



Hearing Transcript

Project:	Tillbridge Solar Project
Hearing:	Open Floor Hearing 1 (OFH1) Part 1
Date:	16 October 2024

Please note: This document is intended to assist Interested Parties.

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The video recording published on the Planning Inspectorate project page is the primary record of the hearing.

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1

00:00:00.035 --> 00:00:00.565

Good morning.

2

00:00:01.315 --> 00:00:05.845

It's now 10:00 AM and the open floor hearing is open.

3

00:00:07.285 --> 00:00:10.085

I would like to welcome you all to this open floor hearing

4

00:00:10.185 --> 00:00:12.125

for the Till Bridge Solar Project.

5

00:00:13.295 --> 00:00:16.275

Um, can I just confirm that everybody can hear me clearly?

6

00:00:18.335 --> 00:00:22.365

Thank you. Uh, can I also confirm with the case manager

7

00:00:22.515 --> 00:00:25.845

that the live streaming and recording has commenced?

8

00:00:25.915 --> 00:00:29.525

Yeah. Excellent. My name is Luke Simpson.

9

00:00:30.445 --> 00:00:31.765

I am a member of the panel

10

00:00:31.825 --> 00:00:34.885

of the examining inspectors appointed by the Secretary

11

00:00:34.885 --> 00:00:36.805

of State to examine this application.

12

00:00:38.105 --> 00:00:40.125

My professional background is town planning

13

00:00:40.305 --> 00:00:41.805

and I'm a chartered member

14

00:00:41.805 --> 00:00:43.765
of the Royal Town Planning Institute.

15

00:00:45.475 --> 00:00:47.595
I will be taking us through the agenda today,

16

00:00:47.735 --> 00:00:50.155
but I'm now going to hand over to my colleague

17

00:00:50.375 --> 00:00:51.715
and panel lead, Mr.

18

00:00:52.145 --> 00:00:54.155
Eley to introduce himself. Thank

19

00:00:54.155 --> 00:00:55.155
You, Mr. Simpson.

20

00:00:55.405 --> 00:00:57.875
Thank you, Mr. Simpson. My name is Nicholas Eley.

21

00:00:57.985 --> 00:01:00.555
I've also been appointed to this panel by the Secretary

22

00:01:00.555 --> 00:01:01.955
of State to examine this application

23

00:01:02.495 --> 00:01:05.035
and, uh, my back professional background is in engineering

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00:01:05.035 --> 00:01:07.355
and construction, and I'm a chartered structure engineer

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00:01:07.355 --> 00:01:08.635
and a chartered construction manager.

26

00:01:10.225 --> 00:01:11.295
Thank you Mr. Eley.

27

00:01:11.975 --> 00:01:14.575

Together we constitute the examining authority

28

00:01:14.675 --> 00:01:15.815
for this application.

29

00:01:16.915 --> 00:01:19.695
So I'll now deal with a few housekeeping matters

30

00:01:19.995 --> 00:01:21.455
for those attending in person.

31

00:01:22.915 --> 00:01:25.215
Um, could everyone please set all devices

32

00:01:25.355 --> 00:01:28.295
and phones to silence such that we're not disturbed

33

00:01:28.295 --> 00:01:30.535
during today's proceedings?

34

00:01:32.745 --> 00:01:35.635
I think we've got a bit of feedback. Okay.

35

00:01:35.745 --> 00:01:36.875
Okay, that's sorted.

36

00:01:37.615 --> 00:01:40.515
Um, the toilets are through the doors and to the left

37

00:01:41.505 --> 00:01:44.525
and there are tea and coffee making facilities on the right

38

00:01:45.225 --> 00:01:46.245
as you exit the room.

39

00:01:47.605 --> 00:01:50.505
Um, as far as I'm aware, there are no fire drills planned,

40

00:01:50.525 --> 00:01:54.145
but in the event of an alarm, um, the fire exits are

41

00:01:54.145 --> 00:01:58.705

through the doors, turn left and assemble in the carpark.

42

00:02:02.625 --> 00:02:05.155

This meeting will follow the agenda published on the

43

00:02:05.355 --> 00:02:07.555

National Infrastructure Planning website on

44

00:02:07.615 --> 00:02:10.275

23rd of September, 2024.

45

00:02:11.175 --> 00:02:14.555

The agenda is examination library reference EV

46

00:02:14.655 --> 00:02:16.235

1 0 0 2.

47

00:02:17.695 --> 00:02:18.835

Um, it would be helpful,

48

00:02:19.715 --> 00:02:21.715

although not essential for you to have a copy

49

00:02:21.715 --> 00:02:22.755

of this in front of you.

50

00:02:25.195 --> 00:02:27.935

So today's hearing will be undertaken in a hybrid way,

51

00:02:28.585 --> 00:02:31.235

meaning some of you're present with us at the hearing venue

52

00:02:31.495 --> 00:02:33.715

and some of you are joining us virtually

53

00:02:34.445 --> 00:02:35.995

using Microsoft Teams.

54

00:02:37.965 --> 00:02:39.025

We will make sure that

55

00:02:39.025 --> 00:02:40.785

however you've decided to attend today,

56

00:02:41.255 --> 00:02:45.425

that you will be giving a fair opportunity to participate.

57

00:02:46.565 --> 00:02:50.465

Um, for those joining us via Microsoft Teams, the chat

58

00:02:50.985 --> 00:02:53.825

function on Microsoft Teams will not be enabled

59

00:02:53.845 --> 00:02:56.705

or in use, so please don't try to use that for comments.

60

00:02:58.015 --> 00:03:00.805

Also, we will only use the raise a hand function

61

00:03:01.385 --> 00:03:04.725

in Microsoft Teams at specific points in the agenda.

62

00:03:05.235 --> 00:03:09.005

When we invite general comments, we'll also give people

63

00:03:09.065 --> 00:03:12.005

who are not able to use that feature an opportunity

64

00:03:12.105 --> 00:03:14.125

to comment at the relevant time.

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00:03:16.755 --> 00:03:19.415

If you're watching a live stream, then please be aware

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00:03:19.415 --> 00:03:20.535

that it will be stopped

67

00:03:20.635 --> 00:03:22.615

during any adjournments to the hearing.

68

00:03:23.115 --> 00:03:25.815

So you'll need to refresh your browser page

69

00:03:26.355 --> 00:03:27.815

to view the resumed hearing.

70

00:03:30.325 --> 00:03:31.585

You should know that recording

71

00:03:31.605 --> 00:03:35.185

of today's hearing will be made available on the Till Bridge

72

00:03:35.385 --> 00:03:36.465

Projects section

73

00:03:38.145 --> 00:03:42.565

of the National Infrastructure Planning website as soon

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00:03:42.565 --> 00:03:44.685

as it's practical, after the hearing has finished

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00:03:45.805 --> 00:03:47.255

with this in mind, please ensure

76

00:03:47.255 --> 00:03:51.015

that you speak clearly into the microphone stating your name

77

00:03:51.015 --> 00:03:52.735

and who you are representing.

78

00:03:54.265 --> 00:03:57.285

Please also make sure the microphone is on

79

00:03:57.505 --> 00:03:59.245

and turn it off when you're finished speaking.

80

00:04:01.445 --> 00:04:04.865

Um, a link to the planning inspector's privacy notice was

81

00:04:05.145 --> 00:04:06.985

provided in the notification for this hearing.

82

00:04:07.445 --> 00:04:10.065

We assume that everybody here today has familiarized

83

00:04:10.065 --> 00:04:11.385

themselves with this document.

84

00:04:12.805 --> 00:04:14.345

Uh, this document establishes

85

00:04:14.365 --> 00:04:17.385

how your personal data is handled in accordance

86

00:04:17.545 --> 00:04:21.505

with the principles set out in the data protection laws.

87

00:04:22.915 --> 00:04:25.095

But please speak to the case team at the back

88

00:04:25.095 --> 00:04:27.575

of the room if you have any questions about this.

89

00:04:29.355 --> 00:04:32.335

If you do participate in today's hearing, it's important

90

00:04:32.335 --> 00:04:35.575

that you understand that you will be recorded and that you

91

00:04:35.575 --> 00:04:37.375

therefore consent to the retention

92

00:04:37.475 --> 00:04:39.575

and publication of the digital recording.

93

00:04:40.835 --> 00:04:42.975

Um, I should say it would only be in the rarest

94

00:04:42.975 --> 00:04:44.895

circumstances that we might ask you

95

00:04:44.955 --> 00:04:47.775

to provide personal information of the type that most

96

00:04:47.775 --> 00:04:50.175

of us would prefer to keep private or confidential.

97

00:04:51.275 --> 00:04:54.495

Please therefore try your best not to say

98

00:04:54.495 --> 00:04:56.815

or reveal anything that you would wish to be kept private

99

00:04:57.795 --> 00:04:59.495

or that is confidential

100

00:04:59.755 --> 00:05:02.655

or private information relating to someone else.

101

00:05:04.565 --> 00:05:08.065

If you want to tell us about where you live as it's relevant

102

00:05:08.065 --> 00:05:09.865

to what you have to say, then please try

103

00:05:10.165 --> 00:05:12.465

to give a general location rather than

104

00:05:12.465 --> 00:05:13.945

your specific address.

105

00:05:15.245 --> 00:05:16.665

Please do speak to a member

106

00:05:16.665 --> 00:05:18.865

of the case team if you have any questions about this.

107

00:05:20.485 --> 00:05:24.665

So we will aim to take regular breaks, uh, which are likely

108

00:05:24.665 --> 00:05:26.785

to be at 90 minute intervals.

109

00:05:27.925 --> 00:05:30.265

Uh, the number of breaks will depend on how we progress.

110

00:05:31.245 --> 00:05:34.465

We set out in the agenda that the hearing will finish prior

111

00:05:34.485 --> 00:05:38.845

to 5:00 PM but given the limited number of parties

112

00:05:39.645 --> 00:05:41.365

registered to speak, we may well finish

113

00:05:41.365 --> 00:05:43.925

before then, um, perhaps early afternoon,

114

00:05:44.505 --> 00:05:46.685

but we will see how we progress.

115

00:05:48.665 --> 00:05:50.525

So moving on to item two,

116

00:05:51.255 --> 00:05:53.245

which is the purpose of the hearing.

117

00:05:54.795 --> 00:05:57.885

Um, today we're holding the first open floor hearing.

118

00:05:58.745 --> 00:06:01.845

It should be noted that the draft timetable includes

119

00:06:01.845 --> 00:06:04.125

provision for a second open floor hearing

120

00:06:04.185 --> 00:06:06.285

to be held later in the examination.

121

00:06:07.185 --> 00:06:10.605

And we do note the representations about hosting such

122

00:06:10.665 --> 00:06:11.765

an event in the evening.

123

00:06:14.625 --> 00:06:16.275

Open floor hearings are your opportunity

124

00:06:16.335 --> 00:06:19.155

to raise anything directly to the examining authority

125

00:06:19.265 --> 00:06:21.115

that you consider is important

126

00:06:21.215 --> 00:06:24.675

and relevant to our is examination of this application.

127

00:06:26.645 --> 00:06:28.775

This open floor hearing is not confined

128

00:06:29.195 --> 00:06:31.175

to discussion about any particular topic,

129

00:06:32.395 --> 00:06:34.935

and it's an important opportunity for you

130

00:06:34.955 --> 00:06:36.695

to put forward your views.

131

00:06:38.285 --> 00:06:40.255

That said, the purpose of this hearing is

132

00:06:40.255 --> 00:06:42.015

to assist our examination.

133

00:06:43.095 --> 00:06:46.515

So the hearing should not be used as a political platform

134

00:06:46.815 --> 00:06:49.955

and any attempts to do so will not be tolerated.

135

00:06:50.625 --> 00:06:55.155

Similarly, similarly, we will not tolerate disruption such

136

00:06:55.155 --> 00:06:59.525

as cheering or clapping, as this can be intimidating

137

00:06:59.545 --> 00:07:03.525

to other participants and we want this hearing to be as open

138

00:07:03.625 --> 00:07:04.925

and fair as possible.

139

00:07:07.135 --> 00:07:08.835

We are obviously aware that there are other

140

00:07:09.365 --> 00:07:12.315

nationally significant infrastructure projects proposed

141

00:07:12.735 --> 00:07:14.235

or consented in the area,

142

00:07:15.345 --> 00:07:19.005

and we will be fully considering the cumulative effects

143

00:07:19.025 --> 00:07:22.885

of these developments in formulating our recommendations

144

00:07:23.145 --> 00:07:24.525

to the sexual state.

145

00:07:26.105 --> 00:07:28.285

As such, we will of course take into account

146

00:07:28.805 --> 00:07:32.005

representations relating to cumulative effects.

147

00:07:33.825 --> 00:07:37.435

That said, any representations you do make today should be

148

00:07:37.435 --> 00:07:39.355

in accordance with the Planning Act 2008.

149

00:07:39.355 --> 00:07:42.115

That means they must relate to this application

150

00:07:44.245 --> 00:07:47.795

where we consider that representations made in relation

151

00:07:47.795 --> 00:07:50.035

to other projects are important

152

00:07:50.135 --> 00:07:51.995

and relevant to our recommendation.

153

00:07:52.055 --> 00:07:53.795

We will of course, take these into account,

154

00:07:53.895 --> 00:07:57.675

but as I say, please keep your representations focused

155

00:07:57.775 --> 00:07:59.195

on this application.

156

00:08:01.795 --> 00:08:03.935

Please try to keep your statements to five

157

00:08:04.275 --> 00:08:06.735

or 10 minutes, um, five minutes

158

00:08:06.735 --> 00:08:08.495

where you are speaking on behalf of yourself.

159

00:08:08.635 --> 00:08:12.055

10. If you're speaking on behalf of an organizational group,

160

00:08:12.395 --> 00:08:13.935

parish council, for example.

161

00:08:15.595 --> 00:08:18.765

Once you have spoken, uh, we may wish to ask you questions

162

00:08:19.025 --> 00:08:21.885

and the applicant will be given an opportunity to respond

163

00:08:21.885 --> 00:08:25.525

to any matters raised once all speakers have been heard.

164

00:08:25.905 --> 00:08:29.045

So that will be towards the end of the hearing.

165

00:08:31.605 --> 00:08:34.345

So does anyone have anything to add on the purpose

166

00:08:34.365 --> 00:08:37.945

of the hearing before we move on to the next agenda item?

167

00:08:41.205 --> 00:08:45.735

Okay. Turning now to item three of the agenda, which is

168

00:08:46.415 --> 00:08:48.345

oral submissions from interested parties.

169

00:08:50.195 --> 00:08:54.175

Um, we propose to firstly hear from parish council

170

00:08:54.235 --> 00:08:56.280

and parish meeting representatives

171

00:08:56.425 --> 00:08:58.325

who have registered to speak.

172

00:08:59.445 --> 00:09:02.705

Uh, they will be Jillian Proctor, chair

173

00:09:02.705 --> 00:09:07.345

of Spring Fork Parish meeting, Margaret O'Grady, chair

174

00:09:07.345 --> 00:09:08.905

of Lingham Parish meeting,

175

00:09:09.045 --> 00:09:13.265

and John Laham, chair of Glenworth Parish Council.

176

00:09:14.855 --> 00:09:19.445

I'll then hear from Elizabeth Gart on behalf of 7,000 acres

177

00:09:21.155 --> 00:09:23.815

and the order in which other interested parties will be

178

00:09:23.815 --> 00:09:25.455

invited to speak will follow the list

179

00:09:25.735 --> 00:09:27.695

provided to me by the case team

180

00:09:27.755 --> 00:09:31.135

and is based upon the order in which requests

181

00:09:31.135 --> 00:09:32.695

to speak were received.

182

00:09:33.015 --> 00:09:35.615

Albeit, I think we've had a few, um, requests

183

00:09:35.615 --> 00:09:37.535

to speak earlier and I've factored that in,

184

00:09:39.325 --> 00:09:41.305

so I'll just read those names out now.

185

00:09:41.925 --> 00:09:44.065

Um, please listen out for your name.

186

00:09:44.725 --> 00:09:47.245

If, um,

187

00:09:48.565 --> 00:09:50.465

if we missed you off the list

188

00:09:50.605 --> 00:09:52.545

or you decided to speak to today are not

189

00:09:53.105 --> 00:09:55.385

registered on the list, I'll give you an opportunity

190

00:09:55.405 --> 00:09:56.625

to let me know afterwards.

191

00:09:57.685 --> 00:10:01.785

Um, similarly, if you're listed and have changed your mind

192

00:10:01.785 --> 00:10:03.585

and you don't wish to speak, um,

193

00:10:03.805 --> 00:10:05.705

you'll be given the opportunity to let me know.

194

00:10:06.495 --> 00:10:09.795

Um, and I'll specifically ask after I've read the list.

