



Hearing Transcript

Project:	EN010142 - Tillbridge Solar Project
Hearing:	Open Floor Hearing 2 (OFH2)
Date:	14 January 2025

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.

Produced by event.video

1

00:00:01.595 --> 00:00:01.885

Okay.

2

00:00:03.595 --> 00:00:05.365

Okay. Good evening.

3

00:00:07.265 --> 00:00:10.165

It is 6:02 PM

4

00:00:10.465 --> 00:00:13.725

and this open floor hearing is now open.

5

00:00:15.705 --> 00:00:19.365

Um, I'd like to welcome you all to this open floor hearing,

6

00:00:19.825 --> 00:00:21.845

uh, for the Till Bridge Solar Project.

7

00:00:23.025 --> 00:00:25.965

Uh, can I just confirm that everyone can hear me clearly?

8

00:00:27.615 --> 00:00:31.955

That's good. Uh, could I also the case manager,

9

00:00:32.135 --> 00:00:35.115

Robert Cook, uh, that the live streaming

10

00:00:35.495 --> 00:00:37.475

and recording of this event has commenced?

11

00:00:44.715 --> 00:00:45.975

Yes. Excellent.

12

00:00:46.995 --> 00:00:48.735

Uh, my name is Luke Simpson

13

00:00:48.875 --> 00:00:50.535

and I am a member of the panel

14

00:00:50.755 --> 00:00:54.255

of examining inspectors appointed by the SPECT state

15

00:00:54.555 --> 00:00:56.375

to examine this application.

16

00:00:58.115 --> 00:01:00.295

My professional background is in town planning

17

00:01:00.315 --> 00:01:01.895

and I'm a chartered member,

18

00:01:01.995 --> 00:01:03.615

the Royal Town Planning Institute.

19

00:01:04.095 --> 00:01:06.655

I will be taking us through the agenda today,

20

00:01:07.315 --> 00:01:10.175

but I'm now going to hand over to my colleague

21

00:01:10.175 --> 00:01:11.295

and panel lead, Mr.

22

00:01:11.595 --> 00:01:12.975

Ely to introduce himself.

23

00:01:14.625 --> 00:01:17.415

Thank you, Mr. Simpson. My name is Nicholas Ely.

24

00:01:17.525 --> 00:01:19.575

I've also been appointed to this panel by the Secretary

25

00:01:19.575 --> 00:01:21.335

of State to examine this application

26

00:01:21.835 --> 00:01:24.255

and my professional background is in engineering in

27

00:01:24.455 --> 00:01:26.135

construction, and I'm a chartered structural engineer

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00:01:26.135 --> 00:01:28.655

and a chartered construction manager. Thank you.

29

00:01:29.645 --> 00:01:31.055

Okay, thank you Mr. Eley.

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00:01:31.575 --> 00:01:34.055

Together we constitute the examining authority

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00:01:34.355 --> 00:01:35.375

for this application.

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00:01:36.325 --> 00:01:38.335

I'll now deal with a few housekeeping matters

33

00:01:38.435 --> 00:01:40.135

for those attending in person.

34

00:01:41.235 --> 00:01:43.815

Um, could everyone please set all devices

35

00:01:44.115 --> 00:01:47.975

and phones to silent such that we are not disturbed

36

00:01:47.975 --> 00:01:49.855

during today's proceedings?

37

00:01:50.835 --> 00:01:53.695

Uh, the toilets are through those doors

38

00:01:53.795 --> 00:01:54.855

to the rear of the room.

39

00:01:55.315 --> 00:01:58.095

Um, ladies are on the left, gents are on the right

40

00:01:58.155 --> 00:02:01.015

and disabled toilets are in the middle.

41

00:02:02.235 --> 00:02:04.775

As far as I'm aware there aren't any fire drills planned,

42

00:02:04.915 --> 00:02:08.375

but in the event of the fire alarm goes off, please exit

43

00:02:08.375 --> 00:02:13.015

through the doors on the side and convene in the car park.

44

00:02:15.485 --> 00:02:19.135

Okay, so this meeting will follow the agenda published on

45

00:02:19.475 --> 00:02:22.095

the National Infrastructure Planning website on

46

00:02:22.185 --> 00:02:24.455

6th of December, 2024.

47

00:02:25.315 --> 00:02:28.495

The agenda is examination library reference EV

48

00:02:28.595 --> 00:02:31.385

1 0 0 6.

49

00:02:31.965 --> 00:02:33.665

Uh, it would be helpful if you had a copy

50

00:02:33.665 --> 00:02:35.305

of this in front of you all.

51

00:02:35.305 --> 00:02:37.785

No, not essential. Um,

52

00:02:38.805 --> 00:02:41.585

so today's hearing is being undertaken in a hybrid way,

53

00:02:41.695 --> 00:02:46.165

meaning some of you present with us here at at the venue.

54

00:02:46.165 --> 00:02:47.565

There are some of you present at the venue

55

00:02:47.705 --> 00:02:49.685

and some of you're participating virtually

56

00:02:49.905 --> 00:02:50.925

on Microsoft Teams.

57

00:02:52.715 --> 00:02:53.725

However, we'll,

58

00:02:53.755 --> 00:02:56.045

however you are attending today, um,

59

00:02:56.385 --> 00:02:59.805

you'll be given a fair opportunity to participate

60

00:02:59.985 --> 00:03:02.045

for those joining us via Microsoft Teams.

61

00:03:03.105 --> 00:03:07.285

The chat function on Microsoft Teams will not be enabled

62

00:03:07.385 --> 00:03:10.605

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

63

00:03:12.315 --> 00:03:14.525

Also, we will only use the raise hand

64

00:03:15.245 --> 00:03:17.845

function in Microsoft Teams at specific

65

00:03:17.845 --> 00:03:19.325

points in the agenda.

66

00:03:19.515 --> 00:03:23.845

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

67

00:03:24.065 --> 00:03:26.685

who are not able to use that feature an opportunity

68

00:03:26.745 --> 00:03:29.045
to comment at the relevant time.

69

00:03:30.585 --> 00:03:32.805
If you are watching the live stream, then please be aware

70

00:03:32.805 --> 00:03:35.365
that it will be stopped during any adjourns,

71

00:03:35.825 --> 00:03:37.245
uh, for example breaks.

72

00:03:38.425 --> 00:03:40.165
Um, to continue watching the hearing

73

00:03:40.215 --> 00:03:42.005
after any adjournment, you'll need

74

00:03:42.005 --> 00:03:46.245
to refresh your browser page to view the resumed hearing.

75

00:03:48.605 --> 00:03:51.845
A recording of today's hearing will be made available on the

76

00:03:52.115 --> 00:03:54.125
Till Bridge project section

77

00:03:54.345 --> 00:03:58.845
of the National Infrastructure Planning website as soon

78

00:03:58.845 --> 00:03:59.885
as it's practical

79

00:03:59.935 --> 00:04:04.285
after the hearing has finished with this in mind,

80

00:04:04.305 --> 00:04:07.445
please ensure that you speak clearly into the microphone

81

00:04:07.445 --> 00:04:10.485

stating your name and who you are representing.

82

00:04:10.625 --> 00:04:13.605

Please also make sure the microphone is on.

83

00:04:14.085 --> 00:04:17.525

I think it's going to stay on, so there's no need

84

00:04:17.525 --> 00:04:19.725

to continuously turn it on and off.

85

00:04:20.425 --> 00:04:22.685

It just makes everything smoother.

86

00:04:24.065 --> 00:04:27.125

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

87

00:04:27.445 --> 00:04:29.685

provided in the notification for this hearing.

