



The Planning Inspectorate

Cottam Solar Farm

Registration and Relevant Representation Form

**Registration Deadline: THURSDAY 30TH MARCH 2023 @
23:59**

About this form

In this form, words in *italics* have specific meanings in the Planning Act 2008 process, which are explained in the attached **Glossary of terms**.

By completing this form you are registering to become an *Interested Party* to take part in the *Examination* of the above application for development consent which has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State). You can become an *Interested Party* if you make a *Relevant Representation*, however your *Representation* will only be relevant if you make it on time and you answer all of the mandatory fields on this form. For further information please read Advice Note 8.2: How to register to participate in an Examination:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>

The Planning Inspectorate will accept registrations made in Welsh. You may either submit your answers in Welsh in the attached form or alternatively, a translated version of the paper form can be requested from our Helpdesk on 0303 444 5000.

Mae'r Arolygiaeth Gynllunio yn derbyn sylwadau yn y Gymraeg. Gellir naill ai cyflwyno eich atebion yn Gymraeg ar y ffurflen isod, neu gellir archebu ffurflen wedi eu gyfieithu oddi wrth ein llinell gymorth.

Data protection

Details published on our website will be restricted to your name and the text of your Representation. Please read our **Privacy Notice** (attached) which explains how we will store and use your data.

How to fill in this form

Each section or question on the form includes corresponding notes to enable you to complete this form.

The Planning Inspectorate implements a process which is governed by the Planning Act 2008 and related legislation. Whilst we make every effort to ensure that our public information is written in language that is easy to understand, it is also necessary to refer to some of the terms that are used in the Planning Act 2008. These are words and phrases that may not be familiar to everyone but they will be used during the *Examination* by legal representatives, Inspectors and others.

To be valid, the fully completed form must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by the deadline stated at the top of this form.

Section 1 - About you and anyone you may be representing

Please tick the option which best describes why you are completing this form and then fill in the corresponding address block.

Tick and fill in **one option only**. Only one person or organisation can become an *Interested Party* per form. Each *Interested Party* must be registered with their own form.



I am completing this form for myself to give my own personal views.

Title: _____ First name: GILLIAN

Last name: WHITWORTH

Address Line 1: _____

Address Line 2: _____

Address Line 3: _____

Town/City: _____ Postcode: _____

Email: _____

Tel: _____



I am completing this form for the organisation I work for, either on a paid or voluntary basis, to give its views.

Title: _____ First name: _____

Last name: _____

Job title: _____

Organisation name: _____

Address Line 1: _____

Address Line 2: _____

Address Line 3: _____

Town/City: _____ Postcode: _____

Email: _____

Tel: _____

Before completing your own personal details or those of another person or organisation, please ensure that you read our **Privacy Notice**, attached, so that you are aware of how this data will be stored and used.

Please be aware that you **must** complete one of the address block fields for your Representation to be valid.

Section 2 – Your Representation

Here you should summarise the aspects of the application you agree and/ or disagree with and say why. Outline what information, local knowledge or evidence you have which supports this. Please aim to limit this section to no more than 500 words (please use extra paper if needed).

This is my formal representation to the Planning Inspectorate to become an interested party to the **Island Green Power - Cottam 1, 2 and 3 Solar Projects (3,131 acres)** and I call for the Planning Inspectorate to **take particular account of the information** in the paragraph directly below, ie all four projects on the enclosed Map 1:-

My objection and comment is not in any order, however, **I urge** that Island Green Power (IGP's) Cottam 1, 2, 3a & 3b, which is a vast 3,131acre solar project, and three further proposed solar NSIPs, which bring the total to 10,000 acres+, should be evaluated /examined together (as one) and not independently of each other. IGP's West Burton Solar Project will soon be submitted to you, Low Carbon Gate Burton Solar Project has already been submitted to you, and Tillbridge Solar Project to follow. Collectively, just a few miles apart, they are the largest solar complex in Europe. They are all on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural and other productive farmland affecting the communities of 30 picturesque villages. Lincolnshire has long been at the forefront of feeding the nation.