195

00:10:11.175 --> 00:10:14.835

So turning to the list of attendees.

196

00:10:16.395 --> 00:10:18.855

So this is the list solely of those registered

197

00:10:18.875 --> 00:10:20.535

to speak today.

198

00:10:30.615 --> 00:10:33.475

So I've, I've dealt with the, the parish councils

199

00:10:33.475 --> 00:10:35.715

and meetings and, and 7,000 acres.

200

00:10:35.935 --> 00:10:37.155

Uh, well, Ms.

201

00:10:37.335 --> 00:10:40.995

Gar, uh, there may be other representatives of 7,000 acres,

202

00:10:41.095 --> 00:10:43.155

but in terms of interested parties,

203

00:10:43.835 --> 00:10:48.565

I have a Mr. Roger Jones, Baroness

204

00:10:49.225 --> 00:10:51.285

Hog, uh, Mr.

205

00:10:52.075 --> 00:10:55.205

Andy Johnson, Keith,

206

00:10:58.305 --> 00:11:02.945

uh, Nicholas Mapstone, Jeff Summers,

207

00:11:06.125 --> 00:11:09.975

although I don't think Mrs. Summers is here today.

208

00:11:11.345 --> 00:11:13.245

Um, perhaps you can confirm in a moment.

209

00:11:13.915 --> 00:11:17.155

William Rose, Carol Montgomery,

210

00:11:18.445 --> 00:11:22.845

Sue Bingham, John Perkins,

211

00:11:23.845 --> 00:11:27.205

Simon Skelton, Kate Skelton,

212

00:11:29.875 --> 00:11:34.775

Derek Moffitt, Rodney May,

213

00:11:37.865 --> 00:11:39.875

apologies if I pronounce this incorrectly.

214

00:11:40.105 --> 00:11:44.415

Newalla May, Victoria White,

215

00:11:46.365 --> 00:11:48.575

Elizabeth Murray, although I don't think

216

00:11:48.575 --> 00:11:49.775

Elizabeth Murray is here.

217

00:11:50.155 --> 00:11:53.055

Um, Rosemary Burke,

218

00:11:55.655 --> 00:11:56.885

James Caswell.

219

00:11:56.985 --> 00:12:01.395

Martin Caswell, uh,

220

00:12:01.705 --> 00:12:03.795

I've got a Mary Elaine Caval,

221

00:12:08.405 --> 00:12:10.965

a I don't think she's here either.

222

00:12:11.185 --> 00:12:12.285

Uh, I've got a Derek

223

00:12:14.555 --> 00:12:16.415

Catter, although that might be misspelled.

224

00:12:16.635 --> 00:12:18.535

It might cater. Apologies.

225

00:12:19.955 --> 00:12:24.155

Uh, Simon Styles, Catherine Fields,

226

00:12:26.355 --> 00:12:30.605

Sophie Doya, Rosemary Burke,

227

00:12:30.825 --> 00:12:32.525

and finally Robert Court.

228

00:12:34.955 --> 00:12:35.245

Okay.

229

00:12:40.935 --> 00:12:44.655

Okay. And, and, um, Ms.

230

00:12:44.795 --> 00:12:47.535

Gar, you'd like to speak as an IP as well, is

231

00:12:47.535 --> 00:12:48.945

that correct? No.

232

00:12:49.295 --> 00:12:49.585

Okay.

233

00:12:55.035 --> 00:12:58.455

So is there anyone else participating in person

234

00:12:59.155 --> 00:13:01.055

in the room who wishes to speak today?

235

00:13:01.055 --> 00:13:02.735

Who I haven't mentioned?

236

00:13:05.655 --> 00:13:06.865

Okay, good.

237

00:13:10.585 --> 00:13:12.275

Yeah, can I just check that there's,

238

00:13:12.275 --> 00:13:13.995

if there's anyone online, uh,

239

00:13:14.395 --> 00:13:16.195

participating virtually who wishes to speak?

240

00:13:19.865 --> 00:13:23.875

Okay. Is there anyone

241

00:13:23.935 --> 00:13:26.355

who I mentioned on the list who no longer wishes

242

00:13:26.495 --> 00:13:27.835

to speak today?

243

00:13:31.365 --> 00:13:33.185

Um, do we have a roving mic?

244

00:13:45.985 --> 00:13:49.445

Uh, Kate Skelton, you no longer wish to speak? Yeah. Okay.

245

00:13:50.025 --> 00:13:51.025

And

246

00:13:55.445 --> 00:13:56.445

John Perkins?

247

00:13:57.295 --> 00:13:58.455

I don't wish to speak. Okay.

248

00:14:05.955 --> 00:14:06.245

Just

249

00:14:17.005 --> 00:14:18.505

can you, can you edit this bridge?

250

00:14:21.245 --> 00:14:24.055

Perkins, Perkins and Kel?

251

00:14:26.875 --> 00:14:27.875

Thanks.

252

00:14:30.585 --> 00:14:33.475

Okay. Thank you for that. We've updated the list.

253

00:14:35.055 --> 00:14:36.115

Um, okay.

254

00:14:36.135 --> 00:14:38.555

So please keep your oral statements succinct

255

00:14:38.575 --> 00:14:39.995

and to the point, limiting them

256

00:14:40.015 --> 00:14:41.915

to the time indicated on the agenda.

257

00:14:43.375 --> 00:14:45.995

We may, if you become repetitious, ask you to move on

258

00:14:46.015 --> 00:14:47.555

or conclude your oral statement.

259

00:14:47.785 --> 00:14:49.355

There's no need to repeat statements

260

00:14:49.375 --> 00:14:51.445

or points that someone else has already already made.

261

00:14:52.875 --> 00:14:54.535

Please could you direct all comments

262

00:14:54.535 --> 00:14:57.095

through us rather than directly to any other party.

263

00:14:57.835 --> 00:15:00.655

Uh, we will give the applicant an opportunity to respond

264

00:15:00.795 --> 00:15:02.935

to all submissions towards the end.

265

00:15:03.515 --> 00:15:07.255

As I've already mentioned, we'll be taking notes,

266

00:15:07.435 --> 00:15:10.735

so please don't be put off if we are not looking at you.

267

00:15:11.955 --> 00:15:13.735

Um, when I invite you to speak,

268

00:15:13.735 --> 00:15:14.815

please could you come forward

269

00:15:14.835 --> 00:15:18.695

to the table at the front here, turn the microphone on

270

00:15:18.695 --> 00:15:19.775

and introduce yourself.

271

00:15:20.565 --> 00:15:23.955

Could you please provide me with your title as well? So Mr.

272

00:15:24.575 --> 00:15:27.845

Mrs. Miss and so on. If you're joining

273

00:15:28.385 --> 00:15:29.645

via Microsoft Teams

274

00:15:29.865 --> 00:15:31.165

and they're comfortable to do so,

275

00:15:31.165 --> 00:15:33.845

switch on your camera when I invite you to speak,

276

00:15:34.525 --> 00:15:37.025

please switch it off again when I

277

00:15:37.025 --> 00:15:38.225

move on to the next speaker.

278

00:15:39.565 --> 00:15:42.385

Please, could you also briefly explain your interest in the

279

00:15:42.385 --> 00:15:45.065

application and then also confirm if you're speaking on

280

00:15:45.065 --> 00:15:47.745

behalf of a group or organization.

281

00:15:48.645 --> 00:15:53.185

So for example, Mr. Blogs interested party, local resident.

282

00:15:55.875 --> 00:15:57.365

Okay, so now we're gonna begin

283

00:15:57.385 --> 00:16:01.855

and hear from the parish

284

00:16:01.975 --> 00:16:03.175
councils and meetings.

285

00:16:10.565 --> 00:16:12.335
Just to be clear, the microphone is on.

286

00:16:12.765 --> 00:16:14.945
Stay on so I can deal with that.

287

00:16:15.795 --> 00:16:17.885
Okay. So just, sorry, just to be clear, the,

288

00:16:17.885 --> 00:16:19.525
you don't need to turn the microphone off.

289

00:16:19.755 --> 00:16:22.405
It's gonna stay on, it won't affect the, the sound

290

00:16:22.425 --> 00:16:24.365
or anything, so don't bother turning it off.

291

00:16:24.505 --> 00:16:26.005
Um, thank you.

292

00:16:26.905 --> 00:16:29.965
So can I hear from, uh, Mrs.

293

00:16:30.835 --> 00:16:33.965
Proctor of Spring Parish meeting, please?

294

00:16:47.515 --> 00:16:48.685
Good morning, gentlemen.

295

00:16:50.445 --> 00:16:53.685
I speak on my own behalf, having worked as a GP in

296

00:16:53.685 --> 00:16:54.725
and around Gainsborough

297

00:16:54.905 --> 00:16:58.445

and within offender health in Lincolnshire since 1991

298

00:16:58.545 --> 00:17:01.085
before retiring in May, 2022.

299

00:17:02.455 --> 00:17:04.855
I also speak as chair of spring tho parish meeting,

300

00:17:04.905 --> 00:17:08.695
which has over the last 18 months deliberated the arguments

301

00:17:09.355 --> 00:17:11.735
for and against the building of the farm proposed

302

00:17:11.755 --> 00:17:12.775
by Til Bridge Solar.

303

00:17:14.255 --> 00:17:15.695
I reckon that gives me 15 minutes.

304

00:17:19.365 --> 00:17:22.315
There are a total of 140 people

305

00:17:22.815 --> 00:17:25.795
who live in the parish across nearly 70 households.

306

00:17:26.455 --> 00:17:28.715
Our parish lies on the northwestern boundary

307

00:17:28.715 --> 00:17:29.835
of the proposed site.

308

00:17:30.775 --> 00:17:33.795
The panels and battery stations will encroach onto land

309

00:17:33.795 --> 00:17:35.315
belonging to all three farms

310

00:17:35.315 --> 00:17:37.355
that lie within our parish boundaries.

311

00:17:38.375 --> 00:17:40.955

Two of these are agricultural tenant farms.

312

00:17:41.575 --> 00:17:43.395

One, a farmer owned dairy farm.

313

00:17:45.705 --> 00:17:48.445

On behalf of the members of Spring Parish meeting

314

00:17:48.625 --> 00:17:52.845

and myself, I wish to request the national inspector not

315

00:17:52.865 --> 00:17:55.285

to grant planning permission for this development.

316

00:17:56.545 --> 00:17:58.045

Our reasons are as follows.

317

00:17:59.245 --> 00:18:02.175

Firstly, if our country needs cheap renewable energy in a

318

00:18:02.175 --> 00:18:04.335

timely fashion, the source of this should be wind power.

319

00:18:05.435 --> 00:18:08.495

And secondly, the longer term consequences of the change

320

00:18:08.495 --> 00:18:11.935

of land use will change Lincolnshire forever.

321

00:18:12.865 --> 00:18:15.695

There are long-term consequences not often discussed

322

00:18:15.695 --> 00:18:20.295

that make the equation more lopsided in the favor

323

00:18:20.355 --> 00:18:22.415

of wind power that arent often discussed,

324

00:18:22.415 --> 00:18:24.895

and it's our responsibility to point those out.

325

00:18:27.105 --> 00:18:28.475

Wind energy is cheaper

326

00:18:28.575 --> 00:18:30.995

and more efficiently produced than solar energy

327

00:18:31.535 --> 00:18:34.795

and the technology to generate it is manufactured just up

328

00:18:34.795 --> 00:18:36.315

the road on the Humber Estuary.

329

00:18:37.735 --> 00:18:40.425

Wind generation masks would occupy less

330

00:18:40.425 --> 00:18:43.465

of our arable land than the solar panels to generate

331

00:18:43.605 --> 00:18:47.665

as much energy, including energy in the winter and at night.

332

00:18:48.855 --> 00:18:52.495

Choosing wind power would help perfect our food security at

333

00:18:52.495 --> 00:18:54.975

the same time as improving energy security.

334

00:18:56.645 --> 00:18:59.335

Both types of renewable will pose problems

335

00:18:59.335 --> 00:19:01.655

during construction for our local infrastructure.

336

00:19:02.395 --> 00:19:05.335

Our lanes can hardly cope as it is with the demands

337

00:19:05.335 --> 00:19:07.775

of large farming and domestic construction.

338

00:19:08.515 --> 00:19:12.535

But if one wind mass can supplement supplant many hectares

339

00:19:12.535 --> 00:19:15.735

of panels, there will be no need for landowners

340

00:19:15.915 --> 00:19:18.455

to be disenfranchising our tenant farmers

341

00:19:19.195 --> 00:19:21.535

and make them look elsewhere for a living.

342

00:19:21.675 --> 00:19:25.415

As has happened to one farm in Spring Thorpe, a living

343

00:19:25.415 --> 00:19:27.535

that was forged over five generations.

344

00:19:29.195 --> 00:19:32.535

But I really want to talk about the impact not the science,

345

00:19:33.595 --> 00:19:35.775

not just about the family displaced

346

00:19:35.775 --> 00:19:37.815

after five generations from the land

347

00:19:37.815 --> 00:19:39.135

that I've already mentioned,

348

00:19:40.965 --> 00:19:43.785

if the solar behemoth is approved, the loss

349

00:19:43.785 --> 00:19:45.985

of land from our farming community will

350

00:19:46.005 --> 00:19:47.385

affect the rest of us.

351

00:19:47.615 --> 00:19:52.025

Over the 60 years the panels are with us, the supply chains

352

00:19:52.025 --> 00:19:53.145

that support farms

353

00:19:53.165 --> 00:19:55.745

and the merchants that buy their goods will move away.

354

00:19:56.195 --> 00:19:58.305

There will be none of the usual work for them

355

00:19:58.925 --> 00:20:01.705

and there is no other work locally to replace that.

356

00:20:01.705 --> 00:20:05.705

With property prices will fall as the exodus happens,

357

00:20:06.695 --> 00:20:09.985

what are now carefully balanced social structures will have

358

00:20:09.985 --> 00:20:11.665

the driving engines, the

359

00:20:12.305 --> 00:20:14.345

existing wealth generators removed from them.

360

00:20:15.415 --> 00:20:18.785

Imagine the social turbulence, the anxiety,

361

00:20:19.605 --> 00:20:22.785

the unrelenting demands made of social support systems

362

00:20:22.895 --> 00:20:24.705

that already creek and groan.

363

00:20:26.875 --> 00:20:30.615

If the renewable energy sources wind, the farms can remain

364

00:20:30.715 --> 00:20:35.625

and our social structures will survive Past 60 years,

365

00:20:35.765 --> 00:20:37.985

the solar sites will be useless for farming.

366

00:20:39.055 --> 00:20:43.235

They will become effectively brownfield sites, perhaps

367

00:20:43.335 --> 00:20:45.555

to house the homeless from all over England

368

00:20:46.295 --> 00:20:47.315

in a Lincolnshire

369

00:20:47.345 --> 00:20:49.925

or a Lindsay where agriculture has gone forever.

370

00:20:51.475 --> 00:20:53.375

And if the landowners who bear the cost

371

00:20:53.375 --> 00:20:56.295

of redeveloping the spent solar farms are unable

372

00:20:56.315 --> 00:20:57.575

to attract the builders,

373

00:20:58.125 --> 00:21:00.375

will the panels waste forever in

374

00:21:00.375 --> 00:21:01.455

the fields they've destroyed?

375

00:21:02.035 --> 00:21:05.405

Who will rebuild the countryside then?

376

00:21:05.405 --> 00:21:07.125

When the stewardship of thousands

377

00:21:07.125 --> 00:21:11.065

of years has been lost forever, when all we

378

00:21:11.205 --> 00:21:13.905

who can remember it as it is now have

379

00:21:13.905 --> 00:21:17.895

to look at is a spent solar factory, how will we cope

380

00:21:17.895 --> 00:21:19.655

with the sadness of watching it happen?

381

00:21:20.285 --> 00:21:22.615

What consolation will we offer our grandchildren?

382

00:21:23.675 --> 00:21:28.455

We have to spoil it all to save us all.

383

00:21:28.455 --> 00:21:32.335

This is true, even if you believe the never, never had it.

384

00:21:32.335 --> 00:21:34.175

So good fictions proposed by those

385

00:21:34.175 --> 00:21:36.815

with vested interest in solar farm construction,

386

00:21:39.405 --> 00:21:42.575

Pill bridge, solar limit proposals are a thinly veiled

387

00:21:42.575 --> 00:21:44.295

attempt to make money for national

388

00:21:44.315 --> 00:21:46.535

and international actors clever enough

389

00:21:47.075 --> 00:21:49.135

to spire grid connection and buy it.

390

00:21:49.135 --> 00:21:53.335

Before energy security became a subject of public debate,

391

00:21:54.045 --> 00:21:56.135

they ransom on national infrastructure

392

00:21:56.355 --> 00:21:59.015

and they act against our personal interests.