88

00:04:30.105 --> 00:04:33.685

Uh, we assume that everybody here today has familiarized

89

00:04:33.685 --> 00:04:36.605

themselves with this document, which establishes

90

00:04:36.605 --> 00:04:39.405

how your personal data is handled in accordance

91

00:04:39.405 --> 00:04:42.485

with the principles set out in the data protection laws.

92

00:04:43.305 --> 00:04:46.165

But please speak to a member of the case team at the back

93

00:04:46.165 --> 00:04:48.405

of the room if you have any questions about this.

94

00:04:49.625 --> 00:04:52.725

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

95

00:04:52.755 --> 00:04:55.805

that you understand that you will be recorded and that you

96

00:04:55.805 --> 00:04:58.245

therefore consent to the retention

97

00:04:58.345 --> 00:05:01.405

and publication of the digital recording.

98

00:05:02.065 --> 00:05:04.645

Uh, it will only be in the rarest of circumstances

99

00:05:04.675 --> 00:05:07.405

that we might ask you to provide personal information

100

00:05:07.505 --> 00:05:09.765

of the type that most of us would prepare

101

00:05:10.065 --> 00:05:12.085

to keep private or confidential.

102

00:05:13.385 --> 00:05:16.085

Please therefore try your best not to say

103

00:05:16.145 --> 00:05:20.525

or reveal anything that you would wish to remain private

104

00:05:20.905 --> 00:05:23.485

or that is confidential, uh,

105

00:05:23.545 --> 00:05:25.565

or private information relating to someone else.

106

00:05:28.095 --> 00:05:30.275

Uh, if you want to tell us about where you live

107

00:05:30.415 --> 00:05:33.195

as it's relevant to what you have to say, then please try

108

00:05:33.195 --> 00:05:36.115

to give a general location rather than a specific address.

109

00:05:37.335 --> 00:05:40.035

Um, please do speak to a member

110

00:05:40.035 --> 00:05:42.515

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

111

00:05:43.735 --> 00:05:45.875

Uh, we may take a short break at some point,

112

00:05:46.295 --> 00:05:47.715

but it will depend how we progress.

113

00:05:49.215 --> 00:05:52.475

Um, so let's move on to item two on the agenda,

114

00:05:52.475 --> 00:05:54.155

which is the purpose of this hearing.

115

00:05:54.455 --> 00:05:58.605

Um, so we're holding a second open floor hearing today

116

00:05:58.745 --> 00:06:02.085

and it we're holding it in the evening given, uh,

117

00:06:02.085 --> 00:06:05.245

that a number of interested parties requested that we do so

118

00:06:06.305 --> 00:06:08.685

indeed, we want to give you the opportunity

119

00:06:08.745 --> 00:06:09.845

to have your say,

120

00:06:09.895 --> 00:06:12.405

which is why we are holding more than a single,

121

00:06:13.395 --> 00:06:16.805

more than more than the single hearing required under the

122

00:06:16.885 --> 00:06:18.125

Planning Act 2008.

123

00:06:19.505 --> 00:06:22.605

Um, but we do particularly want to hear from people

124

00:06:22.665 --> 00:06:24.965

who have not spoken before today.

125

00:06:26.025 --> 00:06:27.605

As such, we will have to see

126

00:06:27.665 --> 00:06:29.685

how we progress in terms of time.

127

00:06:29.705 --> 00:06:33.245

And it may be that if we run outta time, those of you

128

00:06:33.345 --> 00:06:36.725

who have already spoken can submit representations in

129

00:06:36.725 --> 00:06:38.685

writing by deadline four.

130

00:06:39.585 --> 00:06:42.125

But having said that, we'll see how we progress.

131

00:06:44.075 --> 00:06:45.765

Open floor hearings are your opportunities

132

00:06:45.765 --> 00:06:48.565

to raise anything directly to the examining authority

133

00:06:48.565 --> 00:06:50.165

that you consider is important

134

00:06:50.225 --> 00:06:53.725

and relevant to our examination of this application.

135

00:06:54.745 --> 00:06:56.925

Uh, this open floor hearing is not confined

136

00:06:56.945 --> 00:06:59.085

to a discussion about any particular topic

137

00:07:00.505 --> 00:07:02.605

and it's an important opportunity for you

138

00:07:02.665 --> 00:07:04.365

to put forward your views.

139

00:07:05.275 --> 00:07:08.845

However, if you have made either relevant

140

00:07:08.845 --> 00:07:11.045

or written representations, then your oral

141

00:07:11.685 --> 00:07:13.085

representations should be based

142

00:07:13.785 --> 00:07:15.645

on those written representations.

143

00:07:17.655 --> 00:07:19.395

So the purpose of the hearing is to assist.

144

00:07:19.495 --> 00:07:22.195

Our examination, uh, is not to be used

145

00:07:22.195 --> 00:07:23.795

as a political platform

146

00:07:23.895 --> 00:07:26.715

and any, any attempts to do so will not be tolerated.

147

00:07:27.945 --> 00:07:32.275

Similarly, we will not tolerate disruption such as cheering

148

00:07:32.575 --> 00:07:35.315

or clapping, as this can be intimidating

149

00:07:35.375 --> 00:07:39.795

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

150

00:07:39.795 --> 00:07:40.875

and fair as possible.

151

00:07:42.115 --> 00:07:44.835

I did note some mild disruption when the applicant's

152

00:07:44.835 --> 00:07:46.755

representative was speaking during the last

153

00:07:47.625 --> 00:07:50.075

open floor hearing, uh,

154

00:07:50.175 --> 00:07:53.835

but generally it progressed in a cordial manner.

155

00:07:54.415 --> 00:07:56.075

So please, let's keep it that way.

156

00:07:56.935 --> 00:07:59.655

Um, we're obviously aware

157

00:07:59.655 --> 00:08:03.015

that there are other NIPS proposal consented in the area

158

00:08:03.275 --> 00:08:06.095

and we will be fully considering the cumulative effects

159

00:08:06.235 --> 00:08:09.575

of these developments in formulating our recommendations

160

00:08:09.635 --> 00:08:10.815

to the sexual state.

161

00:08:11.835 --> 00:08:14.895

As such, we will of course take into account representations

162

00:08:14.895 --> 00:08:16.695

relating to cumulative effects.

163

00:08:16.965 --> 00:08:20.055

That said, any representations which you do make today

164

00:08:20.055 --> 00:08:22.375

should be in accordance with the Planning Act 2008,

165

00:08:22.375 --> 00:08:25.815

which means that they must relate to this application.

166

00:08:27.315 --> 00:08:30.055

In addition, uh, we will not hear representations which

167

00:08:30.055 --> 00:08:32.655

relate to the merits of national policy statements.

168

00:08:33.115 --> 00:08:37.935

Uh, section 95 8 at the Planning Act 2008 gives us the

169

00:08:37.935 --> 00:08:40.055

authority to refuse to allow representations

170

00:08:40.055 --> 00:08:42.215

to be made which relate to the merits

171

00:08:42.215 --> 00:08:43.615

of national policy statements.

172

00:08:44.795 --> 00:08:47.375

Uh, I know in particular that we have received one

173

00:08:47.375 --> 00:08:51.055

or two written reps which focus on things like criticisms

174

00:08:51.235 --> 00:08:54.095

of the government's overarching climate change goals

175

00:08:54.155 --> 00:08:56.085

and even the science behind issues

176

00:08:56.095 --> 00:08:57.525
pertaining to climate change.

