

I am writing to express my extreme concern regarding the proposed routing of the main power cable for the Cottam Solar project at West Farm, Normanby by Stow DN21 5LQ (What3words succumbs.calms.alarm) If the proposed project goes ahead (which I object to) then the cable route, with its high electromagnetic fields and associated health risks to those living nearby, will pass very close to a number of properties including my family residence.

I would urge that a site visit is conducted prior to any permissions being given and that an alternative route approximately 150 metres South, crossing the grass field at West Farm before crossing Stow Road B1241 (What3Words rarely.mega.sampled) be considered. This would be an easier route to use, crossing fields instead of tarmac roadways, private driveways and gardens and this would take the cable route well away from the current and proposed houses at West Farm and West Farm Cottages.

My concerns are that if this ill-conceived project is to proceed, the current route will lead to massive and unnecessary disruption to the local residents during the construction phase, as the driveways where vehicles are parked will be cut off. The health risks to residents are being ignored by the cable being sited near to housing. The current route crosses the property of two land owners but consulting with a third landowner could facilitate this alternative route. The third landowner has already been approached by one of the other local solar projects with a view to cable routing. Why has the Cottam Solar project not consulted with this landowner?

Site visit

Linking to my comments made in Submission 19883, I would suggest that a site visit is held at West Farm and West Farm Cottages, Normanby by Stow, DN21 5LQ to look at alternative cable routes away from these properties. The proposed cable route passes close to a number of properties at this location, yet there is an easier and safer alternative route to be considered.

The reasons for this request are firstly, that there are potential health implications from living near to cables emitting electromagnetic fields, these cables will pass close to a number of properties on the route that is currently being proposed. Secondly there will be unnecessary disruption to these householders whilst the cable is being installed, digging up roadways, driveways, preventing vehicle parking at those properties and even a garden belonging to 1 West Farm Cottages. Thirdly there is a much easier potential route that I am led to understand has not been fully explored by the appointed land agents. This land belongs to the owners of the house at West Farm, C Pace & R Munn, and it would require access to their private land to view the alternative cable route.

The current proposed route of concern passes through land owned by two local landowners, this is close to the public road and is the access to the properties of West Farm and West Farm Cottages, therefore it is possible to see this area of concern without further access to private land.

The attached images, 1-4 show the current proposed cable route and how close it passes to houses, including crossing the garden of 1 West Farm Cottages. The barns shown have planning permission to become four houses very soon, with the proposed cable passing directly next to these.

Image 5 from Google Maps shows the approximate proposed cable route in RED and the alternative route I suggest in BLUE crossing the fields behind West Farm and well away from any houses.



Image 1: 1 West Farm Cottages on the right, view from B1241 looking West, showing the narrow gap between the buildings.



Image 2: West Farm, view from B1241 looking West, with barns at the rear of the picture to be converted to houses.



Image 3: Garden of 1 West Farm Cottages, that is included in the proposed cable route, showing how the cable will pass in close proximity to houses.



Image 4: View East towards B1241, again showing the close proximity to houses and access routes and driveways to houses that will be affected by the works.

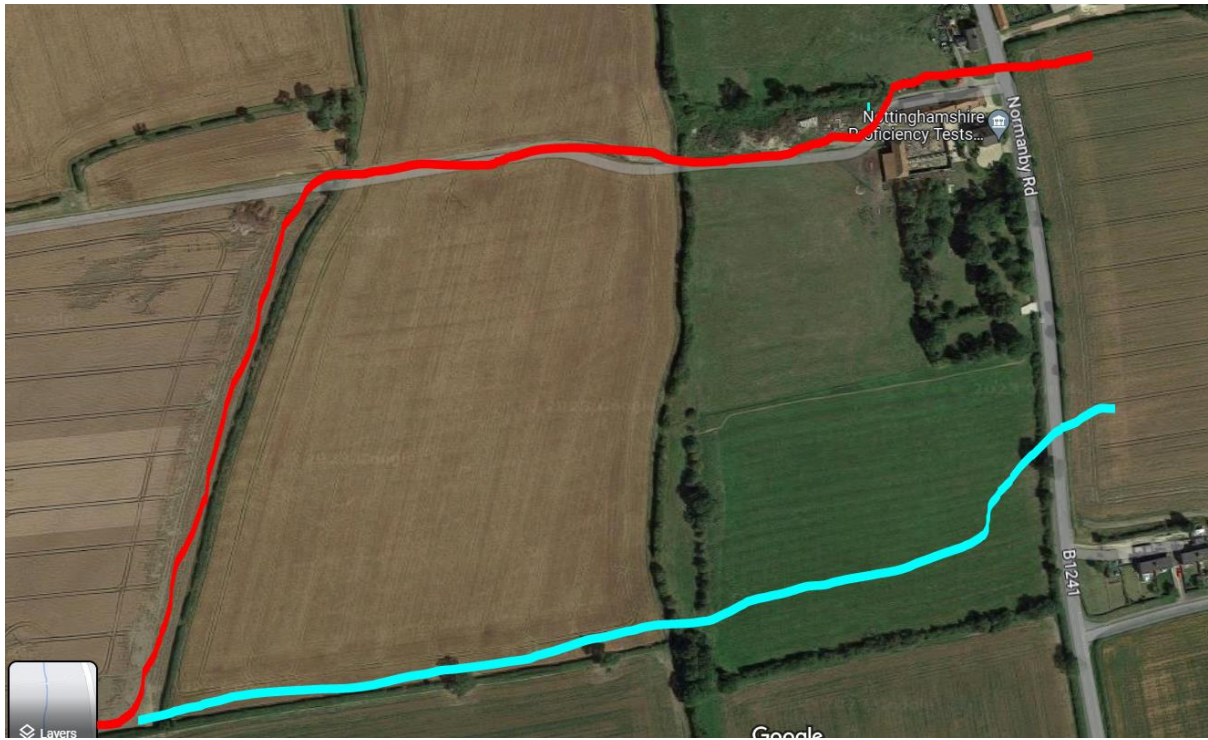


Image 5: West Farm (Google Maps) Showing approximate current proposed route in RED and alternative route I propose in BLUE, that is simpler and is well away from all houses.