

Mr Greg Smith MP, while speaking in the House of Commons on 4th March about farming on behalf of Buckinghamshire, conveyed so eloquently how we are all feeling in Lincolnshire and many other counties across the country. Food production should be the primary focus for farmland. To quote him, 'One way to achieve the absolute opposite of increased self-sufficiency is giving over vast swathes of agricultural land to ground mounted solar installations, battery storage and other large scale development. Roof tops is where solar should be. The thousands of acres being proposed for solar or battery storage for solar in my constituency alone is depressing and wrong'. Towns and villages will be dwarfed by the 10,000's of acres these projects will cover. As he points out a small modular reactor would take up much less space and power many more homes.

Land is proposed to be taken for this purpose which is deemed 3b land but is capable of producing a ten ton per hectare wheat harvest. Lincolnshire is known as the bread basket of Britain.

The impact on wildlife will be huge. We should be cherishing it and protecting it. Taking away their natural habitat is wrong. This really is a crime against nature and the environment. We regularly see deer, birds of prey, hares, pheasants, badgers. When I read the developers rhetoric about solar parks increasing biodiversity and sheep can graze around it, I cannot believe they can get away with spouting such nonsense.

The countryside is vital for people's well-being and these proposals will destroy that.

A new Tesla showroom planned for Lincoln will have no solar panels installed on its roof. The irony! How can an electric car manufacturer not want to operate in a self sufficient 'green' way. I previously drew your attention to the Bentley factory in Crewe, which has exceeded its target to reduce its production related impact by 75 percent over 15 years, with a number of initiatives, including solar on the roof and car park canopies. It can be done.

Households with electric cars should have solar panels enforced at their property to generate the extra electricity they will be using.

I've said it before and I'll say it again, this whole process has been extremely overwhelming, confusing and time consuming. I think many residents haven't really known how to raise their objections. The fact Lincolnshire is being bombarded with so many solar park proposals is wholly unfair. I have lost count of how many proposals have been put forward for our county, it is somewhere in the region of 14 large scale parks.

I implore you and the government to end this ground mounted solar nonsense for good.

Ironic - Lincs is the bread basket of the UK, yet the highest proportion of solar farm applications is in Lincs mostly on greenfield sites, risking sacrificing valuable agricultural land. 😡

