

Response to REP4.098 Supporting Video flyover footage.

Having just viewed this damning visual aid, I would like to comment on this sickening footage and the level of proposed solar development in one area.

Firstly, it fails to show the “Steeple Renewables” proposal, which is now the fifth NSIP for the area and is just across the river from the Gate Burton Energy Park. (See map PDF) This fifth proposal should be added to the flyover for the ultimate benefit of the Secretary of State.

These 5 NSIPs all fall within a 10km/6-mile radius and cover a staggering 13,000 acres of farmland, with not one rooftop or brownfield site being used.

The footage also fails to show the aggressive proportions of the 4.5m high solar panels proposed for the WB and Cottam solar projects. This giant infrastructure is not used anywhere else in the UK, and for good reason. (Heckington Fen abandoned their proposed use during consultation.) The footage does however highlight cumulative effect, poor site selection and bad design. It also shows an uncontrolled avalanche of solar applications in the neighbourhood.

It is evident that the Developer has underestimated the landscape with the sites chosen and their setting within this area of Great Landscape Value. There is a large body of evidence testifying to the value placed on this highly visible and unique landscape by local people.

This accumulation of 5 solar proposals also shows the Developer’s lack of ambition for brownfield sites and rooftops, as not one has been incorporated into this scheme. It is clear to me that the Government’s push for a “Rooftop Revolution” is slipping away, and our small country is losing control of its energy and food industries, not helped by Solar Greenwashing, which will inevitably contribute to net zero failures, rising energy costs and economic decline.