177

00:08:58.235 --> 00:09:00.965
Such representations won't be heard today, not least

178

00:09:00.965 --> 00:09:03.085
because we can't take them into account

179

00:09:03.085 --> 00:09:04.125
in our recommendation.

180

00:09:06.115 --> 00:09:07.215
Please keep your statements

181

00:09:07.215 --> 00:09:09.575
to five minutes if you're speaking on behalf of yourself

182

00:09:09.575 --> 00:09:12.135
or 10 minutes where you are speaking on behalf

183

00:09:12.135 --> 00:09:14.015
of an organizational group.

184

00:09:15.675 --> 00:09:18.255
Uh, the last open floor hearing there was quite a lot

185

00:09:18.395 --> 00:09:21.575
of overrun and we are very lenient in this regard.

186

00:09:22.035 --> 00:09:25.015
Um, given the number of people in attendance today,

187

00:09:25.015 --> 00:09:26.975
we won't be able to be so lenient.

188

00:09:26.995 --> 00:09:31.015
So we'll be sticking, uh, rigidly to the five minutes

189

00:09:31.155 --> 00:09:34.175

for individuals in 10 minutes for groups and organizations.

190

00:09:35.945 --> 00:09:39.195

Once you've spoken, we may wish to ask you questions,

191

00:09:40.715 --> 00:09:42.555

although I wouldn't worry too much about that

192

00:09:42.555 --> 00:09:45.435

because we didn't ask many questions last time,

193

00:09:46.095 --> 00:09:47.195

so let that put you off.

194

00:09:47.815 --> 00:09:51.115

Um, the applicant will be given an opportunity to respond

195

00:09:51.455 --> 00:09:54.915

to any matters raised once all speakers have been heard

196

00:09:55.815 --> 00:09:59.035

or they may prefer to respond in writing by deadline.

197

00:09:59.065 --> 00:10:02.595

Four. Unlike during the last hearing, we won't be going back

198

00:10:02.595 --> 00:10:05.595

to interested parties after the applicant has spoken, um,

199

00:10:06.645 --> 00:10:08.385

mainly due to time constraints.

200

00:10:09.245 --> 00:10:12.825

You may put forward any additional comments in writing if

201

00:10:12.825 --> 00:10:15.625

you wish to respond to the applicant's oral representations

202

00:10:16.325 --> 00:10:18.585

and the applicant always has the final right for reply.

203

00:10:20.895 --> 00:10:24.305

Okay, moving on to item three, which is oral rep,

204

00:10:24.735 --> 00:10:26.425

oral submissions from interested parties.

205

00:10:28.205 --> 00:10:32.795

Um, I'll firstly hear from those representing groups

206

00:10:32.855 --> 00:10:37.675

and organizations followed by those who have not spoken

207

00:10:37.815 --> 00:10:40.115

before and then time allowing.

208

00:10:40.175 --> 00:10:43.355

We may have time to hear from those who have spoken before,

209

00:10:43.455 --> 00:10:44.595

but that may not be the case.

210

00:10:45.895 --> 00:10:50.155

Um, okay, so I'm just gonna refer to the list,

211

00:10:51.615 --> 00:10:54.905

uh, and okay,

212

00:10:56.645 --> 00:10:58.025

please listen out for your name.

213

00:10:58.485 --> 00:11:03.205

If we've missed you or you've decided to speak today, um,

214

00:11:03.665 --> 00:11:05.565

but are not registered, I'll give you an opportunity

215

00:11:05.825 --> 00:11:08.445

to let me know after I've read the list.

216

00:11:09.355 --> 00:11:12.165

Similarly, if you're listed and you've changed your mind

217

00:11:12.165 --> 00:11:13.325
and you don't want to speak,

218

00:11:13.395 --> 00:11:16.565
I'll also give you an opportunity to, um,

219

00:11:16.925 --> 00:11:18.085
withdraw yourself from the list.

220

00:11:19.515 --> 00:11:22.485
Okay. So speaking first we have,

221

00:11:24.515 --> 00:11:27.015
uh, sir Edward Lee mp

222

00:11:27.755 --> 00:11:31.695
and then John Latham from Glenworth Parish Council

223

00:11:32.425 --> 00:11:36.135
Chair of Glenworth Parish Council, Jillian Proctor

224

00:11:36.155 --> 00:11:37.855
of Spring Fort Parish meeting.

225

00:11:38.785 --> 00:11:41.935
We've got Liz Garbo of 7,000 Acres.

226

00:11:42.555 --> 00:11:45.135
Um, and

227

00:11:47.795 --> 00:11:51.495
Dawn, well, Dawn Johnson.

228

00:11:53.255 --> 00:11:56.085
Sorry, I just, uh, need to rejig this slightly.

229

00:11:57.975 --> 00:12:00.685
We've got Margaret O'Grady, um, on behalf

230

00:12:00.685 --> 00:12:02.125
of Lingham Parish Council.

231

00:12:04.465 --> 00:12:07.285
And then in terms of those, uh, in interested parties

232

00:12:07.345 --> 00:12:09.765
who haven't spoken before, we've got Martin Brown,

233

00:12:11.035 --> 00:12:15.085
mark Pryor, Tim Elwes, Wendy Rose,

234

00:12:16.025 --> 00:12:20.735
Vander Coleman, Rosemary Burke, David Wells,

235

00:12:22.285 --> 00:12:24.735
Sean Todd, Alistair Broadband,

236

00:12:24.785 --> 00:12:27.455
Peter o Grady, Dawn Johnson.

237

00:12:29.755 --> 00:12:32.335
And then we have a list of those who have already spoken

238

00:12:32.395 --> 00:12:35.375
before and they are Andrew Johnson,

239

00:12:37.325 --> 00:12:40.585
uh, Tony kz, Simon Skelton, William Rose

240

00:12:41.105 --> 00:12:44.325
Ingham, And Deborah.

241

00:12:45.235 --> 00:12:49.125
Deborah Luna, although I don't recognize that name.

242

00:12:49.265 --> 00:12:53.045
So it may be that you haven't, uh, already spoken.

243

00:12:54.425 --> 00:12:58.725

So is there anyone else participating person who wishes

244

00:12:58.905 --> 00:13:01.325

to speak today whose name wasn't on the list?

245

00:13:03.105 --> 00:13:07.615

Yes, sir. Sorry, we, we have a roving microphone.

246

00:13:07.715 --> 00:13:10.715

Can we arrange for that to be

247

00:13:11.985 --> 00:13:13.125

passed forwards?

248

00:13:23.435 --> 00:13:28.345

Hello? Hello?

249

00:13:28.485 --> 00:13:30.665

Ah, there we go. Good evening. Good evening.

250

00:13:31.565 --> 00:13:33.545

Uh, just take your na your name, um,

251

00:13:34.935 --> 00:13:36.505

your interest in the application,

252

00:13:37.205 --> 00:13:38.585

how you'd like to be addressed.

253

00:13:39.565 --> 00:13:41.425

So John Rapley, happy to be addressed

254

00:13:41.485 --> 00:13:42.585

as either John or Mr.

255

00:13:42.605 --> 00:13:44.305

Rapley, whichever you'd prefer.

256

00:13:44.845 --> 00:13:46.265

I'm a resident of G Glentworth.

257

00:13:48.995 --> 00:13:50.545

Thank you very much. Mr. Rapley.

258

00:13:50.605 --> 00:13:52.705

Is there anyone else who hasn't registered

259

00:13:53.645 --> 00:13:54.665

who would like to speak?

260

00:13:56.335 --> 00:13:57.115

No. Okay.

261

00:14:02.175 --> 00:14:03.235

Uh, is there anyone I listed

262

00:14:03.375 --> 00:14:04.635

who doesn't want to speak anymore?