393

00:22:00.155 --> 00:22:02.775

The craven self-interest of past governments

394

00:22:02.995 --> 00:22:06.015

and their failure to debate the need for energy

395

00:22:06.075 --> 00:22:10.175

and food security mean that we are a point at a point

396

00:22:10.185 --> 00:22:12.455

where there is a temptation for the government

397

00:22:12.515 --> 00:22:15.055

to pick the low hanging fruit offered

398

00:22:15.195 --> 00:22:16.615

by til Bridge Solar Limited.

399

00:22:17.955 --> 00:22:21.055

If they are wise, they won't bite this poisoned apple.

400

00:22:22.745 --> 00:22:25.885

And I say again, please, Mr. National Inspector say no.

401

00:22:32.455 --> 00:22:33.765

Thank you Mrs. Proctor,

402

00:22:39.395 --> 00:22:43.095

are you able to provide that um, statement in writing?

403

00:22:43.855 --> 00:22:45.735

I am. That'd be brilliant. Thank you very much.

404

00:22:45.795 --> 00:22:48.455

And I think, uh, the applicant may want to respond to some

405

00:22:48.615 --> 00:22:50.415

of the questions that you raised,

406

00:22:50.555 --> 00:22:52.335

but thank you for your time.

407

00:22:52.505 --> 00:22:53.975

Thank you. Um,

408

00:22:55.105 --> 00:22:57.935

could we please hear from Mrs.

409

00:22:58.485 --> 00:23:02.575

O'Grady, uh, chair of filling and parish meeting?

410

00:23:12.835 --> 00:23:13.925

Good morning, gentlemen.

411

00:23:14.365 --> 00:23:17.205

Margaret O'Grady, chair of filling and parish meeting.

412

00:23:17.825 --> 00:23:20.765

Um, just before I start, I do have solar on my roof

413

00:23:20.785 --> 00:23:24.885

and I'm currently producing N 0.3 kilowatts on an October,

414

00:23:25.655 --> 00:23:27.565

sunny, maybe not day.

415

00:23:27.865 --> 00:23:31.165

Um, my house is currently using exactly that amount.

416

00:23:32.035 --> 00:23:33.925

Okay, so good morning.

417

00:23:34.285 --> 00:23:37.845

I find myself sitting here once again at a solar hearing

418

00:23:38.295 --> 00:23:42.405

attempting to make you hear my community and the impact you

419

00:23:42.465 --> 00:23:45.285

and another solar project will have on this area.

420

00:23:46.385 --> 00:23:49.365

It has been stated that this is not a political field,

421

00:23:49.715 --> 00:23:52.765

however, successive governments have made it policy

422

00:23:52.945 --> 00:23:55.805

to decarbonize, but without considering

423

00:23:55.865 --> 00:23:58.725

how this will be delivered or without linking planning

424

00:23:58.825 --> 00:24:01.735

and policy, had they done so,

425

00:24:02.195 --> 00:24:06.335

it would be inevitable points at the Grand Mount Solar in

426

00:24:06.335 --> 00:24:07.855

this scale is flawed.

427

00:24:08.945 --> 00:24:11.985

Alternatives could have and should have been deployed

428

00:24:12.525 --> 00:24:15.705

before we reach the scenario where mile upon mile

429

00:24:15.725 --> 00:24:18.945

of farmland is being covered in solar panels in the name

430

00:24:18.965 --> 00:24:19.985

of the environment.

431

00:24:21.365 --> 00:24:22.585

As a planning inspector,

432

00:24:22.885 --> 00:24:24.705

you are now presiding over something

433

00:24:24.705 --> 00:24:26.905

that should never become a discussion.

434

00:24:27.645 --> 00:24:29.265

You are now listening to companies

435

00:24:29.455 --> 00:24:33.145

with no interest in this area whose primary goal is profit

436

00:24:34.005 --> 00:24:37.625

during the um, examination, they always have the last word

437

00:24:38.005 --> 00:24:39.705

and present a body of information

438

00:24:39.705 --> 00:24:43.865

that shows only a partial picture that is not fit to be used

439

00:24:44.125 --> 00:24:48.135

as a basis on the planning decision in a system

440

00:24:48.135 --> 00:24:51.335

that's weighted to economy, not to environmental issues,

441

00:24:51.915 --> 00:24:53.695

and to companies who have the ability

442

00:24:53.795 --> 00:24:55.975

to lobby their agenda within government.

443

00:24:57.125 --> 00:24:59.615

This is not an objective or fair process.

444

00:25:00.595 --> 00:25:03.175

The applicant's aim is to lead you to understand

445

00:25:03.175 --> 00:25:05.575

that the only option is ground mounted solar

446

00:25:06.315 --> 00:25:09.975

and it starts with their information booklets, which failed

447

00:25:09.995 --> 00:25:11.855

to show the scale of the development

448

00:25:12.195 --> 00:25:13.535

or the size of the panels.

449

00:25:14.085 --> 00:25:16.575

Instead, they showed rooftop solar,

450

00:25:17.385 --> 00:25:21.695

small solar installations amongst crops of trees, panels,

451

00:25:21.695 --> 00:25:24.335

glinting in the sun with a child's hand upon them.

452

00:25:26.135 --> 00:25:29.455

Anything but the monstrous re reality of

453

00:25:29.485 --> 00:25:31.775

what they propose in my region,

454

00:25:32.795 --> 00:25:35.495

my community have been misled, misheard,

455

00:25:35.715 --> 00:25:37.775

or ignored whilst being told

456

00:25:37.775 --> 00:25:39.815

that the process is listening to them.

457

00:25:40.815 --> 00:25:43.975

Skidmore and others have stated that infrastructure such

458

00:25:43.975 --> 00:25:46.695

as this should not be imposed on local communities.

459

00:25:47.235 --> 00:25:48.815

And yet this is exactly

460

00:25:48.885 --> 00:25:50.975

what is happening in this corner of West Lindsay.

461

00:25:52.395 --> 00:25:55.135

The combination of misleading glossy brochures

462

00:25:55.155 --> 00:25:56.535

and an overwhelming volume

463

00:25:56.595 --> 00:26:00.015

of detailed documents buried away in lists on websites

464

00:26:00.235 --> 00:26:02.535

leaves people excluded from this process.

465

00:26:03.535 --> 00:26:07.545

Many people still do not know the extent of development

466

00:26:07.545 --> 00:26:10.545

that is heading in this to this region, the scale

467

00:26:10.545 --> 00:26:12.545

of which the country has never seen.

468

00:26:14.225 --> 00:26:15.825

I feel the need to state the obvious.

469

00:26:16.525 --> 00:26:18.105

My community can't contribute

470

00:26:18.105 --> 00:26:19.945

to food production on our rooftops

471

00:26:20.645 --> 00:26:22.305

any more than the rooftops

472

00:26:22.365 --> 00:26:24.345

of expanding towns and cities can.

473

00:26:25.085 --> 00:26:27.345

No one can accommodate reservoirs on roofs

474

00:26:27.565 --> 00:26:31.545

nor grow trees, which we are told needs to happen to assist

475

00:26:31.545 --> 00:26:32.785

with decarbonization.

476

00:26:33.825 --> 00:26:37.905

I can however, have solar on my roof and have since 2008.

477

00:26:38.675 --> 00:26:40.665

There is enough roof space in the UK

478

00:26:40.725 --> 00:26:42.785

to accommodate all the required solar,

479

00:26:43.345 --> 00:26:46.165

and yet companies still persist in pushing

480

00:26:46.305 --> 00:26:47.525

for ground mounted solar.

481

00:26:48.385 --> 00:26:50.645

Why? Well simply because of profit.

482

00:26:51.625 --> 00:26:54.085

If it were truly in the name of decarbonization

483

00:26:54.265 --> 00:26:57.045

and sustainability, it would be placed on rooftops

484

00:26:57.155 --> 00:26:59.765

with the minimum in minimal impact.

485

00:26:59.945 --> 00:27:04.285

And where power is generated at point of use on rooftops,

486

00:27:04.285 --> 00:27:07.245

it can benefit the customer and consumer directly

487

00:27:07.425 --> 00:27:08.485

and reduce cost,

488

00:27:08.975 --> 00:27:11.805

which ground mounted solar at this scale cannot do.

489

00:27:12.915 --> 00:27:16.365

With such extensive installation disruption, miles

490

00:27:16.365 --> 00:27:18.725

of voltage, transmission lines backed up

491

00:27:18.725 --> 00:27:20.645

with juicy contracts for difference

492

00:27:20.945 --> 00:27:23.645

to help feed the profits back to foreign investors,

493

00:27:24.985 --> 00:27:27.985

I despair the fact that two schemes have already been passed

494

00:27:28.045 --> 00:27:29.465

by the Secretary of State.

495

00:27:30.165 --> 00:27:32.305

Our communities will never be the same

496

00:27:32.895 --> 00:27:34.745

food production animal feed

497

00:27:34.765 --> 00:27:37.665

and biofuels in this rural area stand

498

00:27:37.665 --> 00:27:39.745

to be impacted beyond belief.

499

00:27:40.645 --> 00:27:43.265

Do not allow us to pay for a, a further price

500

00:27:43.325 --> 00:27:45.505

for shortsightedness of planning and policy.

501

00:27:46.325 --> 00:27:49.265

We are a small island where land is precious.

502

00:27:50.125 --> 00:27:53.665

We need to consider carefully its use before we act,

503

00:27:54.725 --> 00:27:58.145

and we need so much more than solar to rectify the damage

504

00:27:58.145 --> 00:28:01.025

that humans have done to this earth and our climate.

505

00:28:02.045 --> 00:28:04.265

Let us not preside over more damage.

506

00:28:05.645 --> 00:28:08.505

If you allow this, you will trap, devastate,

507

00:28:08.525 --> 00:28:09.985

and destroy my community,

508

00:28:10.525 --> 00:28:14.145

who will no longer be living in a rural setting they chose,

509

00:28:14.605 --> 00:28:15.985

but in a solar wilderness

510

00:28:16.735 --> 00:28:19.185

that will not provide opportunities for jobs

511

00:28:19.605 --> 00:28:21.825

nor the electricity it purports to offer.

512

00:28:22.545 --> 00:28:24.195

This is a rural environment.

513

00:28:25.255 --> 00:28:27.835

We work, we walk, we cycle,

514

00:28:28.175 --> 00:28:31.555

and we enjoy the benefits of opens, fields, wildlife

515

00:28:31.655 --> 00:28:35.755

and peace where we produce food for the nation

516

00:28:36.335 --> 00:28:39.075

and where we are custodians of the landscape.

517

00:28:40.135 --> 00:28:43.195

And when these companies are long gone for they will sell on

518

00:28:43.335 --> 00:28:45.795

and evolve, move to the next big project

519

00:28:46.495 --> 00:28:49.155

and where their legacy is debated in years to come.

520

00:28:49.505 --> 00:28:52.635

When solar should have been placed on rooftops as a policy

521

00:28:52.695 --> 00:28:54.195

before we were in crisis.

522

00:28:55.265 --> 00:28:58.275

When there is no one left accountable for their actions,

523

00:28:59.105 --> 00:29:00.595

what will our legacy be?

524

00:29:01.415 --> 00:29:04.075

How will we justify this to our grandchildren,

525

00:29:04.415 --> 00:29:05.515

our great-grandchildren?

526

00:29:06.695 --> 00:29:08.135

I personally can say I try

527

00:29:08.135 --> 00:29:10.655

to protect agriculture a way of life.

528

00:29:11.315 --> 00:29:15.415

My community, I try to protect wildlife and habitats

529

00:29:15.765 --> 00:29:19.055

because this development is wasteful and unnecessary.

530

00:29:20.105 --> 00:29:22.295

Solar should not be covering land with

531

00:29:22.355 --> 00:29:24.535

so much roof space already been available.

532

00:29:25.525 --> 00:29:27.895

This isn't me saying not in my backyard.

533

00:29:28.775 --> 00:29:30.525

I don't need it in my backyard

534

00:29:30.755 --> 00:29:32.925

because I've already got it on my roof.

535

00:29:33.745 --> 00:29:36.365

And I'm saying it should not just be on my roof,

536

00:29:36.545 --> 00:29:37.645

it should be on yours.

537

00:29:37.745 --> 00:29:38.885

And everyone's here

538

00:29:40.235 --> 00:29:43.225

and everyone who's not thank you.

539

00:29:48.395 --> 00:29:49.705

Thank you Mrs. O'Grady.

540

00:29:49.845 --> 00:29:52.345

Um, are you able to provide that statement in right?

541

00:29:52.345 --> 00:29:54.545

Certainly. Thank you very much for your time. Thank

542

00:29:54.545 --> 00:29:55.545

You for your time.

543

00:29:58.255 --> 00:30:01.145

Okay, so could we please hear from, uh, Mr.

544

00:30:01.825 --> 00:30:05.775

Stanfield of Brock Home Parish meeting?

545

00:30:10.895 --> 00:30:12.395

Do we have Mr. Stanfield?

546

00:30:13.315 --> 00:30:14.915

I did tell the team that I, uh,

547

00:30:15.235 --> 00:30:16.595

I I did need to speak today.

548

00:30:18.545 --> 00:30:20.475

Okay, I apologize. Thank you.

549

00:30:20.605 --> 00:30:22.355

Thank you. Okay, thank you.

550

00:30:34.515 --> 00:30:39.285

Okay, so Ms. Gar of 7,000 acres.

551

00:30:48.575 --> 00:30:52.665

It's highlighted red. Is there a rep? Is Mr.

552

00:30:53.085 --> 00:30:55.305

Latham here from Glenworth Parish Council?

553

00:30:57.645 --> 00:31:00.865

No, I think he, I think he's elected not to speak or attend.

554

00:31:01.005 --> 00:31:03.985

So Ms. Gar,

555

00:31:25.785 --> 00:31:26.785

Thank you. Um,

556

00:31:26.785 --> 00:31:30.055

Ms. Elizabeth Gar of 7,000 acres.

557

00:31:30.595 --> 00:31:35.165

Um, I also live in Glenworth. Thank you.

558

00:31:38.115 --> 00:31:39.765

When the country wakes up

559

00:31:40.425 --> 00:31:42.645

and finds it doesn't have the land, it needs

560

00:31:42.745 --> 00:31:45.405

to house its people to grow its food,

561

00:31:46.065 --> 00:31:48.605

to do the commercial business, it needs to travel

562

00:31:48.745 --> 00:31:51.765

to create new reservoirs or plant the trees

563

00:31:51.865 --> 00:31:53.205

and establish the peatlands.

564

00:31:53.205 --> 00:31:54.365

It needs to decarbonize.

565

00:31:54.985 --> 00:31:58.645

People will look around at hundreds of thousands of hectares

566

00:31:58.645 --> 00:32:01.155

of solar and there'll be an outcry.

567

00:32:02.135 --> 00:32:04.755

The clammer will grow and there'll be an inquiry.

568

00:32:05.255 --> 00:32:07.195

People will demand answers.

569

00:32:08.575 --> 00:32:10.435

How will all this get so out of hand?

570

00:32:10.935 --> 00:32:12.515

How did all this get so out of hand?

571

00:32:12.695 --> 00:32:15.435

How did it reach the point where a small corner

572

00:32:15.655 --> 00:32:19.435

of Lincolnshire became one of the highest concentrations

573

00:32:19.435 --> 00:32:23.275

of ground mounted solar development on earth in a country

574

00:32:23.385 --> 00:32:25.195

that has some of the lowest solar

575

00:32:25.345 --> 00:32:27.075

gain anywhere in the world?

576

00:32:28.625 --> 00:32:31.565

How did the country see it as necessary to consume

577

00:32:31.825 --> 00:32:34.725

so much productive farmland ahead

578

00:32:34.725 --> 00:32:38.085

of rooftops without really cons exploring the consequences?

579

00:32:39.305 --> 00:32:41.285

How could all this have been done in the name

580

00:32:41.285 --> 00:32:44.045

of the environment and such short,

581

00:32:44.515 --> 00:32:46.925
such shortsighted thinking be considered

582

00:32:47.035 --> 00:32:48.725
sustainable development?

583

00:32:49.715 --> 00:32:51.565
It's not such a fanciful scenario.

584

00:32:52.055 --> 00:32:54.405
There have been plenty of examples recently

585

00:32:54.425 --> 00:32:57.965
of the state getting things badly wrong, public outcry,

586

00:32:57.985 --> 00:33:00.725
public inquiries and damning findings

587

00:33:00.785 --> 00:33:03.725
and people held to account what is

588

00:33:03.725 --> 00:33:05.925
to stop this being the scandal of the future.