These communities are facing industrialisation of the area, woefully dominating and devastating the landscape and surrounding countryside for miles, including a designated Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV) where the development would be highly visible along the B1398 Lincoln Cliff Road. Schemes on this scale are located in desert settings not on the green and pleasant land surrounding villages. People choose to live in the countryside, the calming and scenic environment has a positive impact on peoples overall mental health and wellbeing.

10 separate parcels of land for Cottam 1 (why?) and including 2, 3a and 3b they are all delimited by deer fencing, other security fencing, CCTV, solar stations/shipping containers numbering in the *hundreds* housing inverters/transformers/substations to 13m high busbars across the solar area(s), light pollution. 4.5m (15ft) high tracking solar panels, the audible noise 365 days a year for 40 years from all the associated hardware, glint and glare issues. All visible for miles to those on foot, by road, by air and taking 15 years for hedging to screen them. Lithium-ion batteries have a history of exploding releasing toxic gas hazardous to health, to water and land burning for days unable to be extinguished by water. Dangerously sited close to village and residential housing. Cabling trenches through 8 miles of farmland, compaction of land, the over-riding destruction of existing habitats, hedge/tree removal, damage to bio-diversity and eco-systems which may never fully recover. 2 years (4 years if all 4 solar projects ensue) of construction, noise and disruption, untold numbers of LGV, HGV and Abnormal Load Vehicles (ALV) on unsuitable single track roads through the villages and the risk of accidents to the public. 'Widening' of main road junction(s) and other roadworks to accommodate the ALVs. **page 1of 2 (please see page 2 and Map 1 on separate sheets attached to this page which also forms my response).**

Signature

Date

15-3-2023

The Planning Act 2008 process is primarily a written *Examination* process and if you are registered as an *Interested Party* you will have an opportunity, later in the *Examination* process, to provide a more detailed *Written Representation*.

You cannot reserve a right to make a *Representation* later without providing a summary of the points you intend to submit at this stage.

Your *Representation* should take the form of a summary of what you agree with and/ or disagree within the *application*, and any impacts you think it would have.

Please note that your *Representation* **must not** include material that is:

- vexatious or frivolous;
- about compensation for Compulsory Acquisition of land or of any *interest* in or right over land; or
- about the merits of policy set out in a National Policy Statement.

The information you include in the *Representation* section of this form will be used by the *Examining Authority* to carry out its *Initial Assessment of Principle Issues* and to decide the best way to examine the *application*.

Section 1 - About you and anyone you may be representing

I am completing this form on behalf of another person or organisation and I have their permission to represent their views. I give both their contact details and my own below.

Agent or representative contact details (these details will be used for correspondence):

Title: _____ **First name:** _____

Last name: _____
Job title: _____
This is my formal representation to the Planning Inspectorate to become an interested party to the **Island Green Power - Cottam 1, 2 and 3 Solar Projects (3,131 acres)** and I call for the Planning Inspectorate to take particular account of the information in the paragraph directly below, ie all four projects on the enclosed Map 1:-

Organisation name: _____
Address Line 1: _____
Address Line 2: _____
Address Line 3: _____
My intention and comment is not in any order, however, **I urge** that Island Green Power (IGP's) Cottam 1, 2, 3a & 3b, which is a vast 3,131acre solar project, and three further proposed solar NSIPs, which bring the total to 10,000 acres+, should be evaluated /examined together (as one) and not independently of each other. IGP's West Burton Solar Project will soon be submitted to you, Low Carbon Gate Burton Solar Project has already been submitted to you, and Tillbridge Solar Project to follow. Collectively, just a few miles apart, they are the largest solar complex in Europe. They are all on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural and other productive land, including the communities of 30 picturesque villages. Lincolnshire has long been at the forefront of feeding the nation.

Town/City: _____ **Postcode:** _____
These communities are facing industrialisation of the area, woefully dominating and devastating the landscape and surrounding countryside for miles, including a designated Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV) where the development would be highly visible along the B1398 Lincoln Cliff Road. Schemes on this scale are located in desert settings not on the green and pleasant land surrounding villages. People choose to live in the countryside, the calming and scenic environment has a positive impact on peoples overall mental health and wellbeing.