263

00:14:07.715 --> 00:14:09.085

Okay, we, we've got a couple.

264

00:14:09.225 --> 00:14:10.605

Can we bring the microphone forward?

265

00:14:10.745 --> 00:14:12.165

If you could keep your hands raised, please.

266

00:14:15.215 --> 00:14:17.855

Rosemary back. Okay,

267

00:14:19.925 --> 00:14:23.955

thank you Madam and

268

00:14:24.065 --> 00:14:25.075

gentlemen over there.

269

00:14:28.735 --> 00:14:31.315

Uh, William Rose, I don't want to speak anymore. Thank you.

270

00:14:31.625 --> 00:14:32.715

Okay sir. Thank you.

271

00:14:39.605 --> 00:14:43.615

Okay, so please could you keep your oral statements, uh,

272

00:14:44.055 --> 00:14:47.295

succinct and to the point, limiting the time limiting them

273

00:14:47.295 --> 00:14:49.095

to the time indicated on the agenda.

274

00:14:49.875 --> 00:14:52.565

Uh, we may, if you become repetitious, ask you to move on

275

00:14:52.585 --> 00:14:54.085

or conclude your oral statement,

276

00:14:54.525 --> 00:14:57.845

although generally speaking, we didn't intervene, uh,

277

00:14:58.155 --> 00:15:00.845

very often if at all during the last open floor hearing.

278

00:15:01.275 --> 00:15:03.845

Yeah, there's no need to repeat statements

279

00:15:03.845 --> 00:15:07.085

or points that someone's someone else has already made,

280

00:15:08.145 --> 00:15:09.605

um, but you may do so.

281

00:15:09.605 --> 00:15:11.045

There's nothing to stop you from doing that.

282

00:15:11.825 --> 00:15:14.485

Um, please could you direct all comments

283

00:15:14.485 --> 00:15:17.285

through us rather than directly to any other party,

284

00:15:17.385 --> 00:15:18.565
for example, the applicant.

285

00:15:19.825 --> 00:15:21.125
Um, we will be taking notes,

286

00:15:21.145 --> 00:15:23.685
so don't be put off if we're not looking at you.

287

00:15:25.195 --> 00:15:26.775
And when I invite you to speak,

288

00:15:26.775 --> 00:15:27.895
please could you come forward

289

00:15:27.895 --> 00:15:29.495
to the table at the front here?

290

00:15:29.915 --> 00:15:34.055
Um, the microphone should be on if it for the first speaker.

291

00:15:34.165 --> 00:15:37.695
Yeah, it's on so don't, you don't need to mess around

292

00:15:37.695 --> 00:15:38.895
with the microphone, you don't need to turn

293

00:15:38.895 --> 00:15:39.975
it off afterwards.

294

00:15:40.555 --> 00:15:45.015
Please provide us with your title. Um, so Mr. And Mrs.

295

00:15:45.015 --> 00:15:46.055
Miss and so on.

296

00:15:48.015 --> 00:15:50.555
In addition, please briefly explain your interest in the

297

00:15:50.555 --> 00:15:53.635

application and also confirm if you're speaking on behalf

298

00:15:53.655 --> 00:15:56.795

of the group or organization or as an individual.

299

00:15:59.135 --> 00:16:01.075

Um, if you're joining via Microsoft teams

300

00:16:01.175 --> 00:16:02.515

and are comfortable to do so,

301

00:16:02.855 --> 00:16:05.795

switch on your camera when I invite you to speak.

302

00:16:06.615 --> 00:16:09.155

So please switch it off again though when I move

303

00:16:09.155 --> 00:16:10.235

on to the next speaker.

304

00:16:11.585 --> 00:16:14.595

Okay, so I think we're ready to begin

305

00:16:16.685 --> 00:16:19.425

and the the first speaker is um,

306

00:16:20.245 --> 00:16:23.545

sir Edward Lee mp who's joining us virtually.

307

00:16:31.015 --> 00:16:32.625

Good evening. Can you hear me? All right.

308

00:16:33.975 --> 00:16:36.345

Good evening. Yes. So my name is,

309

00:16:37.205 --> 00:16:38.425

My name is Edward Lee.

310

00:16:39.355 --> 00:16:43.295

I'm the MP for Gainsborough and I'll make my submission.

311

00:16:43.355 --> 00:16:47.495

Now. Our part of England is under a sort from a series

312

00:16:47.555 --> 00:16:50.215

of solar energy installation proposals

313

00:16:50.885 --> 00:16:52.855

till Bridge Solar is just one of many

314

00:16:52.915 --> 00:16:57.215

but it is the largest for 3,459 acres

315

00:16:57.215 --> 00:17:00.715

of agricultural land combined with other developments.

316

00:17:00.715 --> 00:17:02.355

This is over 10,000 acres.

317

00:17:03.175 --> 00:17:04.395

If you add on top of this,

318

00:17:04.395 --> 00:17:07.115

they're coming application from steeple renewables

319

00:17:07.425 --> 00:17:10.075

that in all adds up to 13,000 acres

320

00:17:10.135 --> 00:17:12.355

of ground mounted solar installations

321

00:17:12.975 --> 00:17:15.715

within just a six mile radius.

322

00:17:16.495 --> 00:17:19.035

The Secretary of State has already given a green light

323

00:17:19.575 --> 00:17:21.115

to Cotton Gate Burton

324

00:17:21.115 --> 00:17:24.435

and a decision on West Burton is expected later this month.

325

00:17:25.325 --> 00:17:28.875

These projects have been split into separate applications.

326

00:17:29.735 --> 00:17:32.365

Um, in reality,

327

00:17:32.715 --> 00:17:37.005

however, this is a large scale massive scheme.

328

00:17:37.575 --> 00:17:40.205

There are solar energy proposals either pending

329

00:17:40.505 --> 00:17:43.885

or some even already approved in West Burton Cotton Gate

330

00:17:43.985 --> 00:17:46.605

Burton Mallard Pass, beacon Fen Hacking

331

00:17:47.305 --> 00:17:50.485

Fen Spring World F0 Green Stove Park Hatton.

332

00:17:51.345 --> 00:17:55.805

The cumulative effect and the impact is colossal on our area

333

00:17:55.945 --> 00:17:58.325

and needs to be considered as a whole

334

00:17:59.365 --> 00:18:01.725

considering them individually without assessing the overall

335

00:18:01.815 --> 00:18:03.925

total impact of each project.

336

00:18:04.825 --> 00:18:08.705

If each project was approved would be I believe

337

00:18:09.265 --> 00:18:10.345

a dereliction of duty.

338

00:18:11.175 --> 00:18:14.865

This proposal would be built on good agricultural land.

339

00:18:15.135 --> 00:18:18.105

Agriculture is fundamental the nature of Lincolnshire.

340

00:18:19.045 --> 00:18:20.665

We are the bread basket of England

341

00:18:20.925 --> 00:18:22.105

and we want to stay that way.

342

00:18:22.525 --> 00:18:25.145

The National Planning Policy Framework continues

343

00:18:25.145 --> 00:18:27.705

to presume against building massive solar panel

344

00:18:27.705 --> 00:18:31.745

installations like this on land graded one, two and three A.

345

00:18:32.365 --> 00:18:33.905

As many have pointed out again

346

00:18:33.905 --> 00:18:36.945

and again, in fact, land graded three B is just as good

347

00:18:36.945 --> 00:18:38.705

as three A for growing wheat and grain.

348

00:18:39.525 --> 00:18:41.705

We may see a loss of as much as 15%

349

00:18:41.705 --> 00:18:43.145

of farmland in this region.