589

00:33:07.295 --> 00:33:11.785
When in a six mile r radius we face four nip scale

590

00:33:11.865 --> 00:33:13.385
projects with two

591

00:33:13.525 --> 00:33:18.225
or more on the fringes, which could result in between 3000

592

00:33:18.245 --> 00:33:20.465
to 3,500 megawatts

593

00:33:20.465 --> 00:33:22.745
of ground mounted solar depending on the degree

594

00:33:22.745 --> 00:33:26.665

of over planting, putting this scheme in its size within the

595

00:33:26.665 --> 00:33:29.505

largest five solar developments in the world.

596

00:33:30.575 --> 00:33:33.585

Typically these are in China, India, the Middle East

597

00:33:33.605 --> 00:33:38.105

or North Africa, sunny inhospitable places where few,

598

00:33:38.245 --> 00:33:41.745

if any people live and where no crops grow.

599

00:33:42.965 --> 00:33:45.345

How could the UK's planning system have failed

600

00:33:45.485 --> 00:33:47.665

so spectacularly to let this happen?

601

00:33:48.445 --> 00:33:52.545

And yet with two schemes approved already partway there,

602

00:33:53.965 --> 00:33:57.195

developers are hungry to get their schemes through.

603

00:33:57.655 --> 00:34:00.595

For all the talk about them taking less than golf courses,

604

00:34:01.375 --> 00:34:04.475

the National grid face a ground mounted solar development

605

00:34:04.475 --> 00:34:07.435

queue, which could occupy twice the size

606

00:34:07.495 --> 00:34:08.595

of greater Manchester.

607

00:34:09.755 --> 00:34:13.415

How could it be that no one joined the dots to figure out

608

00:34:13.415 --> 00:34:14.615

that the country was set

609

00:34:14.615 --> 00:34:18.015

to lose more farmland the country uses to grow its potatoes

610

00:34:18.595 --> 00:34:20.055

and horticultural crops?

611

00:34:21.235 --> 00:34:24.175

And how could it be that the planning process failed

612

00:34:24.175 --> 00:34:27.255

to consider the consequence of such wholesale change?

613

00:34:28.255 --> 00:34:30.345

Will planners simply say they followed the process,

614

00:34:31.095 --> 00:34:33.425

claimed it wasn't in their remit?

615

00:34:34.165 --> 00:34:35.545

We are proud of our region

616

00:34:36.125 --> 00:34:38.265

and what it contributes to the Arctic kingdom,

617

00:34:38.665 --> 00:34:41.905

particularly in the case of its farm and food production.

618

00:34:43.005 --> 00:34:45.185

No doubt the region would love to be similarly proud

619

00:34:45.185 --> 00:34:47.665

of the contribution of local schemes in the fight

620

00:34:47.665 --> 00:34:48.745

for decarbonization.

621

00:34:49.645 --> 00:34:52.185

And we understand that sacrifices will need

622

00:34:52.185 --> 00:34:54.305

to be made in the pursuit of decarbonization.

623

00:34:55.005 --> 00:34:57.545

But if such development is truly needed,

624

00:34:58.055 --> 00:35:00.995

make the case explain why.

625

00:35:01.345 --> 00:35:04.595

When Germany has already installed 80,000 megawatts of solar

626

00:35:05.025 --> 00:35:06.915

with three quarters on rooftop, why

627

00:35:07.445 --> 00:35:09.555

can't this be the blueprint for the uk?

628

00:35:10.345 --> 00:35:12.475

Explain how Germany achieved

629

00:35:12.475 --> 00:35:14.435

that capacity without a single scheme

630

00:35:14.435 --> 00:35:17.675

that even the half the size of till bridge convince us

631

00:35:18.025 --> 00:35:20.915

that this isn't a gross waste of productive farmland

632

00:35:20.915 --> 00:35:22.115

that the country will regret.

633

00:35:22.615 --> 00:35:26.315

Answer the questions around where else crops will come from

634

00:35:26.705 --> 00:35:28.595

that are displaced by this scheme

635
00:35:28.865 --> 00:35:31.195
that comes dressed in the clothes of sustainability

636
00:35:31.975 --> 00:35:33.235
and push the developers

637
00:35:33.295 --> 00:35:35.195
to tell the truth about their scheme.

638
00:35:36.045 --> 00:35:37.075
Don't be distracted

639
00:35:37.175 --> 00:35:40.075
by the claims about the cheap installation cost of solar.

640
00:35:40.725 --> 00:35:43.955
Focus on the high price the consumer will pay.

641
00:35:45.005 --> 00:35:46.955
Don't allow 'em to talk about security

642
00:35:46.975 --> 00:35:48.635
of supply without understanding

643
00:35:48.735 --> 00:35:50.155
how this scheme will contribute

644
00:35:50.155 --> 00:35:52.795
to keeping the lights on when the country needs power.

645
00:35:53.105 --> 00:35:56.715
Most don't fall for the oversimplified claim

646
00:35:56.855 --> 00:36:01.195
to power 300,000 homes when all those houses will be dark

647
00:36:01.295 --> 00:36:03.595
and cold every evening throughout the winter.

648
00:36:04.645 --> 00:36:06.475

Don't allow the developer to get away

649

00:36:06.475 --> 00:36:08.155

with saying their scheme is essential

650

00:36:08.455 --> 00:36:10.995

to meet the government's target of 70,000 megawatts

651

00:36:10.995 --> 00:36:13.235

of solar when every day commercial

652

00:36:13.415 --> 00:36:16.995

and domestic rooftops are built without solar

653

00:36:17.615 --> 00:36:20.555

and don't allow 'em to say their scheme is essential.

654

00:36:21.535 --> 00:36:25.115

And if the UK achieved the same rate of rooftop capacity

655

00:36:25.115 --> 00:36:29.155

as Germany, the UK would only need no more than 20,000

656

00:36:29.155 --> 00:36:30.595

megawatts of ground mounted solar.

657

00:36:32.355 --> 00:36:36.215

And even though solar UK base our land use calculation on

658

00:36:36.215 --> 00:36:39.135

even a further 80, 38,000 megawatts

659

00:36:39.135 --> 00:36:41.615

of ground mounted solar than today, understand

660

00:36:41.615 --> 00:36:43.255

that this scheme is part of a queue

661

00:36:43.915 --> 00:36:48.175

of 150,000 megawatts of ground mounted solar projects

662

00:36:48.175 --> 00:36:49.455
and the national grids queue.

663

00:36:51.035 --> 00:36:53.415
In short, there is opportunity

664

00:36:54.035 --> 00:36:57.575
to be hugely selective in which schemes should be allowed

665

00:36:57.595 --> 00:37:01.455
to come forward after fully understanding the limited

666

00:37:01.975 --> 00:37:03.655
benefits and harms of each.

667

00:37:04.815 --> 00:37:07.995
So welcome to West Lindsay as you drive around

668

00:37:08.015 --> 00:37:11.915
to conduct site inspections, look around you, take it in

669

00:37:12.855 --> 00:37:13.955
the country, roads

670

00:37:13.975 --> 00:37:16.475
and narrow lanes, the small villages, hamlets,

671

00:37:16.475 --> 00:37:20.315
and isolated homes set in wide open landscapes

672

00:37:20.545 --> 00:37:24.155
with long views across fields of crops, dotted with trees

673

00:37:24.295 --> 00:37:25.475
and lined with hedgerows.

674

00:37:25.945 --> 00:37:29.875
This is where we live, it's our home. It's beautiful.

675

00:37:31.145 --> 00:37:35.525

We have no faith that the case has been made for this place

676

00:37:35.545 --> 00:37:38.365

to bear the consequences of a half-baked approach

677

00:37:38.365 --> 00:37:42.205

to decarbonization only to be the cause future regret.

678

00:37:42.785 --> 00:37:45.245

And for all the cheap talk the communities should benefit.

679

00:37:46.185 --> 00:37:47.885

We have had two schemes approved.

680

00:37:48.585 --> 00:37:53.205

In what way do we benefit in fact exactly what is it

681

00:37:53.205 --> 00:37:57.165

that could possibly be offered when all we can see is a road

682

00:37:57.305 --> 00:38:00.325

to the devastation of our region, vast areas

683

00:38:00.385 --> 00:38:04.205

of construction disruption, the decimation of views, much

684

00:38:04.205 --> 00:38:07.645

of spaces used for walks and rise and all for what?

685

00:38:08.745 --> 00:38:09.965

Surely in all honesty,

686

00:38:10.265 --> 00:38:12.885

the answer can't be in the name of the environment.

687

00:38:14.325 --> 00:38:16.695

Sure, you, you will note that none

688

00:38:16.695 --> 00:38:19.295

of the nip schemes have gone to judicial review,

689

00:38:19.605 --> 00:38:20.935

perhaps unsurprising,

690

00:38:21.145 --> 00:38:24.535

given the deep pockets the developer have and this

691

00:38:24.715 --> 00:38:27.215

and the Davis versus Goliath nature

692

00:38:27.475 --> 00:38:29.375

of this undemocratic process.

693

00:38:30.315 --> 00:38:32.255

But we can't help but wonder in 10

694

00:38:32.315 --> 00:38:36.105

or 20 years from now whether this will be looked at again

695

00:38:36.375 --> 00:38:39.625

with fresh eyes that struggle to make sense

696

00:38:39.625 --> 00:38:44.265

of such irrational decisions that were so unreasonable

697

00:38:44.575 --> 00:38:47.225

that no authority could seriously have made them.

698

00:38:47.985 --> 00:38:51.155

What will your role be in this scandal of the future?

699

00:38:52.315 --> 00:38:53.315

Thank you.

700

00:38:58.305 --> 00:39:01.335

Thank you Ms. Gar, uh, for 7,000 acres.

701

00:39:01.715 --> 00:39:06.095

Um, the applicant may wish to respond to your points, um,

702

00:39:06.095 --> 00:39:10.615

including in particular, uh, the prospect of alternatives,

703

00:39:11.155 --> 00:39:13.215
for example, roof mounted solar

704

00:39:13.675 --> 00:39:18.015
and whether any benefits extend to the local community.

705

00:39:18.955 --> 00:39:23.665
Um, so yep, thank you very much for your time.

706

00:39:24.085 --> 00:39:25.745
If you could provide those comments in writing,

707

00:39:25.975 --> 00:39:27.345
we'd very much appreciate it.

708

00:39:27.345 --> 00:39:28.625
Certainly. Okay, thank you.

709

00:39:32.475 --> 00:39:34.985
Right. I think we're gonna move on to interested

710

00:39:36.165 --> 00:39:37.615
parties now.

711

00:39:37.795 --> 00:39:39.415
So, uh, the first

712

00:39:40.205 --> 00:39:43.215
speaker I have is Mr. Roger Jones.

713

00:39:43.915 --> 00:39:45.975
Uh, would you like to come forward, Mr. Jones?

714

00:39:59.875 --> 00:40:01.265
Right. Good morning gentlemen.

715

00:40:01.615 --> 00:40:03.505
Good morning. May I introduce myself?

716

00:40:03.765 --> 00:40:05.665

Uh, my name is Mr. Roger Jones

717

00:40:05.925 --> 00:40:07.985

and I'm a retired senior engineer

718

00:40:08.445 --> 00:40:09.625

and scientific officer,

719

00:40:09.625 --> 00:40:12.825

having been served in the operation division of the CGB

720

00:40:13.325 --> 00:40:14.385

for 26 years.

721

00:40:15.125 --> 00:40:17.985

And during that time I was a regional energy spokesman

722

00:40:18.085 --> 00:40:21.185

and received regular briefings directly from the Department

723

00:40:21.185 --> 00:40:23.465

of Energy on strategic energy policy,

724

00:40:23.995 --> 00:40:27.105

which I included in my regular presentations, uh,

725

00:40:27.165 --> 00:40:28.665

to the public and to the press.

726

00:40:30.365 --> 00:40:31.705

During the early nineties,

727

00:40:31.945 --> 00:40:33.305

I was appointed pollution inspector

728

00:40:33.305 --> 00:40:34.345

with the Magistrate Inspector

729

00:40:34.345 --> 00:40:35.985

of pollution carrying out inspections

730

00:40:35.985 --> 00:40:38.665

and enforcement to determining integrated pollution control

731

00:40:38.665 --> 00:40:42.185

applications from all the major polluting industries across

732

00:40:42.185 --> 00:40:43.665

the Midlands and East Anglia.

733

00:40:44.405 --> 00:40:46.345

And for 17 years until retirement,

734

00:40:46.465 --> 00:40:49.145

I was MD over my own environmental consultancy

735

00:40:49.485 --> 00:40:52.985

and services company, uh, providing um, support

736

00:40:53.005 --> 00:40:55.185

to the energy sector throughout England and Wales.

737

00:40:56.465 --> 00:40:58.865

I have lived in the village of, uh, Stirton by OW

738

00:40:58.865 --> 00:41:01.825

for 14 years and have submitted representations

739

00:41:01.885 --> 00:41:05.185

for the ground-based industrial solar schemes, uh,

740

00:41:05.185 --> 00:41:07.585

which surrounded this village and will affect the health

741

00:41:07.585 --> 00:41:10.905

and welfare of around 30,000 others

742

00:41:11.365 --> 00:41:14.465

who live in 30 villages within 10 kilometer radius.

743

00:41:16.055 --> 00:41:18.075

The decision to consider each scheme

744

00:41:18.595 --> 00:41:21.715

separately completely disregards the cumulative effects

745

00:41:21.895 --> 00:41:25.195

of these huge industrial installations we'll have on the

746

00:41:25.195 --> 00:41:28.635

environment, wildlife, ecology, immunity,

747

00:41:29.135 --> 00:41:31.995

and the quality of life of people living in this area.

748

00:41:33.275 --> 00:41:34.645

I've also been disappointed

749

00:41:34.785 --> 00:41:36.965

by the response from the planning inspectors

750

00:41:37.105 --> 00:41:40.365

and their applicants in their refusal to fully engage

751

00:41:40.555 --> 00:41:42.205

with informed representations

752

00:41:42.775 --> 00:41:45.965

where their responses have referred to statements made

753

00:41:45.965 --> 00:41:47.885

by the applicant's environmental assessments

754

00:41:48.625 --> 00:41:53.365

rather than engaging with the statement, I recognize

755

00:41:53.365 --> 00:41:57.285

that planning inspectors in the main are lawyers with,

756

00:41:57.285 --> 00:41:59.285

with the exception your yourselves, um,

757

00:41:59.665 --> 00:42:01.645
are no doubt experts in legislation,

758

00:42:01.905 --> 00:42:03.765
but I suspect they have a serious lack

759

00:42:03.765 --> 00:42:04.765
of technical knowledge

760

00:42:05.025 --> 00:42:06.605
to fully understand the issues

761

00:42:06.605 --> 00:42:08.005
raised in the representations.

762

00:42:09.675 --> 00:42:13.045
This was very apparent in previous public consultations when

763

00:42:13.045 --> 00:42:16.285
applicants were challenged on surface water mitigation

764

00:42:16.465 --> 00:42:18.245
and where the applicant's consideration

765

00:42:18.245 --> 00:42:21.725
of flooding risk in their environmental statement was mainly

766

00:42:22.125 --> 00:42:25.005
confined to their solar equipment rather than the effect

767

00:42:25.055 --> 00:42:26.325
which several square miles

768

00:42:26.325 --> 00:42:29.685
of impervious incline solar panels would have a local

769

00:42:30.005 --> 00:42:31.245
flooding of watercourses

770

00:42:31.585 --> 00:42:33.525
and the river during storm conditions.

771

00:42:34.015 --> 00:42:37.245
Along with that, with the other solar schemes cited on the

772

00:42:37.245 --> 00:42:41.805
floodplain, the old English word for watered

773

00:42:42.145 --> 00:42:45.845
and marshland is ing ING

774

00:42:46.585 --> 00:42:50.285
and the historical flood risk is written in the landscape in

775

00:42:50.285 --> 00:42:54.285
local place names such as Ingham, Ingham,

776

00:42:55.245 --> 00:42:59.245
Ingham, Ingham, Willingham, and Engleby.

777

00:43:00.035 --> 00:43:01.965
According to Lincolnshire archives,

778

00:43:02.225 --> 00:43:04.485
the land in West Lindsey was drained, uh,

779

00:43:04.485 --> 00:43:06.565
from the early parts of the mid, uh,

780

00:43:06.825 --> 00:43:09.285
or the mid part of 19th century to prevent flooding

781

00:43:09.595 --> 00:43:11.365
with reliance on water retention

782

00:43:11.665 --> 00:43:13.405
and mitigation by the clay soil.

