

Whitlock, Melissa

From: Shelley Rapley [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 October 2023 07:25
To: Cottam Solar Project
Subject: submission

Categories: Deadline, HEO

Hi I would like to submit a written representation against this solar farm, I can not use the website as i moved to my current address after the deadline to submit as an interested party so i do not have a reference number.

The Cottam solar project will be seen from the front of my house, on top of this we are then to be surrounded by the Tilbridge solar project as well should that go ahead. When we bought the house we bought it for the way of life it offered, leaving our home county of Kent so that we could afford a country lifestyle and benefit from all the mental health perks of living in such a beautiful place. If the projects were to go ahead they would significantly impact our way of life and our enjoyment of our home, the landscape is absolutely stunning and to allow these solar farms to be placed on such large scales would decimate the countryside and we, being in our 40's now would never see our home again as it is now. There is an absolute vast amount of wildlife in the area including deer, birds, hares, badgers, and hedgehogs which I saw for the first time yesterday and have not seen in Kent since I was a very small child. We had the intention of potentially added a shepherds hut to our site to start a small holiday business as the views are so stunning here, however if the solar farms go ahead then this will not be possible as our beautiful views will be gone. We have also spent the past few months adding an extension to our house and we fear that the solar farms will mean our property is worth less causing potential negative equity for our home. There are so many better sites that this farm could go on, brownfield and rooftops should be first and farmland should be the absolute last resort.

Thank you
Shelley and John Rapley

[REDACTED]