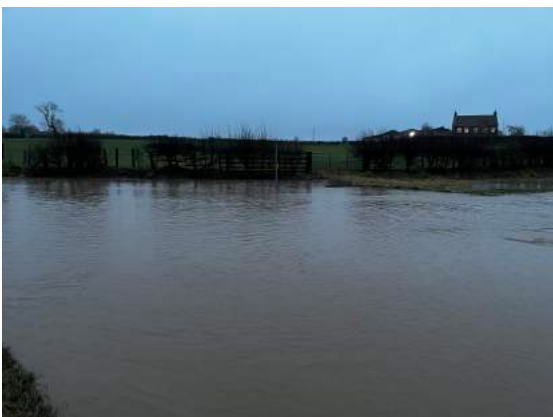


**Regular Flood Area photographic evidence to be viewed in conjunction with the satellite images supplied as pdf files covering Byers Gill sites ABCDEF**

It should be noted that this is a small sample of the photographs available many of which have probably also been included in other submissions. Ironically the low light levels are realistic as all images were taken during the day.

Flood Area 1, 1A & 1B regularly combine into one larger flood area completely closing down this section of road junction for days at a time. Numerous vehicles have been written off attempting to traverse these sections due to the depth of water during flood periods. These photographs were taken during January & February 2024. Frequency of flooding during these periods is on average monthly.



**Flood Area 2- Castle Hill**



**Flood Site 5- Mill Lane**

It should be noted this is approximately the exact Area RWE propose to install a car park for the school.



**Flood Site 7**



**Flood Site 10**



**Flood Site 8-Byers Gill Site F main access point**



Flood sites 1, 5, 7, 8, and 10 cover all of the roads giving access to the village as mentioned at the open floor hearings there are genuine concerns that the inevitable increase in water run off and potential effects on already poor drainage will lead to the village being cut off during the regular flood periods.

### **Additional points of clarification highlighted during the Open hearings**

#### **Cowley House Solar Development**

The further Solar power development Cowley House solar complex under construction by Sonnedix

Reference link to information on this additional site-

<https://www.sonnex.com/news/sonnedix-begins-construction-of-its-largest-uk-solar-pv-plant-providing-100-green-jobs-to-local-area>

This additional site starting near the local town of Ferryhill will link with two additional Solar power developments already highlighted to the inspectorate at Thorpe Bank and Middlefield Farm creating a further 120MW supply into the Norton Substation as discussed during the open hearing and requested by the inspectorate how will this affect the connection agreement obtained by RWE for Byers Gill.

An additional Satellite image has also been included showing the proximity of a proposed Darlington Borough council approved development known as Skerningham housing development which in conjunction with a proposed Outer Darlington ring road will ultimately be located close to Byers Gill Site A in fact less than 800M at its closest point.

#### **RWE suggested the creation of local jobs.**

The recently completed Whinfield solar complex (49.9 MW DBC approved scheme) also highlighted as part of the cumulative effect via the table included in the BVAG submission. During construction of this site comparative photographs were attempted from public land these were robustly challenged by the workforce constructing Whinfield solar power scheme. It was clear from these discussions that the workforce were not local and were part of a transient contract team working on Solar developments across the country.

It would be interesting to request details of local contracts tendered by RWE with local companies to be involved in the construction of Byers Gill in support of their claims of providing local employment.

#### **Inadequacy of response**

Document reference AOC-002- Inadequacy of consultation Item 4 Page 9.

The following is an extract from this document

Timeline of events.

-October 2022 First indication to the community as a whole that Byers Gill was being planned this was discovered by accident as a result of a village Hall Meeting for stakeholders ( those who would benefit financially not the community at large)

-5th May 2023 Public consultation period

-24th May 2023 Date of Applicants main public consultation. More than 120 people attended.

We would also like to further draw the EXA's attention to the rest of this document which covers a number the points raised during the hearings on 23/24 July 2024.

### **RWE response to Feedback**

RWE doc reference APP-017 and APP-021 consultation report 5.2 appendix part 4 of 4

-14th June 2023. A total of 310 hand written feedback consultation forms completed by the community showing at least 98% opposition to the development.

The RWE document above claims 257 submitted postal feedback forms.

Pages 43 to 55 deal with the response to written feedback forms by tabulating responses into blocks.

We feel that this response to feedback is a dilution of the more than 300 handwritten forms submitted by the community.

17th May 2024 NSIP registration of interest closes with 336 registrations. The majority of which were from members of the community at large and from other areas across the country.

In closing it was interesting and rather intimidating that RWE despite being willing to speak directly for themselves throughout the project so far have now chosen to speak only through a solicitor.

This does not suggest or encourage open dialogue and consultation with the community instead it suggests the application of legal pressure to intimidate and discourage those of us without unlimited funds supply legal counsel for each statement.

Satellite image centered around Byers Gill Site B RWE Sites A B C & D

Purple lines indicate Battery Storage Arrays (BESS)

Brown Lines indicate new Access tracks being added by RWE

Blue numbered markers indicate regular Flood Sites referencing accompanying photographs



# Satellite image centered around Bishopton Village RWE Sites D E & F

Purple lines indicate Battery Storage Arrays (BESS)

Brown Lines indicate new Access tracks being added by RWE

Blue numbered markers indicate regular Flood Sites referencing accompanying photographs





Layers

