

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Gate Burton Solar Project](#)
Cc: edward.leigh.mp@parliament.uk
Subject: Upper Witham River banks breach Kexby lane.
Date: 22 October 2023 19:40:47
Attachments: [IMG_6411.PNG](#)
[IMG_6361.jpg](#)
[IMG_6363.jpg](#)
[13b76e28-f035-4784-9e59-f71987881a17.JPG](#)
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[98d954d1-82e4-45c5-81f6-40ec0ea8fb08.JPG](#)
[IMG_3908.JPG](#)
[IMG_3915.JPG](#)
[IMG_3916.JPG](#)
[IMG_3917.JPG](#)
[IMG_3930.JPG](#)

M J Dover
[REDACTED]

Reference GBEP IP059

FAO:- Mr. Kenneth Stone (ExA)

Further to my E-mail of 13/10/2023

Residential properties and a business on Kexby lane were affected by surface water flooding on the 20/21st of October 2023.

The Upper Witham drainage river breached its banks in several places. Surface & ground flooding occurred to properties and surrounding fields, including the field that is bounded by the Upper Witham river on its South and Western sides. The field is the northern most site in the proposed Gate Burton Energy Park.

The sewerage pumping station was overwhelmed and sanitation to several properties was cut due to the closure of property non return valves, the pumping station remained off line for many hours.

This caused the business to cease operation, potential contamination from effluent and personal sanitation inconvenience with no alternative arrangements for circa 19 hours.

I enclose photographs taken over the period showing the extent of the problem.

This is not an isolated incident and the need to be able to move surface water to the Witham is an important factor in saving our homes from internally flooding.

If this field is allowed to be developed for thousands of Solar PV arrays, it is feared that the impermeable surfaces of 4m high panels will act as rainfall collectors, runoff will be concentrated onto a compacted heavy clay.

Whilst the clay holds a quantity of water and thus valued for arable farming in dry or drought conditions, it is problematic at times during heavy and prolonged rainfall.

Low Carbon plan to divert surface water via swales, will in all probability exasperate an already existing problem and remove any capacity in the Upper Witham that we need to remove ponding surface water flooding from around properties before ingress occurs.

Low Carbon cannot mitigate, they will not compensate and the only advice given at a consultation meeting was, "well you could try and sue us"

Please consider this against the GBEP planning application.

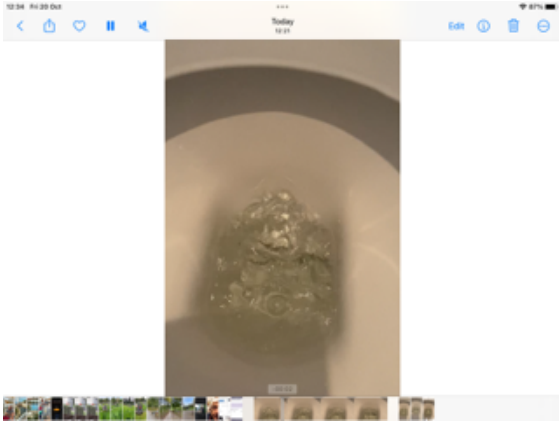












Sent by M J Dover