350

00:18:44.455 --> 00:18:46.945

This is at a time when farmers are already under

351

00:18:47.575 --> 00:18:48.865

extraordinary pressure.

352

00:18:49.925 --> 00:18:52.865

The changes of to tax are discouraging families from

353

00:18:52.865 --> 00:18:54.505

continuing the agricultural sector.

354

00:18:55.165 --> 00:18:56.385

We need to back our farmers

355

00:18:56.525 --> 00:18:59.225

and encourage the next generation to take on the mantle.

356

00:18:59.985 --> 00:19:01.785

Ecologically Britain is an ideal place

357

00:19:01.785 --> 00:19:03.505

to grow wheat and grain.

358

00:19:04.445 --> 00:19:06.145

Our combination of moist soil

359

00:19:06.325 --> 00:19:09.345

and long summer days is perfect for it.

360

00:19:10.325 --> 00:19:11.745

The investment in efficiency

361

00:19:11.745 --> 00:19:13.625

and technology in recent decades

362

00:19:14.515 --> 00:19:16.945

means our wheat yields are now vying with that

363

00:19:16.945 --> 00:19:19.265

of New Zealand where farms tend to be much,

364

00:19:19.295 --> 00:19:21.105

much larger than our British farms.

365

00:19:22.005 --> 00:19:24.905

Why should England be forced to shift from producing useful

366

00:19:24.905 --> 00:19:27.505

and nourishing food and instead converting farmland

367

00:19:27.525 --> 00:19:30.585

to a highly inefficient form of energy production?

368

00:19:32.015 --> 00:19:33.395

Taking good farmland

369

00:19:33.455 --> 00:19:35.195

and converting it to solar energy

370

00:19:35.195 --> 00:19:36.595

production is deeply unwise.

371

00:19:37.175 --> 00:19:39.395

The ecological credentials are increasingly

372

00:19:39.395 --> 00:19:40.475

being called into question.

373

00:19:40.965 --> 00:19:44.275

Solar panels typically need about 200 times the amount

374

00:19:44.275 --> 00:19:46.595

of land to generate an equivalent energy output

375

00:19:46.595 --> 00:19:49.555

as gas does, and this is an already crowded island.

376

00:19:50.215 --> 00:19:52.715

In winter solar panel energy generation often

377

00:19:52.715 --> 00:19:53.835

plummets to near zero.

378

00:19:54.385 --> 00:19:55.875

They will only operate towards the top

379

00:19:55.875 --> 00:19:58.515

of their capacity a small portion of the year.

380

00:19:59.815 --> 00:20:02.235

Taking so much land for so different grain

381

00:20:02.825 --> 00:20:04.675

gain is disproportionate.

382

00:20:05.215 --> 00:20:06.795

We are increasingly aware of

383

00:20:06.815 --> 00:20:10.115

how important embodied energy is when considering the carbon

384

00:20:10.115 --> 00:20:11.675

footprint of energy production.

385

00:20:12.125 --> 00:20:13.515

There is no clear evidence

386

00:20:13.515 --> 00:20:16.195

that the embodied energy involved in constructing these

387

00:20:16.195 --> 00:20:19.595

massive solar panel projects will ever be made back

388

00:20:19.595 --> 00:20:21.195

during their 15 year lifespan

389

00:20:21.575 --> 00:20:24.275

before they are replaced or removed.

390

00:20:25.025 --> 00:20:27.675

This calls into question whether solar panel,

391

00:20:28.045 --> 00:20:30.355

solar installations on agricultural land

392

00:20:30.375 --> 00:20:31.475

is sustainable at all.

393

00:20:32.005 --> 00:20:34.675

We're not living in a vacuum here in Lincolnshire.

394

00:20:34.675 --> 00:20:37.555

We are part of a global network of markets and trade.

395

00:20:38.295 --> 00:20:40.475

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has shown us

396

00:20:40.615 --> 00:20:43.555

how fragile global food distribution networks are.

397

00:20:44.215 --> 00:20:45.835

It should make us even more aware of

398

00:20:45.835 --> 00:20:48.485

how important food security is for the United Kingdom.

399

00:20:49.265 --> 00:20:51.085

We are seagoing trading nations,

400

00:20:51.085 --> 00:20:54.005

but the more food we grow ourselves, the better it is both

401

00:20:54.005 --> 00:20:57.365

for the environment and for our security Approving.

402

00:20:57.365 --> 00:20:59.525

The Till Bridge Solar project would undermine

403

00:20:59.665 --> 00:21:00.725

in my view both.

404

00:21:01.415 --> 00:21:03.565

There are also concerns about the connections.

405

00:21:04.025 --> 00:21:06.445

One of the companies behind this proposal has

406

00:21:06.445 --> 00:21:09.165

to force ger labor in the people's Republic of China.

407

00:21:10.145 --> 00:21:12.285

The applicants are also taking a different approach

408

00:21:12.345 --> 00:21:14.125

to battery energy storage systems

409

00:21:14.705 --> 00:21:19.205

by placing one in every field with every BESS.

410

00:21:19.205 --> 00:21:21.365

There is a danger of a thermal runaway

411

00:21:22.395 --> 00:21:26.765

when itself sustaining chain reaction creates more heat than

412

00:21:26.905 --> 00:21:28.005

can be dissipated.

413

00:21:28.665 --> 00:21:31.565

The proposal does not provide sufficient detail to show

414

00:21:31.625 --> 00:21:33.005

how enough water can be

415

00:21:33.245 --> 00:21:36.645

provided to fight a battery thermal runaway at each

416

00:21:36.845 --> 00:21:38.285

BESS location.

417

00:21:39.345 --> 00:21:42.725

No one of course is opposed to solar energy.

418

00:21:43.385 --> 00:21:47.005

Our energy needs must be met by a wide variety of sources,

419

00:21:47.005 --> 00:21:50.285

including nuclear solar panels should be encouraged,

420

00:21:50.505 --> 00:21:52.845

but in the right places and in moderation.

421

00:21:53.465 --> 00:21:56.205

The rooftops of logistic centers, industrial sites

422

00:21:56.205 --> 00:21:58.045

and other large commercial buildings are perfect

423

00:21:58.065 --> 00:22:00.805

for solar panels when it is appropriate.

424

00:22:01.155 --> 00:22:04.045

Even atop residential homes commercial,

425

00:22:04.145 --> 00:22:06.205

we also have a large holiday let

426

00:22:06.205 --> 00:22:07.405

sector here in Lincolnshire.

427

00:22:07.795 --> 00:22:10.525

Approving projects like Tour Bridge will undermine a sector

428

00:22:10.525 --> 00:22:11.765

that is currently thriving.

429

00:22:12.505 --> 00:22:14.485

The net effect on tourism here in rural

430

00:22:14.485 --> 00:22:15.525

Lincolnshire will be negative.

431

00:22:16.575 --> 00:22:18.195

The applicant's own landscape

432

00:22:18.415 --> 00:22:21.515

and visual impact assessment says a visual impact

433

00:22:21.855 --> 00:22:24.795
of the proposal cannot be mitigated.

434

00:22:25.415 --> 00:22:29.395
It is an unsuitable proposal for an unsuitable site.

435

00:22:30.215 --> 00:22:32.115
As a local member of parliament I have met

436

00:22:32.115 --> 00:22:34.475
with many residents, farmers and stakeholders.

437

00:22:34.935 --> 00:22:38.395
The opposition to these proposals is almost universal.

438

00:22:38.735 --> 00:22:40.755
It is as deep as it is broad.

