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24th July 2024

Reference number 20047708

At the planning meeting held on 23rd July 2024 in Darlington the RWE lawyer explained the new National policy statements today and highlighted the waiting given to clean power generation. In this respect, it was Apparent that the views of the community and indeed the examining authority would all be out trumped as the secretary state decision is heavily weighted towards clean power and net zero goals. Indeed, we have seen three large nationally significant solar projects passed by the secretary of state in the last few days with the Secretary of State Ed Miliband going against the examining authority's recommendation.

The community are questioning whether they really have a voice in planning process. If the concerns and valid points raised by the community that are then carefully considered by the Examining Authority. To then have the Examining Authorities recommendations ignored there seems little point to taking part in the process.

Subsequently there is now a strong belief that the secret state will just rubberstamp Byers Gill despite all our valid points and concerns that have been raised.

Considering, that if passed Byers Gill would not be operational until towards the end of the decade a decision "railroaded" through now by the secretary of state would be fool hardy as the planned mode of generation is not the most efficient solution with respect to land usage and power generation.

In this respect the application in its current format should not be allowed to progress as it does not best address the issues associated with the development of the energy requirements of the country now that restrictions on onshore wind farms have been lifted.