

## Skeates, Stephen

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**From:** [REDACTED]@btinternet.com  
**Sent:** 13 August 2023 09:39  
**To:** West Burton Solar Project  
**Cc:** Cottam Solar Project; [REDACTED]@parliament.uk; [REDACTED]@west-lindsey.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@lincolnshire.gov.uk  
**Subject:** The Unacceptable Timing of the West Burton Solar NSIP Hearings  
**Categories:** Deadline

Dear sir or Madam,

I am extremely concerned about the timing of the West Burton Solar NSIP hearings and how they coincide with the Cottam Solar NSIP. These are two of four solar NSIPs within three miles of our family home!

Both the West Burton and Cottam solar NSIPs have Island Green Power as the Applicant. Local residents have long made the case that they are effectively one application. For example, Cottam One is closer to the West Burton boundary than it is to Cottam Two and Three, so effectively the schemes are intertwined. We were assured by the Planning Inspectorate that they were separate schemes and would be examined in series, with sufficient time for local residents to assess and respond to each scheme in turn. In fact, the Gate Burton, Cottam and West Burton solar NSIPs are being examined concurrently, which places a huge burden on the local population and councils to play their legitimate role in the planning process.

Either the two Island Green Power Applications should be examined as one, after all they are only 1,000m apart at their closest point and share features such as cable connectors, or West Burton should be heard after Cottam is concluded. Anything else is swamping the local population, and councils, and plays into the hand of the Applicant as opposition will be muted by the sheer volume of the task. By overwhelming the local population, who have until now had no experience of NSIPs, they are effectively being denied their legitimate voice in these schemes. Covering 10,000 acres of farming land with solar panel, batteries and associated infrastructure will have a devastating and generational impact on our local environment, we must not be denied our voice in this process.

Yours sincerely

Mark Prior

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