

Open hearing statement summary.

This was the 4th planning inspector I have sat in front of and it gets harder every time seeing the upset and worry it is causing residents and the realisation that it makes no sense whatsoever. The evidence and cogent arguments from 7000 acres have convinced me that these applications are nothing to do with clean , green or cheap energy and everything to do with massive profiteering. Under the banner of climate change, how can it make sense to destroy the very environment we are purporting to protect?

So many problems, these are just a few:

Anglesey solar panels damaged in a storm - how can that be avoided?

Is local weather affected by a micro climate around a vast array of panels?

Chinese involvement- potential for sabotage and spying.

AI, the government's hope of economic growth but needs a vast amount of power. Is that what this is all for?

If this is passed our communities will need a local liaison contact in case of accidents and emergencies. And there will be such incidents with HGV plant and machinery on narrow, rural lanes, Bess fires, water pollution and criminal activity around the storage compounds and panels and a totally industrialised area.

There are sinister motives behind much of what has been thrown at farmers over the last few months and I believe it amounts to a land grab.

I fear for the future of our communities and environment.

Issue specific hearing Wednesday

Medical professionals had assembled to examine the Applicant's Health, Safety and Wellbeing report and notwithstanding the sad bereavement of the author of that report, it was very disappointing that the applicant could not present their findings. Was there no one else who could have done it or does this demonstrate the weight given to this by the applicant?

I look forward with interest to seeing the report.

It was my first time at an Issue specific meeting and I thought 7000 acres group were by far the most well prepared and knowledgeable participants. The applicant seemed to have a lack of preparation, avoidance of answering questions and a fall back to 'professional judgment' and box ticking rather than showing any real care and concern for the situation. Again, is this a reflection of how they feel about the process?

A few thoughts from the morning:

Would there be any toxic fall out or deposits on surrounding land from any Bess fires?

Do the applicants have details of land drainage, especially field drainage layouts from individual farmers?

2.5/3 m hedges will take upwards of 20 years to grow. What kind of native hedge species will be used; hopefully not leylandii?! At present, cars, cyclists, pedestrians or horses can pull in to gateways or verges to avoid oncoming traffic on the narrow country lanes. That would not be possible if there was a continuous hedge line .

I was unable to stay for the afternoon session much as I wanted to given the subjects on the agenda.