

I am submitting this document as a resident of Aldington who has gained an informed viewpoint of the Stonestreet Green Solar project, based on an engagement with the project throughout the consultation process.

Both parts of this submission are made with the intention of them contributing to the way in which the application will be examined, albeit with a limited understanding of the scope of what is intended by 'the way'.

The first part is intended to raise the question of whether the Battery Energy Storage System (the BESS) should or should not be a constituent part of the application and the Examination. I make this observation on the basis of the following:

1.1 - That the Stonestreet Green Solar project consists of 2 individual components. One, the solar arrays, two the BESS. Each of which are capable of operating independently of the other, or in tandem with the other.

1.2 - The BESS does not qualify for consideration as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, in the context of renewable energy generation and the qualification of having a rated capacity of 50MW or more.

1.3 - The 'outline' status of the Battery Safety Management Plan (BSMP) and the absence of any consideration of alternative technologies than batteries which are emerging into the renewables arena.

1.4 - The health, safety, fire and intoxication issues related solely to the BESS component.

1.5 - The absence of any meaningful BESS related information throughout the consultation process.

The second part of this submission concerns a planning application to Ashford Borough Council in the name of the East Stour Solar Farm by EDF Renewables, on land adjacent to the Stonestreet Green Solar application.

The justification for raising this in the context of 'the way' in which the Stonestreet Green Solar is examined lies in the following topics:

2.1 - Cumulative effect and impact in the broader context of rural industrialisation in the form of the Sellindge Converter Station in Church Lane; the existing Partridge Farm solar array in Church Lane; the current construction of a Synchronous Condenser Plant in Church Lane and the recently approved application for a 57MW Battery Energy Storage System in Church Lane; plus the East Stour Solar Farm application spanning 2 sides of Church Lane and the Stonestreet Green Solar application linking to the Converter Station in Church Lane.

2.2 - Cumulative effect and impact in the narrower context of the East Stour Solar Farm application and the Stonestreet Green Solar application, occupying a total of c.750 acres of adjacent land and undulating areas, in close proximity to Aldington village.

2.3 - The requirement for common and consistent consideration and decision-making across a range of key issues relevant to both East Stour Solar Farm and Stonestreet Green Solar applications.

2.4 - The requirement for coordination of construction schedules and traffic management plans across both East Stour Solar Farm and Stonestreet Green Solar applications.