

Whitlock, Melissa

From: Jeph Creswell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 12 December 2023 17:45
To: Cottam Solar Project
Subject: open forum submission

Categories: Deadline

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Please find below my written submission following my spoken submission on Thursday 7th December.

Objection to The Cottam Solar Project

My name is Joseph Creswell and am speaking as an individual member of the local population who lives in the district of West Lindsey. I wish to place on the public record in this open forum my objection to the Cotton Solar project along with other projects being proposed simultaneously.

I am concerned that these proposed multiple solar projects will have a profoundly significant and irreversible impact on the lives of all who live in and around them.

More specifically I would like to take an historic perspective.

1 Evidence of panning mediocrity encouraged by centralised legislative mechanisms and the consequential impact on our towns villages and rural landscape

Over the past 2/3 decades i have witnessed our towns and cities have been transformed to the same average range of centralised large scale retails outlets and mega warehouses supported by major industrial construction companies

All of the major organisations involved are part of a wider industrial complex. These companies weald total power over our governing, legislative and planning bodies and have impacted a wide variety of local small businesses and farms who simply cannot afford to stand against their powerful scale and lobby.

We are now witnessing this very same industrial approach through relaxation of planning laws in the housing sector. The current blight of medium and large scale house estates being erected on greenfield land on the edge of towns and villages across our county and the nation as a whole! Why is such practice acceptable today when it has been strongly resisted over the previous decades.

And as if these are not impact enough these powerful companies through lobbying are proposing that we move our attention from the towns and village and to the surrounding farmland further accelerating destruction of our landscape which has remained a constant for millennia from the the end of the last Ice Age to our Bronze Age ancestors through numerous occupations, of the Vikings, Romans and Normans. Throughout all if these generations there has been an understanding and respect of the landscape and protection of the nature environment.

Yet even through all these great historical events we will not have witnessed such wanton destruction of our beautiful landscape if these proposed solar projects are allowed to go ahead!

This destruction will also impact our wildlife and hedgerows habitats, limiting movement and destroying habitats for deer, foxes, badgers owls and numerous small bird species dependent on hedge rows, and open landscapes. We cannot ignore the impact and consequences for our natural habitats and depend wildlife.

3 The morally questionable decision to industrialise perfectly good food production land!

The question I pose, do we really want to limit our ability to produce food in these times of global instability?

Some might say this is the inevitable consequence of progress, but to whose gain! I put to this forum that the gains will be for the large land owners and major industrial company seeking financial gain at the expense of our quality of life. All In the so called name of progress!

Can I finish by saying that as you have heard tonight there are many intelligent reasons why these projects should be stopped and history will be the witness of that but I'm asking that we make the right decision based on wisdom in honour to our ancestors and for the sake of our future generations who are watching as we make this decision.

Sent from my iPhone