

Response to ExA 1st Questions West Burton December 2023. Sturton by Stow Parish Council

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| <p>1.6.5 Local Authorities, including Parish Councils. Interested Parties –</p> | <p>Human Health Study Area</p> | <p>Are the relevant Local Authorities and IPs, satisfied that the study area for the Human Health and well-being effects is appropriate?</p> | <p>The operational duration of this and other nearby sites is now being extended from 40 to 60 years.</p> <p>The assessments carried out will not have factored in a further 20 years of operation. Since there are no sites of comparable size currently under generation in UK there is no evidence of effects upon the flora, fauna or residents.</p> <p>The local Clinical Commissioning Group should be invited to reassess any potential long term effects now the scheme is proposed for 60 years – a 50% increase in term.</p> |
| <p>1.6.13 Applicant, Interested Parties</p> | <p>Wider Determinants of Mental Health: Environmental Conditions</p> | <p>Environmental conditions are part of the accumulation of factors which determine health and mental health. Living and working conditions, including agriculture and food production, working environments, employment/unemployment</p> | <p>The wider effects of mental health is subjective to the individual concerned. Nevertheless, many of the residents of West Lindsey have chosen to live in the area because of its rural nature. The views over the fields; the open spaces; the green</p> |

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| | | <p>and social and community networks play an important role in determining good mental health in the countryside, and elsewhere. 7000 Acres highlight [REP1A-015 and REP1A-018] an increase in depression within local communities “particularly in rural farming where this has been well recognised...[the] impact of these schemes has the potential to worsen mental health because they take away the very fabric of what rural life is about”. 7000 Acres also cite the Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment at page 6 of their WR [REP1A018]. The ExA notes that there is predicted increase in depression in the 65+ and that depression rates in Lincolnshire are above average at 10%. a) The Applicant is asked to please provide a response to the above. b) Optionally, IPs may wish to comment on specific aspects of the fabric of rural life which they consider will be taken away, resulting in</p> | <p>canopy of hedgerows and trees; These are some of the things that make a rural area.</p> <p>Residents have not sought to live in an industrialised site; The sheer scale of this proposal (more when cumulative effect is taken into consideration) is beyond comprehension and the very FACT that there are so many potential solar sites being proposed (with more at pre-application stage) the feeling of being simply overwhelmed and bulldozed into accepting this is, for many, simply devastating.</p> |
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| | | worsened mental health, as a result of the proposed scheme (or in combination with other proposals). Please cite any relevant evidence where possible. | |
| 1.13.6 Interested Parties; (Applicant - optional). | Community Benefits | <p>Various RRs stated that there has been no consultation from solar companies with parishes regarding the setting up of a community fund which would run for the entirety of the project to award sums for compensation for detrimental loss. The implication is that this would go some way to offering community benefit. a) IPs are invited to explain further what is meant by compensation, what a fund would be used for, and how such funds may be secured. b) Optionally, the Applicant may wish to also comment</p> | <p>During the initial public meeting with IGP, the developer did ask if there would be a need for something along the lines of electric vehicle charging – The response is that there are already two publicly accessible car chargers in Sturton by Stow.</p> <p>The reply to the developer was that perhaps they could provide solar panels for some public buildings (village hall and school). We have not had a response.</p> <p>The idea of a fund for community benefit was raised during our Neighbourhood Plan review meeting.</p> <p>We would envisage a fund which would cover the affected parishes and run on a charitable basis as a trust.</p> |

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| | | | <p>It could provide funds for whole community benefit. Additional play equipment, improvements to the village hall, funding for the youth club so that they could provide extra opening days and equipment. Funding for the local primary school. Reparation of footpaths for the twitchells and ginnels. Investment for the recreation ground for new play equipment and upkeep of the pavilion and grounds.</p> <p>The list could go on; this would be repeated throughout the affected neighbouring parishes.</p> <p>The communities will be blighted and affected by this and other solar sites if they are constructed.</p> <p>Why should communities not seek any benefit?</p> |
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