

**From:** [Karen Elvidge](#)  
**To:** [West Burton Solar Project](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Solar Farms including West Burton  
**Date:** 31 October 2023 17:36:41

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Sturgate Farm,  
Upton,  
Gainsborough,  
Lincs,  
DN21 5NY  
31.10.23

Dear Sir or Madam,

### **Proposed Solar Farms including West Burton solar Project**

My objections to siting Solar Panels on productive arable land are many :

Firstly, I strongly object to taking an enormous swathe of the most fertile land in our country out of food production, possibly necessitating buying in expensive cereals and root vegetables from Europe. As a local farming family for over forty years we have seen productive harvests from this grade of agricultural land. We can only assume that the proposers are offering land owners more money than tenant farmers can afford to pay or make a matched profit out of crop production?

We have heard arguments that the panels will be productive for twenty years by which time the lands will be negatively affected and may take many more years to be brought back into productivity. There is no plan to recycle these panels ? Presumably the plan is to send them to landfill? A decision to proceed with this project will therefore seriously negatively impact on future generations.

Secondly, the proposed local invasion of infrastructure, lorries and machinery to develop the site and additional sites over years, will negatively impact the life of our local community and the access routes to local villages and schools. In particular the local single track roads that are already showing signs of serious subsidence will be further eroded by the pounding of heavy machinery and the total ghastly package will not only have an adverse effect on house prices in this whole area but will also adversely impact on the mental well-being of existing residents. People move to country locations for well-being, for views of fields not solar farms. No positive gain from these monstrosities will be experienced by local communities.

Thirdly, There is scientific evidence that solar farming is seriously inefficient in a country that is not blessed with daily bright sunlight? We agree that our country needs to utilise new technologies and alternative sources of energy, but the sources should be efficient and add to community life, not detract from it.

We are not 'Nimbys' or Luddites. We live in a house that has solar panels on the roof, a solar - therm water heating system and a heat pump for energy efficiency. We are re-cyclers, up-cyclers and 'eco warriors.' We support solar energy where it does not comprise the countryside... Yet we cannot agree that good food producing land should be used in this way.

Why is this countryside devastation even being considered? Why are there new industrial buildings such as Amazon Warehouses and other industrial sites that are not being required to build their warehouses with South facing roofs lined with solar panels? Why is the land at the edges of motorways not being targeted for solar panels without causing distress to local, West Lindsey residents? Why are lakes and open expanses of water not being targeted as suitable

sites for floating panels .Why are the barren hillsides of Yorkshire and Derbyshire not targeted by these solar invaders?

The proposals are having a serious effect on rural communities and we ask you to seriously consider whether the minimal benefits outweigh the negative impact.

Yours Faithfully,

Karen Elvidge



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