

Booth, Elliott

From: melanie turner [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 August 2024 15:07
To: Byers Gill Solar
Subject: Interested Party Reference number: 20048680

Categories: Deadline

Hi,

Further to my previous comments and following on from the open floor meetings, I would like to add the below:

I believe lots of people were unaware of the open floor meetings, as when you clicked on the link that was emailed out it very easily directed you to a page to unsubscribe from further updates, I think there should be a further open floor meeting where it shows more easily how to get involved.

I also think it made it look like it was a very scary process that people maybe felt uneasy doing but may feel more relaxed having watched the initial ones.

Could one be held more in the community as some people may struggle getting to the one within Darlington

On the day I was unable to join on the link for some reason, it may have been my Wi-Fi rather than your connection, but I did manage to watch live and attend the next evening session.

Whilst watching on the Live stream there were a few questions brought up which I believe need looking into further:

- The size of the sub station is not clear at all, one question raised questioned the size of the substation itself, the size and scale of the car park, the routes for traffic

to the sub station, the cable routes to and from the sub station site. This has all been very vague in all documentation. In fact everything to do with the sub station has not been detailed very well at all. This will be just across the road from my property, yet no site visit was done on the initial list, why is that? JBM as they were said that the substation was always a bit of an issue, could they elaborate on what Michael Baker meant by that? As they stated at one of the initial consultations that if the project didn't go ahead it would be because of the sub station and possibly its distance from the grid connection

- Also the route with a track right around Square Wood for the substation, is badly designed, it will be damaging to water courses, land drains etc, it will destroy more natural habitat, surely instead of this it would be easier to move the substation behind Square Wood on the land of the person who got everyone else involved in the scheme in the first place, with an entrance along his already created driveway. The position of the substation should be moved away from mine and my neighbours property.

- Regarding traffic for the substation, it has been stated that there will be up to 32 wagons a day using the route past my house, so I am wondering seeing as I have had a planning application refused for a maximum of 3 cars a day how 32 wagons are acceptable approximately 300 metres away? To which it will be said that the wagons are temporary, well you wouldn't be temporarily injured would you, it can not be one rule for one and one rule for another. The position of the substation should be refused on that alone.
- JBM / RWE's vagueness about the grid connection - this and other questions were never really answered by their solicitor on any subject, he just tries to baffle everyone saying it is within the documents and has been done to how it should of been etc - no clear answers are ever given. How exactly will the cabling go from around the substation and across Elstob Lane or are there going to be pylons added later?
- Why are JBM / RWE are advertising Byers Gill as a done deal online?
- Are we basically wasting our time with this process and this is simply going to be passed anyway like the 3 previous ones? As a community we have gone through all of the stress and strain of this process , it would not be fair or just for someone to come along and override the decision if it goes in our favour.
- Around the time of the open floor hearings yet another scheme was passed in our area, this adds further to the cumulative impact and is completely unfair on us as a community.
- It was also learnt the week of the open floor hearings that any business rates from this and all of the other schemes do not even go to our Council, so we will have no benefit at all, just an industrialised landscape run by a German company.
- After listening to RWE's solicitor on the Live stream and how pushy he actually is (without really letting Michael Baker the project manager speak) I do believe that the Government has a duty of care to check that the landowners on the scheme are actually still happy to go ahead and that they aren't just caught up in so much red tape and threat of legal action against them that they dare not pull out. What sounded like a good deal at the start per acre reduces massively when all of their land is counted within the scheme and they have the loss of allowances etc on all of the land they own.
- The statements of common grounds that have been sent out make it sound like some talks have been had and some agreements reached with the local communities, this simply

is not true.

Regards

Mrs M Turner