Contact details of the person or organisation you are representing:
10 separate parcels of land for Cottam 1 (why?) and including 2, 3a and 3b they are all delimited by deer fencing, other security fencing, CCTV, solar stations/shipping containers numbering in the hundreds housing inverters/transformers/substations to 13m high busbars across the solar

Title: _____ **First name:** _____
Last name: _____
Job title: _____
Organisation name: _____
Address Line 1: _____
Address Line 2: _____
Address Line 3: _____
(please see page 2 and Map 1 on separate sheets attached to this page which also forms my response).
These (s), light pollution, 15m-150m high tracking solar panels, the audible noise 365 days a year for 40 years from all the associated hardware, glint and glare issues. All visible for miles to those on foot, by road, by air and taking 15 years for hedging to screen them. Lithium-ion batteries have a history of exploding releasing toxic gas hazardous to health, to water and land burning for days unable to be extinguished by water. Dangerously sited close to village and residential housing. Cabling trenches through 8 miles of farmland, compaction of land, the over-riding destruction of existing habitats, hedge/tree removal, damage to bio-diversity and eco-systems which may never fully recover. 2 years (4 years if all 4 solar projects ensue) of construction, noise and disruption, untold numbers of LGV, HGV and Abnormal Load Vehicles (ALV) on unsuitable single track roads through the villages and the risk of accidents to the public. 'Widening' of main road junction(s) and other roadworks to accommodate the ALVs. **page 1 of 2**

