

Dear Secretary of State,

The Cottam solar project and the 4 adjacent Solar proposals will consume 13,000 acres of farmland in this locality. The scale is obscene, unfair and a totally undemocratic prospect for us.

Locals have been made to feel like 2nd class citizens, having their lives turned upside down by the threat of this unnecessary dismantling of rural lifestyles and heritage. Unprecedented change is to the detriment of the local population who do not want these things dominating the landscape, because they know in the end, it will be robbing Peter to pay Paul in the name of blinkered net zero ambition. The only true winners will be the opportunists who were allowed to take the easy option of solar development on farmland, with not one brownfield site or rooftop being utilised.

13,000 acres of land would be needlessly sacrificed, and the region permanently defaced. Residents are being made ill because of this!

The point of the planning process is not to blindly apply national policy but assess the suitability of an application or applications in their specific local setting. Selective policy interpretation by Developers and creating an urgent narrative that somehow makes land inefficiency at this scale acceptable to the world, is unhelpful to genuine goals. Solar is a poor generator which in turn makes for inefficient land use, especially here in the UK. There is no arguing against this, it is a critical fact!

The priority and the only real urgency is to get solar onto thousands of acres of UK rooftops to kickstart the nation's Rooftop Solar Revolution.

I hope you can redirect and prioritise sensible rooftop solar development in this country.

Kind regards,

F Ellis.