783

00:43:14.585 --> 00:43:17.205

In recent years, possibly due to climate change,

784

00:43:17.665 --> 00:43:20.845

the floodplain of the river till has experienced several

785

00:43:21.165 --> 00:43:23.725

flooding intelligence resulting in crop damage

786

00:43:23.865 --> 00:43:27.565

and the interruption of normal farming practices over

787

00:43:27.565 --> 00:43:30.525

several thousand acres Outside the areas

788

00:43:30.825 --> 00:43:34.795

of proposed solar development, the combined effect

789

00:43:34.795 --> 00:43:37.835

of these solar projects will certainly exacerbate,

790

00:43:38.255 --> 00:43:40.315

uh, existing incidents of flooding.

791

00:43:41.795 --> 00:43:44.895

The developers claim claims that a, uh, a total

792

00:43:44.955 --> 00:43:46.735

of 5.4 square miles

793

00:43:47.115 --> 00:43:49.735

of inclined glass panels on the floodplain

794

00:43:49.735 --> 00:43:52.695

of the small rivers, such as the river till along

795

00:43:52.695 --> 00:43:54.735

with similar areas of glass in other,

796

00:43:54.915 --> 00:43:58.335

in the other three industrial solar projects will not cause

797

00:43:58.355 --> 00:44:02.615

an increase in, uh, a risk of flooding is ludicrous.

798

00:44:03.825 --> 00:44:05.095

Under some conditions,

799

00:44:05.275 --> 00:44:08.535

the surface water runoff from 5.4 square miles

800

00:44:08.635 --> 00:44:11.535

of glass panels will be spectacular,

801

00:44:13.025 --> 00:44:15.725

and those responsible for the approval of these schemes

802

00:44:16.435 --> 00:44:17.605

must be held to account.

803

00:44:19.555 --> 00:44:23.295

No consideration has been given by any of the applicants to,

804

00:44:23.355 --> 00:44:25.695

uh, to using brownfield sites such

805

00:44:25.695 --> 00:44:27.655

as the redundant coal fire power stations,

806

00:44:27.955 --> 00:44:30.655

or disuse airfields remaining from World War ii.

807

00:44:32.545 --> 00:44:34.295

These criticisms are not unique

808

00:44:34.755 --> 00:44:36.335

as I have many professional friends

809

00:44:36.475 --> 00:44:38.735

who experienced the same lack of consideration

810

00:44:38.835 --> 00:44:41.175

and engagement with their representations.

811

00:44:42.165 --> 00:44:44.775

When I served as a pollution inspector in the department

812

00:44:44.775 --> 00:44:46.415

for the environment, we were required

813

00:44:46.415 --> 00:44:50.255

to challenge every detail in an applicant's environmental

814

00:44:50.255 --> 00:44:53.295

statement and have the knowledge, experience,

815

00:44:53.635 --> 00:44:56.215

and understanding to ask the relevant questions

816

00:44:56.555 --> 00:44:57.815

and understand the answers.

817

00:44:58.695 --> 00:45:00.925

Since we are all chartered engineers

818

00:45:01.185 --> 00:45:04.675

and scientists, the criteria which we use

819

00:45:04.695 --> 00:45:07.635

to determine an integrated pollutive control applications

820

00:45:07.745 --> 00:45:10.435

were the best available technique,

821

00:45:10.855 --> 00:45:12.355

not in telling excessive cost

822

00:45:13.185 --> 00:45:15.765

and the best practical environmental option.

823

00:45:16.915 --> 00:45:20.375

And throughout the nineties, we reduced the CO2 emissions

824

00:45:20.395 --> 00:45:22.775
for electric generation by 70%

825

00:45:23.555 --> 00:45:26.655
by moving away from an inefficient coal fire power stations

826

00:45:26.915 --> 00:45:29.375
to combined cycle gas turbine generators,

827

00:45:29.665 --> 00:45:32.335
which have an efficiency of around 60%.

828

00:45:33.985 --> 00:45:36.805
Having examined the environmental statements submitted

829

00:45:36.805 --> 00:45:38.525
by the solar companies in support

830

00:45:38.525 --> 00:45:40.965
of their planning applications, neither I

831

00:45:41.065 --> 00:45:43.765
nor my former colleagues would've allowed the ground-based

832

00:45:43.765 --> 00:45:45.325
industrial solar developments

833

00:45:45.705 --> 00:45:48.365
to proceed under integrated pollution control

834

00:45:49.055 --> 00:45:51.925
based on the poor quality of environmental information

835

00:45:52.245 --> 00:45:55.545
provided with regards to food production.

836

00:45:55.645 --> 00:45:59.185
Has any thought being given to the predicted loss of 30%

837

00:45:59.185 --> 00:46:02.465

of the productive farmland in Lincolnshire by 2050 due

838

00:46:02.565 --> 00:46:05.265

to rising sea levels, irrespective

839

00:46:05.565 --> 00:46:09.225

of any reduction in CO2 emissions made by the UK,

840

00:46:10.895 --> 00:46:14.205

there has been no credible strategic energy policy in the UK

841

00:46:14.255 --> 00:46:15.405

since privatization

842

00:46:15.785 --> 00:46:18.805

and our energy supply is now controlled solely

843

00:46:18.865 --> 00:46:20.405

by three market forces

844

00:46:20.995 --> 00:46:23.405

with no overall incentive other than

845

00:46:23.875 --> 00:46:25.485

financial inducement to generate.

846

00:46:26.805 --> 00:46:28.955

There is no longer any joint up thinking

847

00:46:29.055 --> 00:46:33.435

to create a strategic energy policy other than an obsessive,

848

00:46:33.715 --> 00:46:37.315

virtuous signal in drive towards the utopian, utopian

849

00:46:37.535 --> 00:46:41.195

and unachievable objective of net zero Germany,

850

00:46:41.685 --> 00:46:42.755

which has three times.

851

00:46:43.015 --> 00:46:46.115

The land area of the UK has already installed

852

00:46:46.115 --> 00:46:49.115

around 60 gigawatts of solar power on the roofs

853

00:46:49.115 --> 00:46:50.875

of commercial, industrial,

854

00:46:51.295 --> 00:46:54.675

and domestic buildings, which generates power at the point

855

00:46:54.675 --> 00:46:57.315

of use benefits in the consumer directly

856

00:46:58.155 --> 00:46:59.315

reducing demand on the grid

857

00:46:59.775 --> 00:47:04.475

and eliminating the the requirement, uh, to provide

858

00:47:05.225 --> 00:47:09.075

expensive and disruptive connections to the 400 KV network,

859

00:47:09.765 --> 00:47:13.035

cable route corridors or insightly transmission towers.

860

00:47:14.365 --> 00:47:16.795

These solar projects are being considered as

861

00:47:17.355 --> 00:47:19.235

national strategic infrastructures.

862

00:47:20.085 --> 00:47:21.755

Could the inspector please tell us

863

00:47:22.105 --> 00:47:24.675

what is strategic about the installation

864

00:47:24.675 --> 00:47:27.595

of ground-based solar schemes, which cover tens

865

00:47:27.595 --> 00:47:30.245

of square miles of productive farmland for 60 years

866

00:47:30.835 --> 00:47:32.765

with the loss of agriculture production,

867

00:47:33.155 --> 00:47:37.845

have an annual average load factor of only 10% monopolizing,

868

00:47:37.845 --> 00:47:42.045

limited 400 kb grid connections, benefits in the, uh,

869

00:47:42.045 --> 00:47:43.565

preventing the installation and connection

870

00:47:43.585 --> 00:47:47.245

of other low carbon continuous sources of energy such

871

00:47:47.485 --> 00:47:50.005

as small modular nuclear reactors,

872

00:47:50.575 --> 00:47:53.405

which would keep the lights on when the sun doesn't

873

00:47:53.405 --> 00:47:54.965

shine and the wind doesn't.

874

00:47:54.965 --> 00:47:56.405

Low cotton

875

00:47:56.625 --> 00:47:59.885

and West Burton power stations have the necessary cooling

876

00:47:59.885 --> 00:48:03.525

water and essential infrastructure to support SMRs,

877

00:48:03.905 --> 00:48:07.925

but unfortunately the 400 KV grid connections have been

878

00:48:08.125 --> 00:48:10.005

assigned to the surroundings solar projects,

879

00:48:10.475 --> 00:48:14.045

despite the average annual load factor being only 10%

880

00:48:14.225 --> 00:48:16.005

of the maximum design capacity.

881

00:48:17.095 --> 00:48:18.725

Thank you for your attention, Jalan.

882

00:48:27.015 --> 00:48:29.485

Thank you Mr. Jones. Just to confirm, we will be dealing

883

00:48:29.485 --> 00:48:30.805

with the cumulative effects in

884

00:48:30.805 --> 00:48:32.125

following meetings and hearings.

885

00:48:32.465 --> 00:48:35.885

Um, also the issues that you raised regarding, uh, effluent

886

00:48:35.885 --> 00:48:39.085

and fluvial rainfall are also, uh, part of our issue.

887

00:48:39.325 --> 00:48:42.395

Specific follow up. Oh,

888

00:48:42.395 --> 00:48:44.435

and the final matter just regarding, um, what

889

00:48:44.435 --> 00:48:46.635

what designates whether this is a strategic project or not.

890

00:48:46.635 --> 00:48:48.275

Unfortunately that's not down to us.

891

00:48:48.275 --> 00:48:49.955

That's down to legislation

892

00:48:50.375 --> 00:48:52.955
and the planning Act 2008 sets out in its guidance

893

00:48:53.025 --> 00:48:55.795
what it considers our nationally significant

894

00:48:55.935 --> 00:48:57.235
infrastructure projects.

895

00:48:57.325 --> 00:48:58.325
Thank you.

896

00:49:02.155 --> 00:49:03.305
Thank you Mr. Ed.

897

00:49:04.165 --> 00:49:07.105
Uh, we'll now hear from bar s hog please.

898

00:49:21.175 --> 00:49:22.345
Good morning, Mr. Chairman.

899

00:49:22.925 --> 00:49:26.105
Um, my interest is that I'm a resident

900

00:49:26.765 --> 00:49:30.565
of a village kettle to, um, which is south

901

00:49:30.565 --> 00:49:33.605
of this proposed project, north of another one.

902

00:49:34.625 --> 00:49:37.645
Um, though I will confine my comments, obviously,

903

00:49:37.785 --> 00:49:40.725
as you suggest to this, um,

904

00:49:41.185 --> 00:49:43.645
my other relevant interests are that I'm a member

905

00:49:43.645 --> 00:49:44.645

of the House of Lords

906

00:49:45.265 --> 00:49:48.895

and I've been on the board of two major, um,

907

00:49:49.155 --> 00:49:50.935

energy international companies,

908

00:49:51.345 --> 00:49:54.895

which gives me some understanding of major energy projects.

909

00:49:56.745 --> 00:49:58.865

I was very glad to hear both from you

910

00:49:59.165 --> 00:50:00.585

and from your chairman, Mr.

911

00:50:00.845 --> 00:50:04.345

Ely, that you will be focusing on the cumulative effects.

912

00:50:05.465 --> 00:50:07.785

I think it would be very helpful if you could explain

913

00:50:07.785 --> 00:50:10.865

further what will be the relevant factors

914

00:50:11.645 --> 00:50:13.425

in considering these cumulative effects.

915

00:50:14.255 --> 00:50:15.865

Will they be economic?

916

00:50:16.735 --> 00:50:19.025

Will they be with respect to energy use,

917

00:50:19.605 --> 00:50:22.745

or will they encompass many of the factors

918

00:50:22.815 --> 00:50:24.865

that have been raised by earlier speakers,

919

00:50:25.215 --> 00:50:27.025

including the first speaker today

920

00:50:27.745 --> 00:50:29.525

who spoke extremely movingly

921

00:50:29.985 --> 00:50:32.925

of the impact on community immunity?

922

00:50:33.705 --> 00:50:38.645

And I would add mental health in this area further.

923

00:50:38.985 --> 00:50:41.605

Um, elucidation on that will be very helpful.

924

00:50:43.135 --> 00:50:47.495

Secondly, in response to a statement earlier, Mr. Simpson,

925

00:50:48.315 --> 00:50:52.895

you said that it will be up to the applicant to respond on,

926

00:50:53.155 --> 00:50:57.575

um, the economics of alternative sources of energy.

927

00:50:58.815 --> 00:51:00.775

I cannot think with due respect that that is right.

928

00:51:02.035 --> 00:51:06.415

Energy policy, that is the choice between different sources

929

00:51:06.555 --> 00:51:10.845

of energy for a country are surely a matter for government,

930

00:51:11.105 --> 00:51:12.845

for planners and for yourselves

931

00:51:12.905 --> 00:51:14.285

as the planning inspectorate.

932

00:51:16.555 --> 00:51:18.845

Finally, uh, I would just like to say

933

00:51:19.675 --> 00:51:23.235

that I think it is very important that, um,

934

00:51:23.505 --> 00:51:27.235

from an engineering perspective, you consider very carefully

935

00:51:27.235 --> 00:51:28.435

what is proposed here.

936

00:51:29.655 --> 00:51:32.515

Um, I'm not an engineer, I'm an economist,

937

00:51:33.615 --> 00:51:36.235

but it seems to me most unlikely in a period

938

00:51:36.295 --> 00:51:40.035

of rapidly changing technology that this will continue

939

00:51:40.035 --> 00:51:43.315

to be an even fairly efficient technology.

940

00:51:43.545 --> 00:51:47.275

It's not a very efficient technology at all for 60 years.

941

00:51:49.055 --> 00:51:50.625

Thus, the costings

942

00:51:50.925 --> 00:51:55.105

and programs based on that kind

943

00:51:55.105 --> 00:51:58.505

of amortization life seems to be wholly unrealistic.

944

00:51:59.205 --> 00:52:03.225

And if that is the case, all the questions about repair

945

00:52:03.245 --> 00:52:06.265

and reparation of the landscape become all the more

946

00:52:06.265 --> 00:52:08.185
important if we are not to be left

947

00:52:08.495 --> 00:52:10.265
with an industrial wasteland.

948

00:52:11.255 --> 00:52:14.455
Finally, economically, this is not a good project.

949

00:52:15.155 --> 00:52:20.055
Um, the energy production is poor, um,

950

00:52:20.475 --> 00:52:24.535
and the fact that, uh, one can expect actually

951

00:52:24.535 --> 00:52:28.295
to see relatively little profit from such a development is,

952

00:52:28.375 --> 00:52:31.055
I think illustrated by the reluctance of the applicants

953

00:52:31.315 --> 00:52:33.535
to be very clear about how much of the,

954

00:52:33.675 --> 00:52:35.015
the benefit they may receive.

955

00:52:35.205 --> 00:52:38.055
They're prepared to show its share with the local community.

956

00:52:38.745 --> 00:52:39.745
Thank you very much.

957

00:52:42.275 --> 00:52:44.305
Thank you Baris Hog.

958

00:52:45.265 --> 00:52:49.225
Um, so I just wanna pick up on a couple of

959

00:52:49.965 --> 00:52:51.265

the statements made.

960

00:52:51.285 --> 00:52:56.105

So in terms of cumulative effects, our

961

00:52:56.765 --> 00:53:00.785

aim is to deal with this on a topic by topic basis.

962

00:53:02.565 --> 00:53:06.385

So the report, um, I think we're gonna focus on

963

00:53:08.145 --> 00:53:11.325

having an, an assessment of the cumulative effect of each,

964

00:53:12.105 --> 00:53:16.515

um, topic rather than having a separate section

965

00:53:16.895 --> 00:53:19.235

on summarizing cumulative effects.

966

00:53:20.015 --> 00:53:21.915

Um, we may have a separate section as well,

967

00:53:21.935 --> 00:53:24.035

but what I'm saying is we'll address each effect

968

00:53:24.175 --> 00:53:27.965

and in terms of the cumulative, um, impacts,

969

00:53:29.945 --> 00:53:32.285

uh, in terms of asking the applicant

970

00:53:32.305 --> 00:53:36.885

to respond on energy alternatives, it's more

971

00:53:36.885 --> 00:53:40.505

of a function of the process of, of this, um, meeting.

972

00:53:40.725 --> 00:53:44.105

We will, of course I'm offering the applicant an opportunity

973

00:53:44.125 --> 00:53:45.305

to respond to that point.

974

00:53:45.685 --> 00:53:50.225

We will, of course, um, consider those matters, uh,

975

00:53:50.445 --> 00:53:53.305

in particular in relation to national policy.

976

00:53:54.565 --> 00:53:58.615

Um, and that will be set out in detail in our report.

977

00:53:59.395 --> 00:54:04.345

Okay, so if we could now please

978

00:54:04.345 --> 00:54:05.545

hear from a Mr.

979

00:54:07.305 --> 00:54:08.035

Andy Johnson.

980

00:54:17.555 --> 00:54:18.045

Good morning.

981

00:54:18.385 --> 00:54:20.725

Uh, good morning. Uh, Andy Johnson, resident

982

00:54:20.745 --> 00:54:22.165

of g Glenworth Village.

983

00:54:23.265 --> 00:54:25.285

Uh, firstly, thank you for allowing me to speak today.