Town/City: _____ **Postcode:** _____

Email: _____

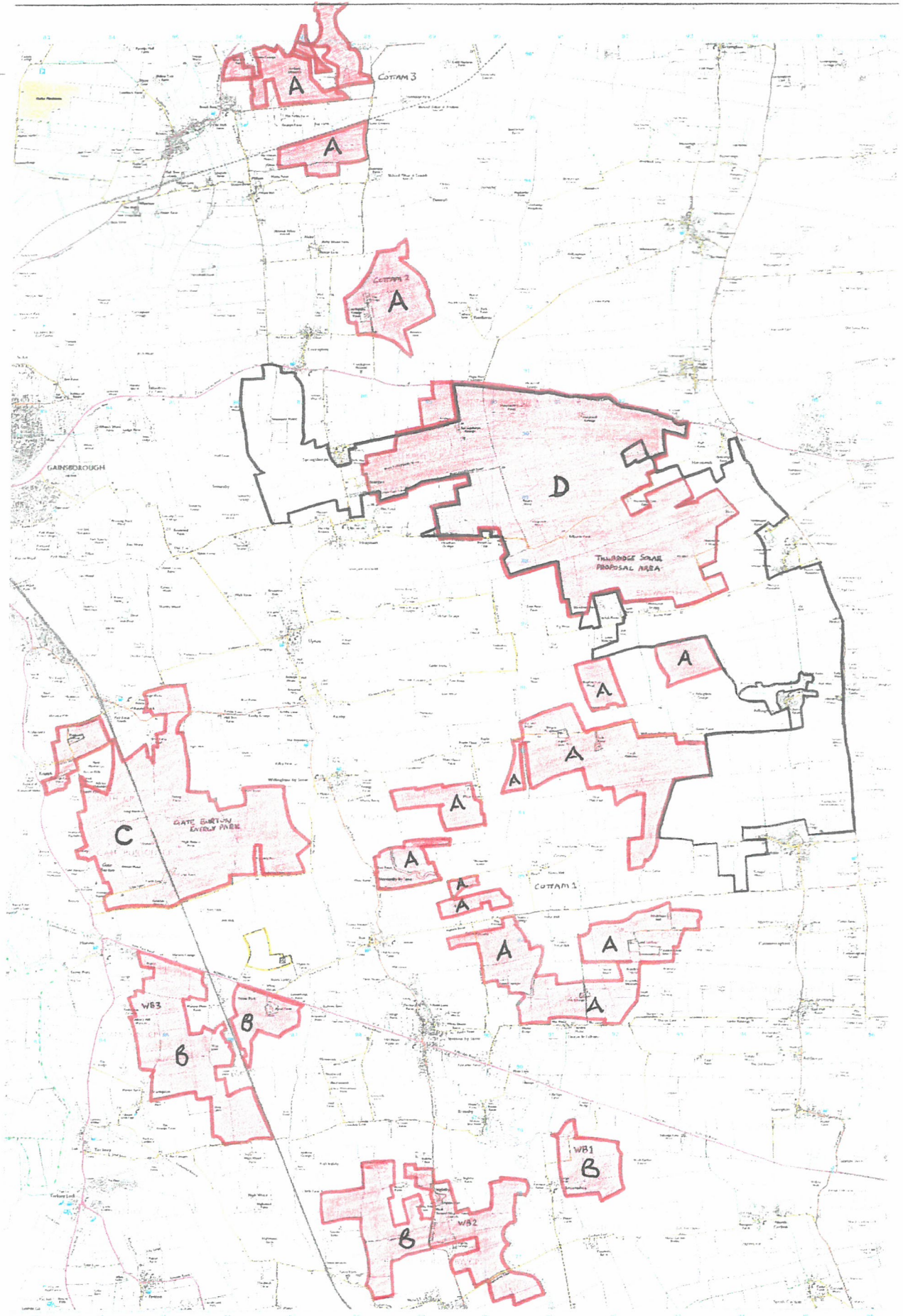
Tel: _____

If you are acting on behalf of a third party, be this another person or organisation, complete the **third** address block **only**, providing your own contact details as well as those of the person or organisation you are representing.

The Planning Inspectorate aims to communicate with people by email wherever possible, as electronic communication is more environmentally friendly and cost effective for the Planning Inspectorate as a government agency, given the volume and frequency of letters it needs to send to *Interested Parties* during an *Examination*. **Therefore if you provide an email address we will use this.**

If you say that you agree to receive

MAP 1



- A = Island Green Power – Cottam Solar Park 1, 2 and 3 3,048 acres (1270 hectares)
- B = Island Green Power – West Burton Solar Park 1, 2 and 3 ... 2,484 acres (1,035 hectares)
- C = Low Carbon Gate Burton Solar Park 1,690 acres (648 hectares)
- D = Tillbridge Solar 3,460 acres (1400 hectares)
(Joint Venture between Tribus Clean Energy and Canadian Solar)

This is a continuation from page 1 of 2 and is to be included as part of Section 2 my representation and Map 1 also attached.
Page 2 of 2

The area around Cottam 1 has a long history of flooding – the village has photographic evidence showing the roads impassable as the flooded fields and roads merge as one.


Inaccurate forecasts put the supposed benefits of the project in question as the solar panels are incapable of producing all year round the energy output quoted by IGP. A minimum of 40 years is not a temporary solar plant ! So much could be achieved in less than 40 years by utilising solar on commercial and domestic/other rooftops and brownfield land as new and more efficient domestic panels are becoming available being more cost effective and reducing bills.

Food security and our right to grow locally sourced food, the loss of agricultural land is insupportable. The well-being (mental and in turn physical health through undue stress, uncertainty and fear) of the affected communities which has not been considered by IPG nor has the effect on tourism to the area, nor the drop in property prices that will ensue. Loss of livelihoods of the affected tenant farmers and their families and the economy of agricultural business and other businesses involved in Lincolnshire agriculture.

People have inhabited the landscape of Lincolnshire for nearly half-a-million years and from a pre-historic settlement, Lincoln has grown into a Cathedral City steeped in Medieval, Roman, Anglo Saxon, Norman and Victorian heritage in abundance bringing tourism and revenue to the area on which the County and Lincoln City and its infrastructure (hotels, b&b, shops, transport etc) depend. This heritage is also hidden beneath the extensive areas of farmland where the proposed solar project(s) is / are to be sited.

Is this really a 'green solution' given all of the above and the carbon footprint to ship panels in from China and in taking account of the human rights recorded abuses in China ?

I maintain the right to add or amend my representations should new information become available.


GWhitworth
15 March 2023

My Ref 20035393