439

00:22:41.205 --> 00:22:42.795
There is not a doubt in my mind

440

00:22:42.795 --> 00:22:45.355
that if til Bridge Solar was being decided upon

441

00:22:45.375 --> 00:22:48.315
by West Lindsay District Council in a democratic fashion

442

00:22:48.895 --> 00:22:51.475
and in the normal fashion, they would take heed

443

00:22:51.475 --> 00:22:52.795
of this widespread opposition

444

00:22:53.055 --> 00:22:55.715
and quite rightly refuse permission

445

00:22:56.565 --> 00:22:59.435
using the nationally significant infrastructure project

446

00:22:59.505 --> 00:23:03.315

exemption to apply for planning permission is unfair, unwise

447

00:23:03.495 --> 00:23:05.475

and undermines our local democracy.

448

00:23:06.325 --> 00:23:09.555

Local people simply lack the vast resources these private

449

00:23:09.955 --> 00:23:11.835

companies have to usefully take part in the process.

450

00:23:12.735 --> 00:23:16.635

As members of the 7,000 acre campaign group have pointed out

451

00:23:16.635 --> 00:23:20.595

before, one NSIP is difficult enough to get involved in,

452

00:23:20.615 --> 00:23:24.075

but four at once would be impossible for most and is

453

00:23:24.075 --> 00:23:25.995

therefore undeniably wrong.

454

00:23:27.505 --> 00:23:28.755

Nips were envisaged

455

00:23:28.755 --> 00:23:31.595

for major projects like nuclear power stations

456

00:23:31.895 --> 00:23:34.675

or new railways, moneymaking,

457

00:23:34.705 --> 00:23:38.035

private sector projects like these solar installations are

458

00:23:38.035 --> 00:23:40.915

not what the NSIP process was designed for.

459

00:23:41.625 --> 00:23:44.395

This is a misuse and a manipulation.

460

00:23:44.975 --> 00:23:47.685

These companies have also sidestep the normal offering

461

00:23:47.705 --> 00:23:49.125

of the same community game

462

00:23:49.125 --> 00:23:50.765

where decision making is done locally

463

00:23:51.625 --> 00:23:53.205

for such a large scale project.

464

00:23:53.315 --> 00:23:56.365

This proposal, like many others, offers almost no benefit

465

00:23:56.505 --> 00:23:57.565

to the local community.

466

00:23:58.395 --> 00:24:01.365

Land intensive low output projects like Tour Bridge

467

00:24:01.365 --> 00:24:02.405

are not the answer.

468

00:24:03.075 --> 00:24:06.365

This project is unen environment unsustainable

469

00:24:07.245 --> 00:24:08.805

threatens our country's food security

470

00:24:09.455 --> 00:24:11.125

undermines our farming sector.

471

00:24:11.705 --> 00:24:14.325

It is opposed by local residences and stakeholders

472

00:24:14.325 --> 00:24:17.685

because it would result in monstrous overdevelopment the

473

00:24:17.685 --> 00:24:19.605
harms this application seriously

474

00:24:19.705 --> 00:24:21.645
and clearly outweigh any its benefits.

475

00:24:22.185 --> 00:24:25.285
It must be refused permission. Sir, thank you very much.

476

00:24:28.645 --> 00:24:33.635
Thank you. Thank you very much for your time sir Edward.

477

00:24:35.345 --> 00:24:38.335
Okay, um, thank you. Thank you.

478

00:24:39.035 --> 00:24:43.675
If we could now please hear from John Latham, um,

479

00:24:43.875 --> 00:24:45.955
uh, who's chair of Glenworth Parish Council?

480

00:24:57.115 --> 00:24:59.645
Good evening. Good evening. Um, I'm John Latham

481

00:24:59.665 --> 00:25:01.885
and as you have already said, I'm the chair

482

00:25:01.905 --> 00:25:03.325
of Glenworth Parish Council

483

00:25:03.665 --> 00:25:06.565
and I live in the village of Glenworth

484

00:25:06.565 --> 00:25:09.325
and I'm here to represent the views of the parish council

485

00:25:10.145 --> 00:25:12.845
and of residents of the village and the parish.

486

00:25:14.265 --> 00:25:18.005

Um, I would endorse a great deal of

487

00:25:18.005 --> 00:25:19.445

what Sir Edward Lee has said,

488

00:25:19.445 --> 00:25:23.605

but what I really want to focus on in my representations is

489

00:25:23.605 --> 00:25:28.125

what I believe is the severe detrimental impact on the,

490

00:25:28.265 --> 00:25:30.805

the lives and the quality of life

491

00:25:30.825 --> 00:25:32.325

of people who live in the village.

492

00:25:32.385 --> 00:25:34.965

And I want to start with, uh,

493

00:25:35.025 --> 00:25:37.485

an extract from the g Glenworth neighborhood plan,

494

00:25:37.485 --> 00:25:38.685

which I think is relevant.

495

00:25:39.665 --> 00:25:41.645

The g Glenworth neighborhood plan vision statement.

496

00:25:41.645 --> 00:25:43.445

States G Glenworth will continue

497

00:25:43.445 --> 00:25:46.845

to be a peaceful rural village, an enjoyable place to live

498

00:25:46.845 --> 00:25:48.885

with a thriving safe community.

499

00:25:49.725 --> 00:25:52.525

G Glenworth Parish will protect the highly valued features

500

00:25:52.525 --> 00:25:54.565

of the natural environment, such as green spaces

501

00:25:55.305 --> 00:25:58.005

and the open landscape preserving the village atmosphere

502

00:25:58.505 --> 00:26:00.525

and the character for future generations.

503

00:26:01.545 --> 00:26:04.845

It also states G Glenworth is a peaceful rural cliffside

504

00:26:04.845 --> 00:26:07.565

village of around 120 households.

505

00:26:08.145 --> 00:26:09.565

It is cited within an area

506

00:26:09.585 --> 00:26:12.325

of great landscape value in general.

507

00:26:12.645 --> 00:26:14.205

Residents live in the village to enjoy

508

00:26:14.225 --> 00:26:16.445

and have access to the quiet countryside

509

00:26:16.905 --> 00:26:18.285

and being remote from the hustle

510

00:26:18.345 --> 00:26:20.605

and bustle of town life and traffic.

511

00:26:22.545 --> 00:26:25.365

Our objections as a parish council to

512

00:26:26.075 --> 00:26:28.165

this solar industrial estate and,

513

00:26:28.265 --> 00:26:30.765

and I refuse to use the word solar farm

514

00:26:30.825 --> 00:26:34.245

or solar park, let's describe it as it actually is.

515

00:26:34.425 --> 00:26:37.405

It is an industrial estate of vast size.

516

00:26:37.425 --> 00:26:41.645

As so Edward explained and to use languages like farm

517

00:26:41.645 --> 00:26:43.765

and park, I believe is a dishonest attempt

518

00:26:43.765 --> 00:26:45.885

to divert attention from what it really is.

519

00:26:47.265 --> 00:26:49.245

If it is built along with the others

520

00:26:49.305 --> 00:26:52.925

and the cumulative impact, then it will destroy forever

521

00:26:53.655 --> 00:26:54.885

productive farmland

522

00:26:54.985 --> 00:26:56.125

and a way of all life

523

00:26:56.125 --> 00:26:57.885

that has existed for hundreds of years.

524

00:26:59.425 --> 00:27:01.805

To be clear, building this industrial estate

525

00:27:02.355 --> 00:27:04.125

will result in the industrialization

526

00:27:04.125 --> 00:27:05.645

of the countryside and rural areas.