984

00:54:25.565 --> 00:54:28.085

I have several that would like to bring to your attention

985

00:54:28.265 --> 00:54:30.405

for consideration with this application.

986

00:54:31.805 --> 00:54:34.685

I have attended and spoke at three public hearings

987

00:54:34.685 --> 00:54:36.445

for solar applications close to me

988

00:54:36.825 --> 00:54:38.725

and naturally expressed my concerned

989

00:54:38.725 --> 00:54:40.165

elements of the proposals.

990

00:54:41.225 --> 00:54:42.925

In light of the previous responses.

991

00:54:43.145 --> 00:54:45.285

I'm questioning the examining body

992

00:54:45.985 --> 00:54:47.725

due diligence prog process

993

00:54:48.265 --> 00:54:51.125

and the applicant's technical ability to satisfy

994

00:54:52.025 --> 00:54:54.485

the questions raised copy

995

00:54:54.585 --> 00:54:57.845

and pasting paragraphs from previous applications into this

996

00:54:57.845 --> 00:54:59.565

application is not acceptable.

997

00:55:00.155 --> 00:55:03.645

This displays a total lack of due diligence, contempt,

998

00:55:03.745 --> 00:55:06.245

and disregard of others within the process.

999

00:55:07.665 --> 00:55:09.925

I'm seeking assurance from the inspectorate.

1000

00:55:09.955 --> 00:55:12.005

This will not occur in this application.

1001

00:55:13.815 --> 00:55:16.935

I believe we would all agree that this application in many,

1002

00:55:17.085 --> 00:55:19.135

many areas is extremely technical

1003

00:55:19.155 --> 00:55:22.615

and well above the average understanding of 99%

1004

00:55:22.615 --> 00:55:24.295

of the attendees here today.

1005

00:55:25.725 --> 00:55:29.055

Nothing on this scale has ever been undertaken before and

1006

00:55:29.055 --> 00:55:30.935

therefore no history to learn from.

1007

00:55:31.515 --> 00:55:33.215

It is essential that the applicant

1008

00:55:33.235 --> 00:55:34.735

and Inspectorate ensures

1009

00:55:34.735 --> 00:55:38.175

that areas requiring specialist knowledge is sought from

1010

00:55:38.205 --> 00:55:42.895

experienced, qualified, independent representatives in

1011

00:55:43.215 --> 00:55:45.775

that particular field and does not rely on

1012

00:55:45.775 --> 00:55:47.295

generalists opinions.

1013

00:55:48.615 --> 00:55:50.055

Previous questions asked by myself

1014

00:55:50.055 --> 00:55:52.255

and others have been dealt with by generalists,

1015

00:55:52.915 --> 00:55:55.255

not specialists leading to many pages

1016

00:55:55.515 --> 00:55:58.655

or a single line of written response without actually

1017

00:55:58.825 --> 00:56:01.855

satisfying the questions posed lip service.

1018

00:56:02.295 --> 00:56:06.135

I feel. Would I be correct in saying

1019

00:56:06.135 --> 00:56:08.535

that the examining body have a duty to ensure

1020

00:56:08.535 --> 00:56:11.775

that due diligence in specialist areas has been

1021

00:56:11.775 --> 00:56:12.855

correctly observed?

1022

00:56:14.175 --> 00:56:16.335

I would like to seek assurance that this is the case

1023

00:56:16.435 --> 00:56:20.415

and the examining body will only allow replies supported

1024

00:56:20.435 --> 00:56:24.165

by truly independent specialists in these technical areas.

1025

00:56:26.175 --> 00:56:29.085

Let's have reports that contain substantial facts,

1026

00:56:29.505 --> 00:56:31.925

not guarded waffle, that the applicant,

1027

00:56:32.235 --> 00:56:35.245

that the application can then truly be judged upon

1028

00:56:38.455 --> 00:56:40.955

the types of areas, but not limited to

1029

00:56:40.985 --> 00:56:44.155

that I believe special impacts statements should be applied

1030

00:56:44.155 --> 00:56:48.875

to are as follows, health, wellbeing of the population,

1031

00:56:48.875 --> 00:56:51.075

the surrounding areas during construction,

1032

00:56:51.215 --> 00:56:54.675

and then once operational, a cumulative effect

1033

00:56:55.345 --> 00:56:57.235

with the three applications already.

1034

00:56:57.235 --> 00:56:59.835

Agreed. How will this impact on all of those when joined up?

1035

00:57:00.925 --> 00:57:03.985

Impact on traffic management and emergency access.

1036

00:57:04.485 --> 00:57:06.545

As an example, one of the exits

1037

00:57:06.725 --> 00:57:08.985

and entrances on the B one three

1038

00:57:09.045 --> 00:57:12.945

and 98 is on blind bends in both directions.

1039

00:57:13.005 --> 00:57:14.905

In a 60 mile an hour speed limit

1040

00:57:16.015 --> 00:57:18.705

exiting is extremely dangerous as I found out

1041

00:57:20.805 --> 00:57:23.765

wildlife impact, the removal of the ability to roam

1042

00:57:23.765 --> 00:57:28.165

and breed fenced in, habitations removed flood impact,

1043

00:57:28.585 --> 00:57:30.325

the area already suffers from heavy,

1044

00:57:30.325 --> 00:57:31.685

heavily flooded flooding

1045

00:57:32.025 --> 00:57:35.525

and as we are in a natural floodplain reference, the trend

1046

00:57:37.285 --> 00:57:40.045

business within the development impact on their ability

1047

00:57:40.265 --> 00:57:43.205

to continue trading access, et cetera.

1048

00:57:44.185 --> 00:57:48.765

Decommissioning how responsibility of financial obligations,

1049

00:57:49.035 --> 00:57:52.065

land management, post use, tourism

1050

00:57:52.885 --> 00:57:54.825

and visual impact, a few hedges

1051

00:57:54.825 --> 00:57:57.465

and trees are not going to disguise the visual impact

1052

00:57:57.465 --> 00:57:58.905

of the Jurassic Cliff.

1053

00:57:59.385 --> 00:58:00.425

Features will be lost.

1054

00:58:01.645 --> 00:58:04.105

Or are we to offer solar tours as an alternative

1055

00:58:05.715 --> 00:58:09.245

long-term impact on human habitation of this area?

1056

00:58:09.665 --> 00:58:11.125

Are we heading for a wasteland?

1057

00:58:12.745 --> 00:58:15.485

The impact statement should also contain who deals

1058

00:58:15.485 --> 00:58:18.805

with the financial aftermath of this, of this incident.

1059

00:58:18.865 --> 00:58:23.085

Should this occur financial impacts on residents,

1060

00:58:23.095 --> 00:58:26.685

local businesses, house pricing, will they be saleable?

1061

00:58:28.495 --> 00:58:29.715

Few other points, if I may.

1062

00:58:30.625 --> 00:58:33.875

Suitability of location for maximum generation of solar

1063

00:58:34.465 --> 00:58:36.075

Lincoln share Hardly the,

1064

00:58:36.075 --> 00:58:38.515

hardly the sunshine state of the uk.

1065

00:58:39.025 --> 00:58:43.545

However great for wind, there is a place for solar

1066

00:58:44.105 --> 00:58:45.345

rooftops like many

1067

00:58:45.345 --> 00:58:47.305

of the countries have successfully employed

1068

00:58:47.365 --> 00:58:48.425

in the planning strategy.

1069

00:58:48.605 --> 00:58:52.225

As we have already heard, alternative studies

1070

00:58:52.325 --> 00:58:53.665

for all the power generation.

1071

00:58:54.735 --> 00:58:57.985

This area has many windfield wind windmills due

1072

00:58:57.985 --> 00:58:59.345

to the constant wind in this area.

1073

00:58:59.945 --> 00:59:03.305

I understand that alternative options should be considered

1074

00:59:03.365 --> 00:59:04.905

as part of this application.

1075

00:59:05.295 --> 00:59:08.995

Have they? There are two decommissioned power stations

1076

00:59:08.995 --> 00:59:10.475

across the river Trent in Nottingham.

1077

00:59:10.845 --> 00:59:12.635

These are more than suitable.

1078

00:59:12.995 --> 00:59:15.435

I understand for the latest nuclear technology,

1079

00:59:15.865 --> 00:59:18.235

have they been included in this alternative study?

1080

00:59:20.375 --> 00:59:23.685

There is a long established footpath from Glenworth

1081

00:59:23.705 --> 00:59:27.725

to Harpswell where recent access has been dispu disputed

1082

00:59:27.745 --> 00:59:29.005

and signs removed.

1083

00:59:30.125 --> 00:59:31.205

I understand that the council

1084

00:59:31.305 --> 00:59:32.565

are actually dealing with this.

1085

00:59:32.835 --> 00:59:34.965

However, is it a coincidence

1086

00:59:35.195 --> 00:59:38.165

that the footpath crosses an area the applicant wishes

1087

00:59:38.225 --> 00:59:39.725

to secure for development?

1088

00:59:41.075 --> 00:59:44.215

The loss naturally would, would not only be a loss

1089

00:59:44.215 --> 00:59:45.215

for the g glen with village,

1090

00:59:45.635 --> 00:59:47.975

but all the walkers traveling along the length

1091

00:59:47.975 --> 00:59:51.175

of the Jurassic cliff resorting him in having

1092

00:59:51.175 --> 00:59:55.655

to walk along the busy B 1 3 9 8 with no footpath.

1093

00:59:59.155 --> 01:00:01.855

The events around the world, strangling food,

1094

01:00:02.085 --> 01:00:03.215

food distribution,

1095

01:00:03.235 --> 01:00:07.375

and production places in a very worrying position, the level

1096

01:00:07.475 --> 01:00:10.455

of imports against what we produce is increasing and

1097

01:00:10.455 --> 01:00:13.735

therefore does it using very fertile land.

1098

01:00:14.005 --> 01:00:18.815

Make any sense? Has all brown sight, or sorry, has all brown

1099

01:00:18.895 --> 01:00:21.455

and contaminated land been taken into

1100

01:00:21.455 --> 01:00:22.735

account in this application?

1101

01:00:23.955 --> 01:00:27.775

The grading criteria of land back dates back to the sixties

1102

01:00:28.075 --> 01:00:30.895

and is and is well acknowledged as being outta date

1103

01:00:30.895 --> 01:00:32.415

with modern farming techniques.

1104

01:00:33.235 --> 01:00:36.095

The analysis of the land should actually be pasted upon

1105

01:00:36.265 --> 01:00:38.255

yield, what it actually produces.

1106

01:00:38.765 --> 01:00:40.215

This information is available

1107

01:00:40.435 --> 01:00:42.935

and demonstrates the true output of link's.

1108

01:00:43.045 --> 01:00:47.755

Breadbasket food is increased, is quick, sorry.

1109

01:00:48.025 --> 01:00:50.195

Food is quickly becoming a weapon of war

1110

01:00:50.535 --> 01:00:54.075

as we are witnessing decisions now will either reduce

1111

01:00:54.495 --> 01:00:58.035

or increase our direct exposure to this threat.

1112

01:00:59.175 --> 01:01:02.155

We have all witnessed the unfortunate incidents revolving

1113

01:01:02.155 --> 01:01:06.275

around battery storage facilities should the affected local

1114

01:01:06.505 --> 01:01:10.075

area emergency plans be updated prior to installation

1115

01:01:10.775 --> 01:01:12.435

and amended once operational

1116

01:01:12.775 --> 01:01:16.795

as this currently relies on facilities within this area,

1117

01:01:17.965 --> 01:01:21.235

slave labor, whilst this project is called to bridge solar,

1118

01:01:21.655 --> 01:01:24.075

the company behind this is actually Canadian solar,

1119

01:01:24.915 --> 01:01:29.075

A report, a recent report on slave labor names this company

1120

01:01:29.075 --> 01:01:30.195

23 times.

1121

01:01:31.015 --> 01:01:34.475

It is acceptable to use slave labor in the production

1122

01:01:34.475 --> 01:01:36.795

of solar panels that are destined to be used here.

1123

01:01:37.185 --> 01:01:39.915

Thought this was against human rights and our legislation.

1124

01:01:40.555 --> 01:01:42.435

I will attach the report with my sub,

1125

01:01:42.465 --> 01:01:44.555

with my written submission for you to review.

1126

01:01:45.595 --> 01:01:46.875

I have owned several businesses

1127

01:01:46.875 --> 01:01:49.595

and fought to financially secure its operational future

1128

01:01:50.095 --> 01:01:51.115

to bridge solars

1129

01:01:51.115 --> 01:01:53.915

and others will be claiming a government subsidy when the

1130

01:01:53.915 --> 01:01:55.875

energy, energy is not required.

1131

01:01:56.305 --> 01:01:58.355

Therefore, that makes me question the size

1132

01:01:58.355 --> 01:02:02.075

of the application as excess power will not be required,

1133

01:02:02.875 --> 01:02:04.315

I will attach a digital link

1134

01:02:04.315 --> 01:02:06.795

to a recent report highlighting the current cost

1135

01:02:06.975 --> 01:02:10.875

for the unconsumed energy in the tax for the taxpayer to

1136

01:02:12.475 --> 01:02:15.635

I am currently in favor of moving the world to net zero

1137

01:02:15.735 --> 01:02:17.355

and the country leading the way.

1138

01:02:17.505 --> 01:02:20.125

However we must consider impacts carefully

1139

01:02:20.185 --> 01:02:22.565

and alternatives seriously,

1140

01:02:22.625 --> 01:02:25.285

rather than accept com companies fancy brochures

1141

01:02:25.355 --> 01:02:27.965

that match their true mythology and intentions.

1142

01:02:28.705 --> 01:02:31.605

Should this application be successful in the years ahead,

1143

01:02:31.855 --> 01:02:34.725

there will be a point of refraction on how we arrived here

1144

01:02:35.185 --> 01:02:36.605

and the true consequences

1145

01:02:36.745 --> 01:02:40.485

of a knee jerk reaction versus a sustainable working model

1146

01:02:40.945 --> 01:02:45.125

and the words if only resonate across the barren landscape.

1147

01:02:45.935 --> 01:02:49.045

Thank you for listening to my points in seeking a fair

1148

01:02:49.725 --> 01:02:51.045
analysis of this application.

1149

01:02:51.255 --> 01:02:52.255
Thank you.

1150

01:02:53.415 --> 01:02:55.245
Thank you Mr. Johnson. Just to come back to you

1151

01:02:55.315 --> 01:02:56.405
with a few of our comments.

1152

01:02:56.545 --> 01:02:59.245
Um, yes, we will of course be exercising due diligence.

1153

01:02:59.585 --> 01:03:03.445
Um, this application will be considered in an evidence-based

1154

01:03:03.465 --> 01:03:06.405
way and we will seek qualified evidence from all parties.

1155

01:03:07.265 --> 01:03:09.245
Um, some of the themes you've raised,

1156

01:03:09.955 --> 01:03:12.005
including many others will be included in

1157

01:03:12.005 --> 01:03:13.405
our examination. Thank you.

1158

01:03:13.855 --> 01:03:14.245
Thank you.

1159

01:03:20.085 --> 01:03:23.415
Okay, uh, could we please hear from a Mr. Ham?

1160

01:03:26.735 --> 01:03:28.745
Okay. Thank you Mr. Ham.

1161

01:03:30.165 --> 01:03:35.145

Uh, next on the list is a Mr. Mapstone.

1162

01:03:37.825 --> 01:03:41.085

Uh, Mr. Mapstone, I understand that you have

1163

01:03:43.065 --> 01:03:46.635

some potentially personal information, so I hope,

1164

01:03:47.355 --> 01:03:49.355

I hope you've taken into account what I said

1165

01:03:49.355 --> 01:03:52.435

because obviously this, um, recording is live streamed.

1166

01:03:53.025 --> 01:03:55.155

Okay? We're not allowed to publish, um,

1167

01:03:56.315 --> 01:03:57.555

information. Just, just

1168

01:03:57.555 --> 01:03:58.355

Richard looking to

1169

01:03:58.355 --> 01:03:59.555

protect your privacy, sir, in the privacy.

1170

01:03:59.775 --> 01:04:00.955

Yes, indeed. I, I I would

1171

01:04:00.955 --> 01:04:02.795

however, like to point out that my,

1172

01:04:02.855 --> 01:04:07.195

our address is erroneously recorded, uh, in the application

1173

01:04:07.415 --> 01:04:11.755

and in the documentation, which, um, is emblematic of, um,

1174

01:04:11.975 --> 01:04:15.035

uh, lack of attention to um, detail.

1175

01:04:16.395 --> 01:04:18.735

Um, I live with my wife and now a daughter.

