

7000 Acres in an email of 19 January 2025 has brought to my attention an issue, which given my expertise on health and safety matters, could have a significant impact on the viability of such large industrialisation projects as Tillbridge solar. First my expertise. I am now retired, but was a Chartered Engineer and Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology. For the last 20 years plus of my working life I was a consultant involved in ensuring compliance with the the Health and Safety at Work act in the implementation of major software-intensive systems, etc. I worked in many industrial sectors on major projects, but the majority of my work was ensuring compliance with air traffic safety. I was asked to lecture many times on the safety of critical systems both in the UK, Europe and Australia.

So what is my concern? I am now aware of the enormous scale of the increase in traffic on the country roads in the Tillbridge area. These roads, many of which are single carriageway, were not built for such traffic volumes, to enable the industrialisation of an area of land the size of the local town Gainsborough. Clearly there is a greatly increased risk of injury or death to people using these roads on foot or in a vehicle. In such a situation, to avoid breaking the law, the Health and Safety at Work Act implicitly mandates a risk assessment should be undertaken and appropriate measures put in place.

Therefore, please advise me what risk assessment has (or will) take place before the project is judged safe to proceed. Importantly, we need to know before the project is given the go ahead, what safety measures will be necessary. Will this involve road closures which could have a significant impact on the local economy?