cumulative assessment map for clarity.

Q2.13.1

Cumulative Assessment – Traffic

Document Ref 8.1b

Technical note on Energy Yield Forecast Methodology

This document sets out the expected degradation of PV panels with replacement on Y30.

There is no reference to ensure additional traffic (or waste removal/recycling) assessment at this time.

There will be multiple events to replace and remove all of the PV panels which will be akin to destruction/construction. This has not been addressed.

Applicant Responses to Written Representations: APP/8.19

Rep2-056 – See Pages 34 and 35

Whilst it is noted that the table inserted is in response to the impact on tenant farmers it does raise questions regarding the use of the crops and anaerobic digestion (AD).

All the 4 farms in question do have crops used either exclusively or rotationally for AD.

Department for Energy, Security & Net Zero has recently (this year) published a report which states;

“Biomass is already a key component of our energy supply, with bioenergy generating 11% of total electricity supply in 2022.

But its future potential is extraordinary: it is a renewable source that can be used across all three energy sectors (transport; heat; and electricity), as well as non-energy sectors.”

The use of crops for biomass is not unusual and is widespread. This is something which is already in local operation and there is a biomass AD plant on A15, within 12 miles of the proposed solar site.

What will the impact be on this plant? Has this even been considered?

Land which is already being used for renewable energy should not be removed from use in order to industrialise our area with solar panels. This will put the biomass AD plant at risk; Biomass is completely renewable in every sense of the word.