1176

01:04:18.985 --> 01:04:23.095

Sorry, Mr. Mr. Mapstone, if you could refrain from using

1177

01:04:23.945 --> 01:04:25.735

names, um, I'm

1178

01:04:25.735 --> 01:04:26.775

Sorry, personal our Daughter?

1179

01:04:26.775 --> 01:04:30.335

Yeah. Only for the purposes of redaction. Um mm-Hmm.

1180

01:04:30.415 --> 01:04:32.535

It's fine to submit that detail in writing

1181

01:04:32.535 --> 01:04:33.855

because we can redact it.

1182

01:04:34.645 --> 01:04:35.645

Okay. Okay.

1183

01:04:36.735 --> 01:04:38.835

Uh, the engineers wrote to, um,

1184

01:04:39.065 --> 01:04:42.995

till bridge on the 8th of November last year, uh,

1185

01:04:43.095 --> 01:04:46.555

in which they said the associated infrastructure comprises

1186

01:04:46.625 --> 01:04:48.035

inverters, transformers

1187

01:04:48.055 --> 01:04:51.995

and switch gears in close proximity to the family home,

1188

01:04:52.285 --> 01:04:55.475

which will give rise to significant noise impacts.

1189

01:04:56.775 --> 01:05:01.115

He writes, human Rights Act rights are in play in a planning

1190

01:05:01.115 --> 01:05:04.475

context and are a material consideration.

1191

01:05:05.995 --> 01:05:07.495

Uh, conversations have gone on

1192

01:05:07.495 --> 01:05:09.695

between our engineers and PIL Bridge.

1193

01:05:10.045 --> 01:05:12.575

They've gone on intermittently, uh,

1194

01:05:12.755 --> 01:05:16.455

but til Bridge has made no concessions whatsoever in terms

1195

01:05:16.455 --> 01:05:18.925

of the sighting of the infrastructure

1196

01:05:19.625 --> 01:05:23.285

and indeed, um, has increased the amount

1197

01:05:23.285 --> 01:05:27.885

of infrastructure in close proximity, uh, to our house.

1198

01:05:28.495 --> 01:05:30.925

There have been discussions around noise levels,

1199

01:05:30.935 --> 01:05:32.325

which they've tried to model,

1200

01:05:32.745 --> 01:05:34.845

but these are modeling assumptions.

1201

01:05:35.585 --> 01:05:37.245

Uh, there's no clarity upon

1202

01:05:37.245 --> 01:05:39.485

how they will be monitored post-implementation

1203

01:05:40.105 --> 01:05:42.325

and whether there is any possibility

1204

01:05:42.345 --> 01:05:44.405

of enforcement action being taken.

1205

01:05:45.385 --> 01:05:47.005

Um, we would

1206

01:05:47.005 --> 01:05:49.805

therefore greatly appreciate it if the, uh,

1207

01:05:50.005 --> 01:05:53.205

planning inspectorate could look at our specific concerns,

1208

01:05:53.905 --> 01:05:55.525

uh, as a special case.

1209

01:05:56.175 --> 01:05:57.175

Thank you very much.

1210

01:05:59.515 --> 01:06:01.055

Uh, thank you Mr. Matt Stone.

1211

01:06:01.115 --> 01:06:05.025

So I should point out that noise, uh, is

1212

01:06:06.345 --> 01:06:08.885

on the list of the initial assessment of principal issues.

1213

01:06:09.225 --> 01:06:12.035

Um, in terms of the, the

1214

01:06:13.815 --> 01:06:17.855

documents you are referring to, will you be submitting them,

1215

01:06:18.435 --> 01:06:20.095

uh, with written representations?

1216

01:06:20.095 --> 01:06:21.255

That would be helpful. Certainly will.

1217

01:06:21.485 --> 01:06:22.775

That would be helpful. Thank you.

1218

01:06:23.515 --> 01:06:26.635

Um, so as I say, we'll thoroughly consider noise.

1219

01:06:26.635 --> 01:06:29.595

We'll obviously take into account your representations made

1220

01:06:29.595 --> 01:06:31.915

today and any written evidence which you

1221

01:06:31.915 --> 01:06:33.035

provide us. Thank you very

1222

01:06:33.235 --> 01:06:34.235

Much. That's greatly appreciated.

1223

01:06:34.235 --> 01:06:34.355

1224

01:06:34.355 --> 01:06:34.995

Okay, thank you.

1225

01:06:40.795 --> 01:06:44.125

Okay. Could I please hear from a Mr Well,

1226

01:06:44.125 --> 01:06:45.765

I should probably point out we'll probably break

1227

01:06:45.785 --> 01:06:47.045

for 15 minutes in,

1228

01:06:47.755 --> 01:06:50.325

well at half past 11 for anyone who wants to know.

1229

01:06:51.185 --> 01:06:53.805
Um, could we hear from Mr. Rose, please?

1230
01:07:02.265 --> 01:07:03.475
Good morning. Morning.

1231
01:07:05.925 --> 01:07:09.865
Am I on? Am I on right? Good morning.

1232
01:07:09.885 --> 01:07:13.825
My name's William Rose. Um, a farm at Ingham, uh,

1233
01:07:14.185 --> 01:07:15.545
probably along with many people here.

1234
01:07:16.185 --> 01:07:19.865
I feel these proceedings have become irrelevant no matter

1235
01:07:19.895 --> 01:07:20.905
what you recommend.

1236
01:07:21.545 --> 01:07:23.985
Edna Miller Band will just rubber stamp these projects

1237
01:07:24.375 --> 01:07:26.825
with not a thought about people affected by them.

1238
01:07:28.055 --> 01:07:29.595
The developers don't care about

1239
01:07:29.665 --> 01:07:32.535
what impact this scheme will have.

1240
01:07:33.275 --> 01:07:37.255
The farmers are perceived custodians of the countryside

1241
01:07:37.795 --> 01:07:41.175
who've accepted their a thousand pound an acre should hang

1242
01:07:41.175 --> 01:07:42.175
their heads in shame.

1243

01:07:43.245 --> 01:07:46.615

Without their complicity, we wouldn't need to be here today.

1244

01:07:49.025 --> 01:07:51.625

I feel completely helpless to prevent our countryside

1245

01:07:52.045 --> 01:07:55.945

as I know it being converted into an industrial wasteland.

1246

01:07:56.605 --> 01:07:58.385

But I would thought that I would never be able

1247

01:07:58.385 --> 01:08:02.105

to look my grandchildren in the eye if I simply did nothing.

1248

01:08:04.075 --> 01:08:05.615

The effect on people surrounded

1249

01:08:05.615 --> 01:08:08.295

by panels will only be measured by history.

1250

01:08:09.185 --> 01:08:11.855

These schemes will damage the mental health of thousands

1251

01:08:12.235 --> 01:08:13.295

for many years to come.

1252

01:08:15.125 --> 01:08:18.425

Really, all the arguments have already been put forward till

1253

01:08:18.425 --> 01:08:20.585

we are blue in the face and there's no point in going

1254

01:08:20.585 --> 01:08:22.545

through them again when nobody listens.

1255

01:08:23.685 --> 01:08:25.425

If these schemes are allowed to go ahead,

1256

01:08:26.045 --> 01:08:28.945
you can sign a vast area of rural England

1257
01:08:29.285 --> 01:08:30.665
to a soulless wilderness.

1258
01:08:31.885 --> 01:08:34.905
You and the developers will have

1259
01:08:34.905 --> 01:08:36.065
changed our countryside forever.

1260
01:08:37.255 --> 01:08:39.015
I urge you to hold these proposals.

1261
01:08:39.385 --> 01:08:42.215
It'll be your legacy to the people who live here

1262
01:08:42.275 --> 01:08:45.135
and work here if you allow them to go ahead.

1263
01:08:46.075 --> 01:08:47.135
And it's just plain wrong

1264
01:08:47.135 --> 01:08:50.135
to put solar panels at this level on our countryside.

1265
01:08:56.185 --> 01:09:00.135
Thank you, Mr. Rose. Uh, we'll now hear from

1266
01:09:01.945 --> 01:09:04.305
a Carol Montgomery, please.

1267
01:09:10.905 --> 01:09:11.915
Good morning. Good morning.

1268
01:09:13.395 --> 01:09:15.815
Um, I'm a, a resident of Glenworth.

1269
01:09:18.245 --> 01:09:21.705
Um, I've lived in Glenworth with my husband

1270

01:09:22.525 --> 01:09:25.345

and, uh, a range of dogs for 26 years now.

1271

01:09:26.285 --> 01:09:29.025

Uh, the village sits on the slope of the Lincolnshire edge

1272

01:09:29.245 --> 01:09:30.465

or the cliff as it's known

1273

01:09:31.005 --> 01:09:33.425

and has opened expansive views out over

1274

01:09:33.425 --> 01:09:34.545

the till vale to the west.

1275

01:09:34.645 --> 01:09:38.225

As you drive along the top road, the B 1 3 9 8,

1276

01:09:38.885 --> 01:09:41.585

and I'm hoping that whoever's making this decision will

1277

01:09:41.635 --> 01:09:43.905

drive that route and look at the views.

1278

01:09:45.045 --> 01:09:47.545

As you know, these views are designated as an area

1279

01:09:47.545 --> 01:09:48.945

of great landscape value,

1280

01:09:49.715 --> 01:09:52.815

and the value of course is to the people who live here,

1281

01:09:52.815 --> 01:09:54.575

work here, and travel through the area.

1282

01:09:56.105 --> 01:09:59.195

This view is specifically listed in our neighborhood plan

1283

01:09:59.925 --> 01:10:02.145
and was highlighted as of great importance

1284
01:10:02.145 --> 01:10:03.385
to the people in our parish.

1285
01:10:04.485 --> 01:10:06.495
Well, the reasons is for the enjoyment

1286
01:10:06.495 --> 01:10:09.135
and feeling of wellbeing that I get from being surrounded

1287
01:10:09.135 --> 01:10:11.615
by open space, the lack of noise,

1288
01:10:11.715 --> 01:10:13.135
the fresh air and the nature.

1289
01:10:14.595 --> 01:10:16.125
Many people choose to live in the city

1290
01:10:16.125 --> 01:10:17.365
because they love the hustle

1291
01:10:17.425 --> 01:10:21.005
and bustle, the noise, the access to facilities and services

1292
01:10:21.185 --> 01:10:22.685
and wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

1293
01:10:23.815 --> 01:10:26.225
Then there are people like me who couldn't abide

1294
01:10:26.285 --> 01:10:28.945
to live in a city who hate noise and built up areas

1295
01:10:29.525 --> 01:10:32.345
and choose to make sacrifices to live in the countryside.

1296
01:10:32.925 --> 01:10:35.685
We don't have access to Superfast broadband.

1297

01:10:36.305 --> 01:10:38.645

We don't have easy access to shops, theaters,

1298

01:10:39.045 --> 01:10:40.925

restaurants, trains, buses.

1299

01:10:41.825 --> 01:10:43.565

In fact, I think we have one bus a day

1300

01:10:43.565 --> 01:10:45.725

that goes along the top road if we're lucky.

1301

01:10:46.915 --> 01:10:48.495

But we make the sacrifices

1302

01:10:48.495 --> 01:10:50.615

because we value the benefit we get from living

1303

01:10:50.755 --> 01:10:51.935

in out in green space.

1304

01:10:53.675 --> 01:10:57.545

Every time I drive along the B 1 3, 9, 8, either to Curt

1305

01:10:57.545 --> 01:11:00.865

and Lindsay or inter Lincoln are taking the views

1306

01:11:02.505 --> 01:11:04.705

wherever you are along the road, you can see from miles

1307

01:11:05.305 --> 01:11:08.345

swinging from the north to the west and over to the south,

1308

01:11:09.185 --> 01:11:10.725

and it's calming and relaxing.

1309

01:11:11.465 --> 01:11:12.565

And you know what,

1310

01:11:19.715 --> 01:11:20.725
feel free to take a minute.

1311
01:11:23.125 --> 01:11:25.695
When I drive along there, I get choked up now

1312
01:11:27.805 --> 01:11:30.425
at the thought of what it could be in the future.

1313
01:11:30.605 --> 01:11:35.305
If this goes ahead at the moment, sorry.

1314
01:11:37.985 --> 01:11:40.445
At the moment, my husband and I go for a bike ride.

1315
01:11:40.585 --> 01:11:42.725
We walk our dogs around the local lanes

1316
01:11:43.515 --> 01:11:46.255
and we feel relatively safe because it's quiet

1317
01:11:46.675 --> 01:11:49.655
and there's not much traffic on summer days.

1318
01:11:50.685 --> 01:11:53.305
It's so quiet that if you just stop

1319
01:11:53.305 --> 01:11:56.345
and take a minute, you can hear the sky locks,

1320
01:11:56.365 --> 01:11:58.825
the black birds, the robins, all of the birds

1321
01:11:58.825 --> 01:12:03.175
that we have singing around you and in our garden at night.

1322
01:12:03.275 --> 01:12:05.095
We can hear the racket of the hundreds

1323
01:12:05.095 --> 01:12:07.135
of geese on Northlands Road Reservoir

1324

01:12:07.715 --> 01:12:09.055
as they settle in for the night.

1325

01:12:09.275 --> 01:12:10.335
The same reservoir

1326

01:12:10.885 --> 01:12:13.935
that would only have a single track lane separating it from

1327

01:12:13.935 --> 01:12:16.775
these four and a half meter high solar panels.

1328

01:12:19.025 --> 01:12:21.435
This till bridge solar project, as we all know,

1329

01:12:22.215 --> 01:12:24.355
is the largest of four that have been planned

1330

01:12:24.355 --> 01:12:25.795
for the arable land between Lincoln

1331

01:12:25.815 --> 01:12:28.675
and Gainsborough, two of which are already approved.

1332

01:12:29.695 --> 01:12:32.275
If you could see a full mock-up of the view from

1333

01:12:32.275 --> 01:12:35.715
that top road, once these solar installations are in place,

1334

01:12:36.215 --> 01:12:39.555
the whole landscape that is currently fields and hedges

1335

01:12:39.555 --> 01:12:41.835
and woodland would be solar panels.

1336

01:12:43.745 --> 01:12:46.005
The only two places in the world at the moment

1337

01:12:46.005 --> 01:12:49.925
that have this vast density of solar, uh, China and India,

1338

01:12:50.145 --> 01:12:52.885
and they're out in the deserts in unpopulated areas.

1339

01:12:54.495 --> 01:12:55.765
These four proposals

1340

01:12:55.765 --> 01:12:59.125
for West Lindsay are within a six mile radius on productive

1341

01:12:59.125 --> 01:13:02.085
farmland, which is home to hundreds if not thousands

1342

01:13:02.085 --> 01:13:05.565
of people in 32 village communities and farms.

1343

01:13:07.425 --> 01:13:11.285
As far as I can gather, the solution, believe it or not,

1344

01:13:11.605 --> 01:13:13.645
provided by the solar companies, is

1345

01:13:13.665 --> 01:13:17.605
to plant hedges all along the top route and screen the lot.

1346

01:13:17.865 --> 01:13:22.695
So we don't see anything really. That is the answer.

1347

01:13:24.395 --> 01:13:27.075
I also want to ask what impact assessment has been done on

1348

01:13:27.075 --> 01:13:28.915
the harms to people's health and wellbeing

1349

01:13:29.945 --> 01:13:31.645
and how it is being assessed?

1350

01:13:31.855 --> 01:13:32.925
Who's being spoken to?

1351

01:13:34.095 --> 01:13:36.475

Before this all started, I could sleep for England.

1352

01:13:36.735 --> 01:13:39.755

Now though, when I go to bed, I lay awake in the dark

1353

01:13:39.775 --> 01:13:42.035

and I think about this threat hanging over our heads

1354

01:13:42.535 --> 01:13:43.795

and how we can fight it.

1355

01:13:44.185 --> 01:13:47.115

What can we say, what can we do going over

1356

01:13:47.135 --> 01:13:49.355

and over what I could say today to you

1357

01:13:49.425 --> 01:13:50.715

that would make any difference?

1358

01:13:51.705 --> 01:13:53.105

I get butterflies in my stomach.

1359

01:13:53.425 --> 01:13:56.465

I, I feel my chest tightening with the worry and anxiety.

1360

01:13:56.785 --> 01:13:57.105

I feel

1361

01:14:01.575 --> 01:14:01.925

sorry.

1362

01:14:13.940 --> 01:14:17.265

Then I wake in the morning about four or five and it's dark

1363

01:14:17.265 --> 01:14:18.625

and it starts all over again.

1364

01:14:19.295 --> 01:14:22.295
It's exhausting. In one

1365
01:14:22.295 --> 01:14:25.895
of Stan's speeches I heard last week, he said

1366
01:14:25.895 --> 01:14:28.055
that the government's plans are to serve the interests

1367
01:14:28.055 --> 01:14:29.575
of the people and

1368
01:14:29.575 --> 01:14:31.655
that he would tread lightly on people's lives.

