

I am responding to the closing speech made by the Applicant at the OFH2.

He indicated that Lincolnshire was not just a food producing hub and the "breadbasket of the nation" as someone mentioned, but it was an energy county, mentioning the power stations. Now, locals call the area of the Trent valley "Megawatt Valley". These now closed halls of power were all in Nottinghamshire, not Lincolnshire.

West Burton, Cottam, High Marnham, and Staythorpe to list a few.

The energy contribution by Lincolnshire is however of national importance in another way. In the form of food production essential for sustaining life and in Bio fuels essential for green and flexible power.

Agricultural Lincolnshire is primarily an arable county and is indeed the "breadbasket of the nation"

The Applicant then went on to say that Golf courses cover more land than solar plants. This may be true at the moment, but I think recreation is an important part of life and must not be devalued, he's obviously not a golfer. I also don't place ugly and destructive solar plants in the same category as golf courses.

Then he quoted that if all the solar schemes in the pipeline were built they would only cover a fifth of all farmland!!

I am sorry, but a fifth of our farmland to solar is a shocking admission and if anyone can put an 'only' in that statistic is clearly out of touch. This plan is madness!

I think he also mentioned about all the land that is in 'set aside' and therefore redundant. The difference is that set aside is immediately reversible.

I have lived in this area for over 50 years and being of land management stock, I can say there is very little set aside around here.

I did not speak at the hearing, but my thoughts are that the Land v power argument for solar means that they are only fit for rooftops in this country. I believe that this scheme needs to go back to the drawingboard.

This and the other proposals are being forced upon residents and the impact and harms will inevitably undermine renewable support.

One last point directed at the Applicant. Do not slag off our MP hoping to get some sort of public applause. Some MPs have respect and not all are fools.

Thanks.