527

00:27:06.565 --> 00:27:08.965

A loss of open space and productive farmland.

528

00:27:09.745 --> 00:27:10.805

The disruption to

529

00:27:10.865 --> 00:27:12.725

and in fact the destruction of a way

530

00:27:12.725 --> 00:27:15.805

of life in peaceful villages affected by the development.

531

00:27:16.835 --> 00:27:18.765

This will cause blight throughout the

532

00:27:18.765 --> 00:27:20.165

long construction period.

533

00:27:20.345 --> 00:27:23.605

The impact of noise massively increased traffic volumes

534

00:27:23.875 --> 00:27:27.205

with the risk of air pollution, damage to buildings, noise,

535

00:27:27.355 --> 00:27:28.965

road hazard, and then the operation

536

00:27:28.965 --> 00:27:31.965

of the solar farm over its lifetime and beyond.

537

00:27:32.905 --> 00:27:35.605

In summary, the scale cumulative impact blight,

538

00:27:35.995 --> 00:27:37.525

detrimental effects on health

539

00:27:37.525 --> 00:27:39.245

and wellbeing, all of which happened

540

00:27:39.245 --> 00:27:42.645

with absolutely no benefit to the residents of the village

541

00:27:42.665 --> 00:27:43.685
and the surrounding area.

542

00:27:45.065 --> 00:27:46.405
The scale of this development

543

00:27:46.405 --> 00:27:48.045
and the cumulative impact of all

544

00:27:48.045 --> 00:27:51.445
of the solar industrial parks as well as the IGA oil field,

545

00:27:51.445 --> 00:27:53.325
and I'm gonna say a little bit more about that in a moment,

546

00:27:54.095 --> 00:27:57.365
which is in the same area, cannot be underestimated

547

00:27:58.725 --> 00:28:00.785
as well as considering the cumulative impact

548

00:28:00.785 --> 00:28:02.385
of the solar industrial parks.

549

00:28:02.625 --> 00:28:05.385
I believe the examination should also consider the

550

00:28:05.385 --> 00:28:08.145
relationship with the IGAs oil field extension

551

00:28:08.145 --> 00:28:11.065
that was granted permission by Lincoln County Council,

552

00:28:11.525 --> 00:28:12.625
uh, a couple of years ago.

553

00:28:13.375 --> 00:28:17.225
This will also generate industrial scale development,

554

00:28:17.535 --> 00:28:21.225

massive increases in road traffic through the village, um,

555

00:28:21.445 --> 00:28:22.625

and the surrounding area.

556

00:28:23.045 --> 00:28:25.905

And I don't believe that the combined impact of these has

557

00:28:25.925 --> 00:28:27.305

yet properly been assessed.

558

00:28:29.775 --> 00:28:31.685

There will be considerable negative impacts

559

00:28:31.685 --> 00:28:34.045

during the construction phase noise

560

00:28:34.065 --> 00:28:37.245

and massively increased traffic of volume on a road network

561

00:28:37.315 --> 00:28:40.245

that is completely inadequate for the amount of traffic

562

00:28:40.245 --> 00:28:41.365

that will be generated.

563

00:28:42.145 --> 00:28:44.205

The village and the surrounding area is mostly,

564

00:28:44.425 --> 00:28:46.925

mostly has single carriageway roads.

565

00:28:47.305 --> 00:28:49.525

The volume of HGV traffic movements

566

00:28:49.525 --> 00:28:51.645

through this area is gonna cause a great deal

567

00:28:51.645 --> 00:28:55.045

of noise pollution, air pollution, vibration

568

00:28:55.545 --> 00:28:57.765

and disruption for the people who live in the area,

569

00:28:58.145 --> 00:29:00.965

and again, as I say it will have no benefit them

570

00:29:01.025 --> 00:29:03.365

but will have an extended impact

571

00:29:03.385 --> 00:29:04.605

on their health and wellbeing.

572

00:29:08.025 --> 00:29:10.235

Some of the residents will be entirely surrounded

573

00:29:10.255 --> 00:29:13.035

by the solar panels when they are currently

574

00:29:13.035 --> 00:29:15.475

where they currently have greenfields, hedge roads,

575

00:29:15.755 --> 00:29:18.235

wildlife, the industrial park will change the nature

576

00:29:18.235 --> 00:29:19.315

of their lives and the quality

577

00:29:19.335 --> 00:29:20.835

of their lives to the detriment.

578

00:29:21.335 --> 00:29:24.315

It is inevitable that there will be adverse impacts on

579

00:29:24.315 --> 00:29:25.515

mental health and wellbeing.

580

00:29:26.665 --> 00:29:28.635

This impact on health, physical

581

00:29:28.635 --> 00:29:30.555

and mental has not been properly assessed

582

00:29:31.015 --> 00:29:32.555

and I think it would be irresponsible

583

00:29:32.555 --> 00:29:34.435

to rely on the applicant's assertions

584

00:29:34.435 --> 00:29:35.755

that these impacts will be minimal.

585

00:29:36.555 --> 00:29:39.635

A proper assessment by an independent health professional

586

00:29:39.635 --> 00:29:41.685

or agency should be undertaken

587

00:29:41.685 --> 00:29:43.365

and be available to the examination

588

00:29:43.365 --> 00:29:45.045

before recommendation is made.

589

00:29:46.155 --> 00:29:47.885

Similarly, there is scant regard

590

00:29:47.885 --> 00:29:49.565

for the impact on the landscape value

591

00:29:49.585 --> 00:29:52.285

of the area which will be lost when the current pattern

592

00:29:52.285 --> 00:29:54.245

of fields, trees, and hedges is lost.

593

00:29:55.145 --> 00:29:57.525

The central Lincoln should green infrastructure study,

594

00:29:57.525 --> 00:30:00.845

which was prepared in November, 2011 as part

595

00:30:00.845 --> 00:30:02.565

of the Central Lincolnshire local plan

596

00:30:03.565 --> 00:30:06.085

identifies the Lincoln Edge North running across the patch

597

00:30:06.085 --> 00:30:07.645

of Glenworth adjacent to the village

598

00:30:08.225 --> 00:30:12.885

as a strategic green access link and local policy.

599

00:30:13.325 --> 00:30:16.685

13 of the Central Lincolnshire local plan, uh, says

600

00:30:16.685 --> 00:30:18.725

that this should be maintained to deliver a network

601

00:30:18.825 --> 00:30:21.445

of walking and cycling routes and support the maintenance

602

00:30:21.465 --> 00:30:24.205

and improvement of the existing infrastructure.

603

00:30:24.875 --> 00:30:28.285

This will be lost if the solar industrial park is,

604

00:30:28.465 --> 00:30:30.005

is given approval and goes ahead.

605

00:30:32.005 --> 00:30:33.625

The studies that have been submitted as part

606

00:30:33.625 --> 00:30:36.105

of the application are largely desktop reviews

607

00:30:36.485 --> 00:30:40.025

and lack the independent examination a review should have

608

00:30:40.485 --> 00:30:43.145

and they contrast fundamentally with the lived experience

609

00:30:43.145 --> 00:30:44.745

of residents in the village and parish

610

00:30:45.285 --> 00:30:48.065

and how they will be adversely affected by the development.

611

00:30:49.765 --> 00:30:51.505

As a final comment, and just

612

00:30:51.505 --> 00:30:54.785

to reinforce the point about the the scale of the blight,

613

00:30:54.785 --> 00:30:57.305

which I believe it is impossible to underestimate,

614

00:30:58.775 --> 00:31:02.335

were this a new reservoir then the area.