1369
01:14:32.775 --> 01:14:36.235
How can replacing such vast areas of food producing land

1370
01:14:36.295 --> 01:14:38.555
and the most inefficient method of producing energy,

1371
01:14:38.555 --> 01:14:41.795
being the interest to people, how is it

1372
01:14:42.025 --> 01:14:45.195
that imposing such massive ugly damage changes the

1373
01:14:45.195 --> 01:14:46.715
environment and the use of land

1374
01:14:47.315 --> 01:14:48.675
treading lightly on our lives?

1375
01:14:49.635 --> 01:14:52.495
And a direct quote from spokesperson from the department

1376
01:14:52.495 --> 01:14:55.975
for energy and net zero that I read last week was

1377
01:14:55.975 --> 01:14:59.455
that securing Britain's clean energy future will require

1378

01:14:59.485 --> 01:15:00.855
improving infrastructure

1379

01:15:01.195 --> 01:15:03.175
to get renewable electricity on the grid.

1380

01:15:03.825 --> 01:15:06.335
Where communities live nearby this infrastructure,

1381

01:15:06.795 --> 01:15:09.215
it is right, they should benefit directly from it.

1382

01:15:10.425 --> 01:15:12.785
I want someone to explain to me, please,

1383

01:15:14.045 --> 01:15:15.665
how would we benefit directly?

1384

01:15:18.575 --> 01:15:20.635
The only winners here are the solar companies

1385

01:15:20.695 --> 01:15:21.875
and those working with them

1386

01:15:22.015 --> 01:15:24.475
who will make obscene profits from the subsidies they'll

1387

01:15:24.475 --> 01:15:27.235
receive funded by us, the taxpayer,

1388

01:15:28.105 --> 01:15:30.165
and when the construction starts, they'll walk away.

1389

01:15:30.435 --> 01:15:33.145
They don't live here. They don't have to live

1390

01:15:33.305 --> 01:15:36.355
with the consequences where they have everything

1391

01:15:36.355 --> 01:15:37.675
to gain and nothing to lose.

1392
01:15:37.815 --> 01:15:40.435
We have nothing to gain and everything to lose.

1393
01:15:41.135 --> 01:15:42.925
There is no positive in this for us.

1394
01:15:43.705 --> 01:15:45.045
We won't be able to walk away.

1395
01:15:45.545 --> 01:15:47.165
No one will want to buy a house in the

1396
01:15:47.165 --> 01:15:48.285
middle of a construction site.

1397
01:15:48.285 --> 01:15:50.885
The likes that hasn't been seen before in this country.

1398
01:15:51.815 --> 01:15:55.045
We'll have to live through years of construction noise

1399
01:15:55.065 --> 01:15:58.365
and pollution of traffic congestion as construction

1400
01:15:58.365 --> 01:16:02.325
and delivery lorries, blocker par lanes for it to be unsafe

1401
01:16:02.325 --> 01:16:05.205
to go out for local bike rides or a wart due to the size

1402
01:16:05.205 --> 01:16:08.245
and amount of construction vehicles to be surrounded

1403
01:16:08.345 --> 01:16:09.765
by security fencing

1404
01:16:09.765 --> 01:16:12.405
and lighting with to live with the threat

1405

01:16:12.405 --> 01:16:14.765

of battery fires giving off poisonous gases

1406

01:16:15.225 --> 01:16:18.125

and the knowledge that this is it for the rest of my life

1407

01:16:18.465 --> 01:16:20.325

and probably many of those in the room today.

1408

01:16:21.285 --> 01:16:25.145

How do you cope with that? Can you imagine

1409

01:16:25.145 --> 01:16:27.025

that toll it will take on people's mental health?

1410

01:16:28.545 --> 01:16:31.085

And on top of this, we have the highest energy bills in the

1411

01:16:31.085 --> 01:16:33.845

world due to the huge levy we all have to pay

1412

01:16:34.105 --> 01:16:36.045

for this suicidal race to net zero.

1413

01:16:36.985 --> 01:16:38.045

And what about the animals

1414

01:16:38.045 --> 01:16:41.325

and birds that are sensitive to noise and vibration?

1415

01:16:41.785 --> 01:16:43.965

The area will be a wildlife wasteland.

1416

01:16:45.865 --> 01:16:48.385

I know that the process of plenty applications are strictly

1417

01:16:48.385 --> 01:16:51.225

laid out and followed with pages and pages of tick boxes.

1418

01:16:52.005 --> 01:16:53.625
But how many tick boxes are there

1419
01:16:53.625 --> 01:16:55.505
regarding the ethics of a project?

1420
01:16:55.935 --> 01:16:57.425
Assessing the human cost,

1421
01:16:57.965 --> 01:17:00.665
asking whether the project is morally right or not.

1422
01:17:02.505 --> 01:17:04.085
And if it's not enough to deal with,

1423
01:17:04.505 --> 01:17:06.645
we have the IGAs oil drilling site,

1424
01:17:06.655 --> 01:17:09.365
which is on the western side of Glenworth next

1425
01:17:09.365 --> 01:17:12.125
to the reservoir and within the proposed side

1426
01:17:12.125 --> 01:17:13.685
of the Till Bridge Solar Farm.

1427
01:17:14.265 --> 01:17:15.845
And this was given planning permission

1428
01:17:15.845 --> 01:17:17.165
for expansion last year.

1429
01:17:18.125 --> 01:17:19.615
This will mean construction traffic

1430
01:17:19.615 --> 01:17:21.135
through the village day and night.

1431
01:17:21.635 --> 01:17:23.135
The creation of a new pipeline.

1432

01:17:23.195 --> 01:17:27.655

The movement up to a hundred HGV tankers per day during five

1433

01:17:27.655 --> 01:17:31.275

of the seven phases of the project production is expected

1434

01:17:31.275 --> 01:17:33.075

to be for up to 21 years.

1435

01:17:34.245 --> 01:17:36.815

This must be taken into account as part

1436

01:17:36.815 --> 01:17:40.135

of the cumulative impact of the rest of the solar projects.

1437

01:17:41.575 --> 01:17:43.685

We're constantly told quite rightly

1438

01:17:43.685 --> 01:17:44.885

that the number one priority

1439

01:17:44.885 --> 01:17:46.845

for the government is food security.

1440

01:17:48.035 --> 01:17:49.745

There are places in the world today

1441

01:17:49.745 --> 01:17:52.185

where people do live without electricity,

1442

01:17:52.445 --> 01:17:54.425

but nobody can live without food.

1443

01:17:55.305 --> 01:17:57.055

We've seen over the last four years

1444

01:17:57.235 --> 01:18:00.055

how quickly the will can change with disease

1445

01:18:00.155 --> 01:18:02.455
and war, closing down population movement

1446
01:18:02.475 --> 01:18:04.375
and threatening energy and food supplies.

1447
01:18:04.715 --> 01:18:07.455
We must protect our food producing land

1448
01:18:08.225 --> 01:18:09.965
and our ability to feed ourselves.

1449
01:18:10.425 --> 01:18:13.565
And just lastly, and I know somebody's already said this

1450
01:18:13.565 --> 01:18:16.325
already, but I have to say that the decisions

1451
01:18:16.325 --> 01:18:19.605
for these projects now lying in the hands of Ed Milliband,

1452
01:18:21.205 --> 01:18:22.845
regardless of the recommendations

1453
01:18:22.845 --> 01:18:24.765
of the planning inspectorate, which we saw

1454
01:18:24.965 --> 01:18:26.765
with the Sonica Solar Farm,

1455
01:18:27.725 --> 01:18:31.485
I have lost all faith in the cons consultation process.

1456
01:18:32.885 --> 01:18:35.885
I don't feel that we matter. Our futures don't matter.

1457
01:18:36.465 --> 01:18:37.685
Our views and objections,

1458
01:18:37.685 --> 01:18:39.165
however valid they are, don't matter.

1459

01:18:39.625 --> 01:18:41.645

And our health and wellbeing doesn't matter

1460

01:18:42.385 --> 01:18:46.445

if one man on a mission can swipe away all aside

1461

01:18:46.465 --> 01:18:49.285

and approve every every application that comes his way.

1462

01:18:50.365 --> 01:18:51.365

Thank you.

1463

01:18:54.485 --> 01:18:56.355

Thank you, Mrs. Montgomery. Montgomery, sorry.

1464

01:18:56.535 --> 01:18:58.915

Um, I could just remind all, uh, interested parties.

1465

01:18:59.135 --> 01:19:02.235

Um, if you could please refrain from letting out private

1466

01:19:02.235 --> 01:19:03.235

medical information.

1467

01:19:03.695 --> 01:19:05.075

All we're trying to do is protect your privacy

1468

01:19:05.355 --> 01:19:06.675

'cause we're going out live on the internet.

1469

01:19:06.775 --> 01:19:08.195

Uh, and we have a duty to do that.

1470

01:19:08.255 --> 01:19:10.915

And it means we also have to go back into our documentation,

1471

01:19:10.975 --> 01:19:13.475

redact all that information, take it out of the video,

1472

01:19:13.745 --> 01:19:15.475
take it out of the transcripts and everything.

1473
01:19:15.615 --> 01:19:16.915
You are more than welcome to write to us.

1474
01:19:16.915 --> 01:19:18.395
We will take into consideration could,

1475
01:19:18.395 --> 01:19:20.675
we can then redact it in our written information

1476
01:19:20.775 --> 01:19:22.155
and make sure it doesn't get published.

1477
01:19:22.495 --> 01:19:25.435
But we'd rather you didn't disclose your own private medical

1478
01:19:25.435 --> 01:19:28.675
information or, or of your family or live to the world.

1479
01:19:28.765 --> 01:19:29.765
Thank you.

1480
01:19:36.065 --> 01:19:37.235
Okay. Thank you Mr. Eley.

1481
01:19:37.255 --> 01:19:38.715
Uh, I think we'll just hear from

1482
01:19:39.915 --> 01:19:42.975
one more interested party then we'll break afterwards.

1483
01:19:43.355 --> 01:19:47.575
Um, so could I please hear from Sue Bingham?

1484
01:19:59.705 --> 01:20:00.195
Good morning.

1485
01:20:00.665 --> 01:20:01.155
Good morning.

1486

01:20:05.735 --> 01:20:06.585

June might be better.

1487

01:20:16.035 --> 01:20:18.455

I'm from a fourth generation family farm

1488

01:20:19.435 --> 01:20:22.695

of 300 acres on grade three land.

1489

01:20:23.355 --> 01:20:27.795

Our 300 acres might give you a sense of scale

1490

01:20:28.935 --> 01:20:33.875

of potentially over 13,000 acres of solar industrialization.

1491

01:20:34.155 --> 01:20:35.675

I will not call them farms

1492

01:20:37.155 --> 01:20:40.655

of quiet countryside within a six mile radius.

1493

01:20:42.625 --> 01:20:44.835

This is emotional for all of us

1494

01:20:45.825 --> 01:20:48.835

that have been compelling, educated,

1495

01:20:49.335 --> 01:20:54.155

and far more eloquent arguments that I agree with entirely.

1496

01:20:54.695 --> 01:20:57.875

So I've crossed out quite a lot of what I wanted to say.

1497

01:20:58.295 --> 01:21:00.395

Be in the interest of repetition.

1498

01:21:13.375 --> 01:21:16.755

You may, may think this is emotional and it certainly is.

1499

01:21:17.955 --> 01:21:19.475
I make no apologies for that.

1500
01:21:20.395 --> 01:21:23.115
I have lived and worked in the area

1501
01:21:23.815 --> 01:21:26.315
and it is too precious not to fight for.

1502
01:21:29.365 --> 01:21:31.625
We all know this is not clean

1503
01:21:31.965 --> 01:21:35.625
or green energy when you factor in the manufacture,

1504
01:21:35.685 --> 01:21:37.985
transportation and construction,

1505
01:21:38.365 --> 01:21:39.985
and it certainly won't be cheap.

1506
01:21:41.655 --> 01:21:43.005
There has been a cynical

1507
01:21:43.025 --> 01:21:45.765
and deliberate drip feed of applications

1508
01:21:46.265 --> 01:21:49.645
and a gross misuse of the NIPS procedures.

1509
01:21:51.515 --> 01:21:53.995
I think the purpose of these applications is

1510
01:21:53.995 --> 01:21:58.115
to feed a power hungry, new raft of AI data centers

1511
01:21:58.655 --> 01:22:01.075
and nothing to do with domestic consumers.

1512
01:22:03.565 --> 01:22:08.385
It seems Lincolnshire a huge food producing county

1513

01:22:09.325 --> 01:22:13.945

is expected to bear a heavy burden for the greater good.

1514

01:22:15.635 --> 01:22:19.775

We are told for the greater good of who profits

1515

01:22:19.775 --> 01:22:24.465

of foreign investors I feel, and not just solar,

1516

01:22:24.645 --> 01:22:27.665

but pylons, best substations

1517

01:22:27.965 --> 01:22:29.945

or the associated infrastructure.

1518

01:22:32.575 --> 01:22:36.035

And these cumulative effects are being repeated

1519

01:22:36.335 --> 01:22:37.355

across the country.

1520

01:22:37.585 --> 01:22:38.755

Nowhere is safe.

1521

01:22:39.445 --> 01:22:40.635

There are thousands

1522

01:22:40.655 --> 01:22:44.555

and thousands of acres of good

1523

01:22:45.525 --> 01:22:47.765

agricultural land across the country,

1524

01:22:48.985 --> 01:22:51.725

and they're going to be industrialized and ruined.

1525

01:22:53.225 --> 01:22:57.865

Indeed, this cumulative effect is across the world.

1526

01:23:01.715 --> 01:23:04.325
Rainforests are being destroyed

1527
01:23:05.305 --> 01:23:08.525
and yet no one in the western world

1528
01:23:08.525 --> 01:23:10.365
or anywhere else is doing anything

1529
01:23:10.425 --> 01:23:13.765
to address those problems, the lungs of the world.

1530
01:23:14.465 --> 01:23:17.045
So, hey, hey. I wonder why there's a lot of carbon.

1531
01:23:19.675 --> 01:23:23.435
Stanstead airport is going to be massively increased

1532
01:23:24.155 --> 01:23:28.565
apparently, and yet our cow cows

1533
01:23:29.075 --> 01:23:32.525
farting in the countryside contribute more to the problem.

1534
01:23:35.785 --> 01:23:37.035
I'll speak. As a farmer

1535
01:23:38.455 --> 01:23:41.825
this year has seen the second worst harvest on record

1536
01:23:42.445 --> 01:23:44.785
and fears are growing for next year

1537
01:23:45.175 --> 01:23:47.305
with the heavy rainfall we've had.

1538
01:23:48.655 --> 01:23:52.805
Confidence in the agricultural industry is at a real low

1539
01:23:53.665 --> 01:23:58.645
all at a time when food security should be up there with

1540

01:23:58.645 --> 01:23:59.765
that of energy.

1541

01:24:01.145 --> 01:24:04.625
Harvests are not a given and land

1542

01:24:05.205 --> 01:24:09.705
and the environment it supports are a finite resource.

1543

01:24:18.075 --> 01:24:20.005
Till bridge is the biggest application

1544

01:24:20.225 --> 01:24:22.165
so far at almost three

1545

01:24:22.165 --> 01:24:25.685
and a half thousand acres, remember our farm

1546

01:24:25.985 --> 01:24:27.645
of 300 acres.

1547

01:24:30.315 --> 01:24:34.665
Solar has its place, but that place should be on rooftops

1548

01:24:34.665 --> 01:24:38.225
and brownfield sites, not on rural areas.

1549

01:24:39.405 --> 01:24:41.945
The cumulative effect of the many

1550

01:24:42.045 --> 01:24:44.305
and increasing demands on our land

1551

01:24:44.725 --> 01:24:49.185
and the industrialization of our precious green spaces

1552

01:24:50.175 --> 01:24:54.385
will I fear be disastrous in years to come.

1553

01:24:55.495 --> 01:24:57.195
We need clean green energy,

1554
01:24:57.815 --> 01:25:00.275
but this is most certainly not

1555
01:25:00.495 --> 01:25:05.225
it. Thank you.

1556
01:25:05.835 --> 01:25:06.745
Thank you Mr. Bingham.

1557
01:25:11.915 --> 01:25:12.915
Yeah.

1558
01:25:18.195 --> 01:25:20.765
Okay. So we're going to take a break now.

1559
01:25:20.795 --> 01:25:22.525
15 minutes or just over.

1560
01:25:22.745 --> 01:25:26.405
So we'll be returning at um, 1145.

1561
01:25:27.305 --> 01:25:31.895
Um, so 1145, the hearing will resume.

1562
01:25:32.035 --> 01:25:33.615
Uh, the hearing is now adjourned.