

WBSP ISH5

I was unable to attend the ISH5 as this was an online event only, I have no ability to join online and as all other ISH have been blended events the decision for this one not to be, is not in the spirit of public engagement and fairness.

I believe Landscape was one of the topics. My views on this are as follows.

Solar farms of this size and scale will become ugly and industrial wastelands within the landscape.

Like the Cottam Solar Project also by IGP, the WPSP is split over many sites spreading its impact over a wider area and in many directions. All other solar plants in this country are on single contiguous sites to limit impact from any given viewpoint. This approach is clearly nothing more than a desperate land grab with the scheme acreage being made up by using numerous parcels of land and being forced to create fragmented and sprawling schemes having untenable impact. This is not good planning as the Applicant suggests. If it was then farmland would have been chosen closer to the Grid connection and away from people's homes. This has not happened on either of the IGP schemes.

The use of horrific 4.5m high panels is unprecedented in the UK. These are not fit to be used in areas of human habitation and shows further disregard for the landscape and residents. 4.5 metres are not low level panels as suggested should be used by Solar Energy UK and the Building Research Establishment. These monsters cannot be screened in the UK countryside and the case for such panels is a laughable one, with the Applicant claiming a small amount of extra electrical yield... from solar, the lowest yielding form of electricity generation! Increasing potential profits at the expense of the landscape and communities.

Inefficiency of solar is both in terms of electrical yield (between 9 and 11% of installed capacity) and its massive land consumption and associated loss of continued meaningful agriculture. The tiny amount of additional output claimed by the Developer is not worth the exponential amount of additional impact caused by using such massive apparatus. These panels would take this massacre of our landscape to another level.

This opportunistic 2,000 acre plus proposal on so much disaggregated land, with its oversized infrastructure would be ruinous on its own but bearing in mind the cumulative 13,000 acres of solar proposals in a 6 mile radius, means that this region would become a SOLAR INDUSTRIALISED ZONE, like found nowhere else in the developed world!

This is mass vandalism and for a fraction of the power that we once had feeding into the 400kv Grids at West Burton and Cottam.

A retrograde step without doubt.

Most solar farms are only one or two hundred acres and their use of 2 metre low level panels means they could be effectively screened.

Allowing the development of thousands of acres of 4.5m panels would be a catastrophic planning decision.

The 3 solar NSIPs in the UK are all on single sites of considerably less land mass.

1. Little crow NSIP **600 acres**. Built.
2. Cleve Hill **900 acres**. Under construction. (The YouTube video shows disturbing levels of construction impact.)
3. Longfield **1000 acres**. Planned for construction.

A 6-mile radius would be getting 13,000 acres of solar!

1. W BSP.
2. Cottam Solar Project.
3. Gate Burton Energy Park.
4. Tillbridge Solar.
5. Steeple Renewables.

With many more very close by, such as One Earth Solar, Fosse Green, and Great North Road Solar etc...

[PLEASE SEE "SOLAR INDUSTRIALISED ZONE" MAP PDF.](#)

There are new proposals appearing every few months. It is just all solar. Cheap to install maybe but none of this "cheapness" is passed on to the customer.

The Operator will get their handsome CfD payment/subsidy whether demand requires power or not and the consumer will get to foot this bill together with the associated costs for energy backup for dull and dark conditions. Deployed in this way, solar is expensive. It is only cheap for the Developer/Operator. They would get rich at our expense.

Solar is reliably, unreliable.

It is merely a whim that we are displacing agriculture with ineffective solar schemes in this country. What is so sickening, is that they will stand idle in the fields for half their life and for the other half they would generate not even close to their nameplate capacity. What a waste of land and vital Grid connections.

What this scheme will achieve along with its many sisters is the destruction of our landscape, communities, and the social fabric of this agricultural region.

Solar is not a Primary Generator for the UK and must not be allowed to consume more land than all the other utility projects combined. (There are 130GW of solar on the National Grid TEC register, this could cover over 600,000 acres of farmland!)

These giant solar schemes would start and end their lives as the largest building sites on Earth. The videos of the Cleve Hill construction are terrifying.

Solar on farmland of this magnitude is clearly flawed. Other countries would laugh at this current trend going on in this small, dull, and densely populated island.

Vast land loss and industrialisation for such little electricity generation is not in the country's best interests and these schemes do not have public support.

An off ramp for solar promoted in this way is now available.

Thank you.