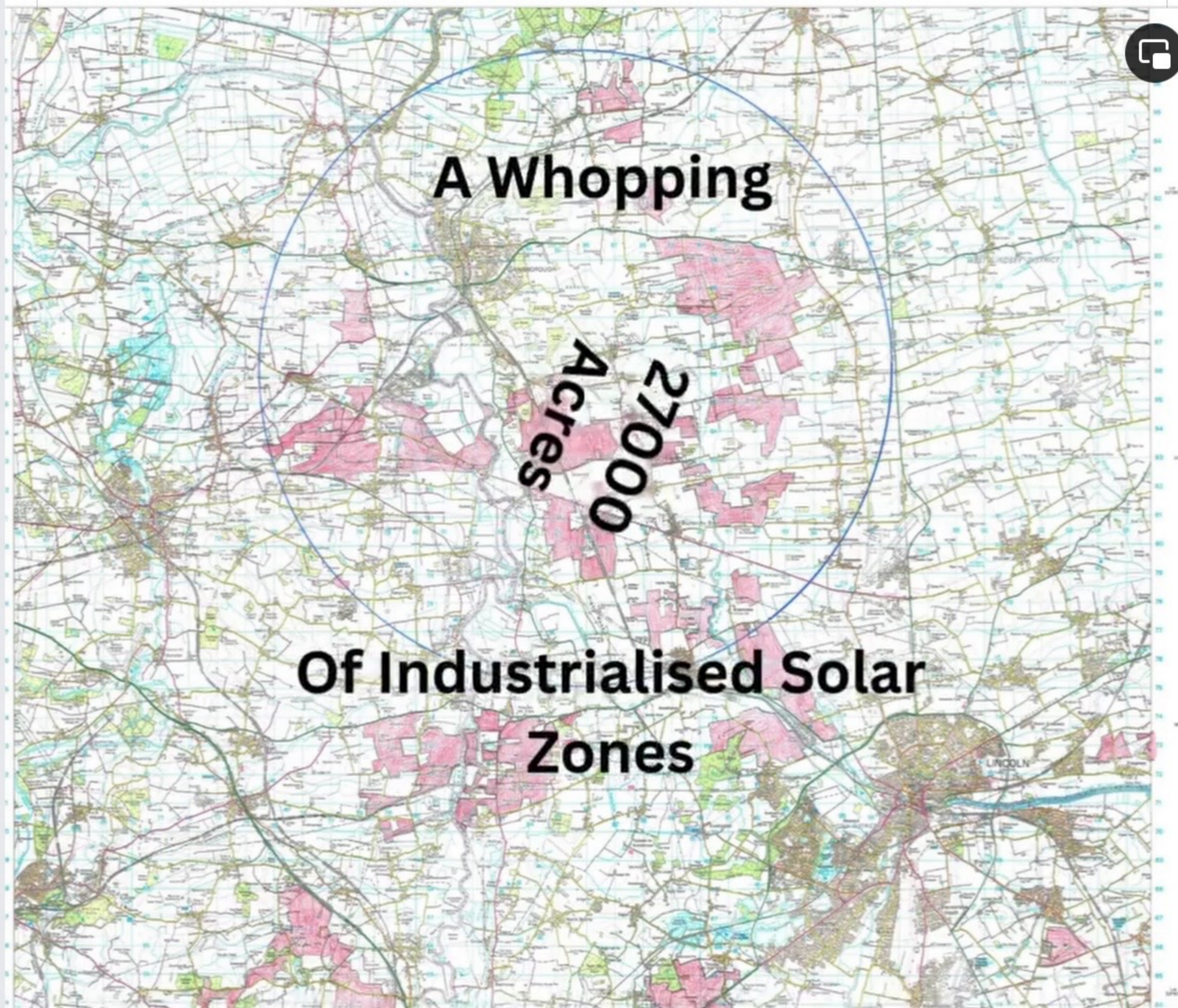


7000 Acres Group

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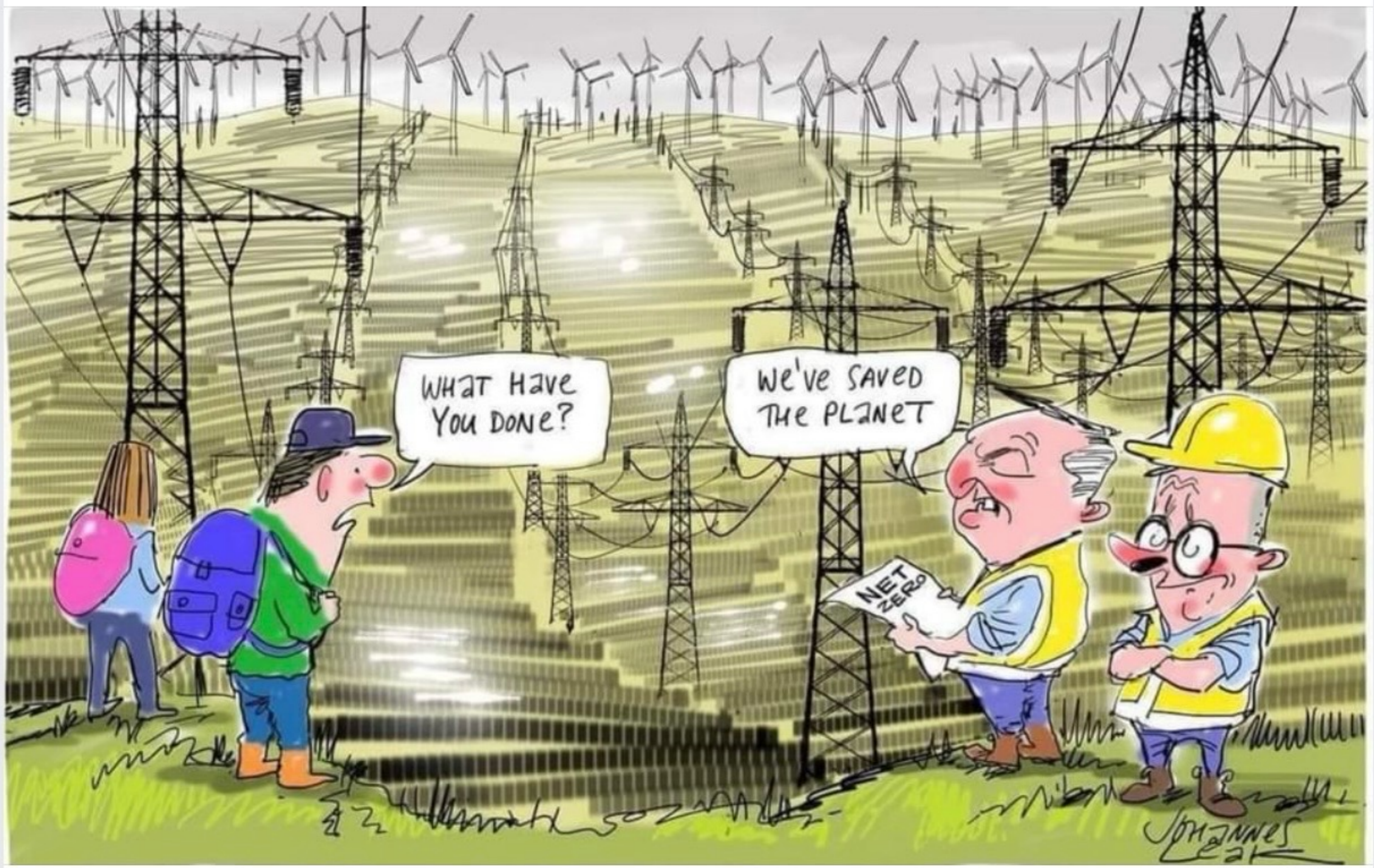
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