

From: [Anna Leckey](#)
To: [Tillbridge Solar Project](#)
Subject: Tillbridge Solar. My Representation.
Date: 04 November 2024 22:25:11

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Dear Inspectorate,

I wish to send in my comment following the publishing of the open hearing recording for the Tillbridge Solar project. I was unable to attend a hearing during the day and hope to attend an evening hearing.

In brief, I echo many of the objections raised in the meeting but specifically I wish to add...

I am a resident of Springthorpe, having recently brought my young family to the area in preparation for my husband's approaching retirement from the British Military. Our community, like many here, is small. We live quiet lives, we walk, cycle and live among the farmers who grow and rear the food that this country relies upon. What I cannot understand is why it is even being considered to remove high yield food producing land in favour of a renewable energy solution that has alternative options to appear on other places-on rooftops – or where other renewable energy such as wind could be used concurrently with farmed fields. To think the idea that converting these fields away from food production on such a large scale, taking into the account the accumulative effect with the other 3 large solar farms (2 confirmed so far) in a 6 mile radius, is ludicrous, particularly when we've seen the last 10 days of an October month engulfed in low cloud cover that would prevent any solar energy production at a time of year when the evenings are dark. Why are we taking away food producing capability for this?

It does worry me, the day-to-day reality, of living next to these solar farms. The communication we have had from Tillbridge solar, is the bright and cheery marketing brochures showing an array of discrete solar panels set in pastures of green countryside. These panels will be in fields that we cannot walk through. When you sit down and work out the actual size of the proposed solar panels themselves, these are a far cry from the images depicted in the brochures. These panels, larger than any I've ever seen to date, will loom over the small single track roads and footpaths. They will be evident for years before any trees or hedgerows even attempt to reach their height and the fences isolating our local wildlife of their natural roaming habits. The result will be a complete and utter change of the whole environment in which we live. To be suddenly thrust into living in an industrialised area of 12 foot fences and looming solar panels fills me with dread. For those who have lived in these rural areas for decades – I cannot begin to think what effect this will have on their mental health and well-being. The communities as we know it will crumble.

Personally, I have a fear about the battery storage. When we hear from the fire brigade of increased incidents of fires from battery items purchased from China, it fills me with dread that I will be living beside huge batteries, made in China, that sit in our fields. Fields that during the summer can become tinder dry when the temperature reaches 40° – as it has done. And do I need to point out that any fires from these batteries cannot be put out and emit extremely dangerous toxins.

Tillbridge Solar have attempted in no way to correct the rumour that I hear discussed over and over again that our energy bills will be lower as a result of the proposal. They have

also offered no compensation, recognition, sympathy or understanding of how this scheme will detrimentally affect the rural communities it will engulf. It is indisputable that this scheme will change the environment in which we live but the developer has extended no olive branch, or offer of help to try to rebuild, or maintain a good community within these affected villages. Who will want to buy our houses within an industrialised solar Park?

Who will buy our houses in an area where there are no jobs when the farming supply chains move elsewhere?

The knock-on impacts of granting this proposal are not worth thinking about. The whole idea is ludicrous and a poorly thought out solution to Britain's energy solution. It doesn't take a genius to listen to the experts who know about this to understand that this is not a sensible route to be taking. I beg the inspectorate to refuse permission.

With kind regards
Anna Leckey

Sent from my iPad