

The West Burton Solar Project is the third of four NSIP solar proposals in my neighbourhood to enter examination.

The number and scale of proposed schemes in a short space of time is both distressing and confusing.

These applications need to be examined with this unprecedented cumulative impact at the forefront.

This is quite clearly one huge solar complex, with shared legal teams and proposed cable routes etc... Cottam and West Burton are by the same applicant and use the same project management.

Could the examinations be staggered by 6 months to level the playing field, instead of merely days between Cottam and West Burton.

The four NSIP proposals are not the only ones in Lincolnshire, there are 10 giant solar farms proposed for this county.

These four schemes are uniquely within a few miles of each other. The current examination timetable would be impossible to keep up with and participate in. Many residents are affected by all four schemes and their cumulative impact.

The dash for ground mounted solar seems to be an opportunistic free for all, with its inefficiencies seldom made public.

This unparalleled amount of proposed development in one area should not have gone unchecked. The potential level of harm has now been compounded to unthinkable proportions with residents now having 4 schemes to contend with.

Early Developer meetings with the Planning Inspectorate which excluded the communities affected, makes me think that local views are not considered important. This all feels very undemocratic.

Public consultation came far too late in the process, and when it did the developer just told us what we wanted to hear.

This part of the process is demonstrably flawed.

I understand the reasons behind the NSIP concept. But in this case, with an unprecedented 4 proposals covering 10,000 acres and all within a few miles, makes me think that there should have been a point where someone stepped in and took an holistic overview of the potential devastating effects of scale.

I ask when does human compassion and common sense come into it?

Is 4 NSIP developments acceptable in one area, but 5 is not?

Or can the whole country be potentially covered in solar panels and batteries as long as the developers have completed all their reports?

The need and consequences of these schemes is not backed by any thorough technical strategy. It seems more like "suck it and see!"

I am extremely concerned by the sequence of events up to now, and strongly feel that no area deserves this scale of retrograde change and I believe that when given the facts, most people would agree.

I look forward to a fair examination and that I am able to demonstrate to the Examining Authority the serious issues with this scheme.

Thank you.