615

00:31:02.515 --> 00:31:05.375

If the area was about to be flooded to create a water supply

616

00:31:05.395 --> 00:31:06.615

for a much larger area,

617

00:31:06.925 --> 00:31:08.815

then the households would be compensated,

618

00:31:09.225 --> 00:31:11.615

properties purchased and residents would have to be

619

00:31:11.895 --> 00:31:13.415

provided with the opportunity to move.

620

00:31:14.715 --> 00:31:17.535

The scale and extent of the solar industrial parks

621

00:31:17.535 --> 00:31:19.735

that are being proposed is akin

622

00:31:19.735 --> 00:31:21.255
to the creation of a reservoir.

623

00:31:21.795 --> 00:31:24.695
The area is being flooded with panels,

624

00:31:24.725 --> 00:31:27.335
battery storage units, cable connections,

625

00:31:27.715 --> 00:31:29.255
and the associated infrastructure.

626

00:31:29.835 --> 00:31:33.495
But we are being asked in fact expected delivered the midst

627

00:31:33.635 --> 00:31:37.135
of this through the construction, through the operation

628

00:31:37.435 --> 00:31:39.375
and the ongoing regular maintenance

629

00:31:39.375 --> 00:31:42.935
or renewal of a site that will not be restored.

630

00:31:43.995 --> 00:31:45.615
It will be this way forever

631

00:31:46.275 --> 00:31:47.775
and a way of life that has existed

632

00:31:47.875 --> 00:31:49.535
for a very long time will be lost.

633

00:31:50.505 --> 00:31:51.505
Thank you.

634

00:31:57.805 --> 00:32:00.735
Okay, thank you Mr. Latham.

635

00:32:00.835 --> 00:32:04.575

Um, if we could hear from Jillian Proctor, who is

636

00:32:05.535 --> 00:32:06.975

a representative from spring

637

00:32:07.035 --> 00:32:11.215

for parish meeting. Good evening.

638

00:32:11.845 --> 00:32:16.215

Good evening, Mr. Simpson. Mr. Ley, my name is Dr.

639

00:32:16.215 --> 00:32:18.455

Jillian Proctor. I represent myself

640

00:32:18.515 --> 00:32:21.815

and spring thought parish meeting, um, a parish

641

00:32:21.875 --> 00:32:25.735

of approximately 120 people who live on the northwest border

642

00:32:26.235 --> 00:32:29.655

of the proposed till Bridge solar factory in West Lindsey.

643

00:32:31.565 --> 00:32:33.215

Between 1990

644

00:32:33.395 --> 00:32:35.175

and 2020 I worked locally

645

00:32:35.315 --> 00:32:38.655

as a general medical practitioner providing services within

646

00:32:38.755 --> 00:32:41.125

the community, substance misuse service

647

00:32:41.265 --> 00:32:43.125

and the prison medical service as well

648

00:32:43.125 --> 00:32:44.485

as within general practice.

649

00:32:46.125 --> 00:32:49.245

I wish to commend to this hearing the written report

650

00:32:49.515 --> 00:32:51.765

submitted by 7,000 acres

651

00:32:52.385 --> 00:32:54.645

and written predominantly by my colleague Dr.

652

00:32:54.675 --> 00:32:57.125

John Parkin, in response

653

00:32:57.305 --> 00:33:00.845

to the initial air quality impact assessment on human

654

00:33:00.845 --> 00:33:02.005

health, wellbeing

655

00:33:02.505 --> 00:33:05.525

and noise compiled by TIL Bridge Solar Limited

656

00:33:06.225 --> 00:33:08.485

in their application for the construction

657

00:33:08.485 --> 00:33:09.485

of their solar factory.

658

00:33:11.025 --> 00:33:15.525

The 7,000 acres report highlights the gamesmanship engaged

659

00:33:15.585 --> 00:33:18.885

in by Til Bridge Solar Limited in seeking

660

00:33:19.025 --> 00:33:23.005

to avoid any meaningful assessment of those issues

661

00:33:24.145 --> 00:33:27.965

to wit firstly, the piecemeal submission

662

00:33:28.065 --> 00:33:29.565
of the four sub-projects

663

00:33:29.565 --> 00:33:33.445
that composed this vast solar factory, um,

664

00:33:34.665 --> 00:33:37.605
failed to trigger a local public health inquiry

665

00:33:37.835 --> 00:33:40.925
that a larger application would've warranted.

666

00:33:42.685 --> 00:33:44.925
Secondly, the pretense

667

00:33:44.945 --> 00:33:49.005
of their health equality impact assessment that appears

668

00:33:49.005 --> 00:33:51.485
to start and finish with an online search

669

00:33:51.585 --> 00:33:52.885
for relevant issues.

670

00:33:54.135 --> 00:33:56.445
Every good medical investigation starts

671

00:33:56.475 --> 00:33:59.685
with an online search using professionally recognized,

672

00:33:59.875 --> 00:34:03.845
validated detailed, medically specific databases.

673

00:34:05.135 --> 00:34:08.125
There appears to have used a desktop Google search.

674

00:34:10.215 --> 00:34:13.165
Every good medical investigation then proceeds

675

00:34:13.185 --> 00:34:16.605

to detailed questions that are answered with

676

00:34:17.345 --> 00:34:18.925

new research if necessary.

677

00:34:19.795 --> 00:34:24.605

What John refers to as a deep dive, this has never happened.

678

00:34:27.115 --> 00:34:28.845

Thirdly, they failed

679

00:34:28.845 --> 00:34:31.445

to use a medically qualified professional

680

00:34:31.865 --> 00:34:33.205

to compile their report.

681

00:34:34.575 --> 00:34:37.965

Using such a professional would've highlighted the first

682

00:34:38.025 --> 00:34:39.845

and second mistakes they made.

683

00:34:42.065 --> 00:34:44.285

Lastly, as a consequence of all three,

684

00:34:44.795 --> 00:34:48.605

they've missed the hallmark of deprivation within re,

685

00:34:49.135 --> 00:34:51.525

which is the submersion of small pockets

686

00:34:51.525 --> 00:34:55.525

of more stream deprivation within communities of re re uh,

687

00:34:56.005 --> 00:34:57.525

relative affluence, excuse me.

688

00:34:58.215 --> 00:35:00.165

These are the populations most likely

689

00:35:00.265 --> 00:35:03.245

to be adversely affected by these huge developments.

690

00:35:04.735 --> 00:35:08.245

There has been no targeting of specific populations

691

00:35:08.305 --> 00:35:09.645

to evaluate impact.

692

00:35:10.545 --> 00:35:14.445

It has been left to individuals to detail the changes

693

00:35:15.575 --> 00:35:19.395

or the devastation they are likely to experience as a result

694

00:35:20.055 --> 00:35:21.075

in front of all of us,

695

00:35:21.855 --> 00:35:24.515

the tenant farm losing their livelihood

696

00:35:24.695 --> 00:35:28.155

who lives within our parish, the distress of those

697

00:35:28.185 --> 00:35:30.995

with a diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder,

698

00:35:31.055 --> 00:35:33.395

losing their calm, quiet surroundings.

699

00:35:34.415 --> 00:35:38.005

The financial uncertainty facing retirees with savings

700

00:35:38.725 --> 00:35:42.125

invested in local property, the residents

701

00:35:42.125 --> 00:35:45.205

of precarious traveler sites that face flooding due

702

00:35:45.205 --> 00:35:48.885

to changes in runoff flow, the loss of green space

703

00:35:48.985 --> 00:35:50.685

to residents of re cities

704

00:35:50.945 --> 00:35:54.285

and those nearby without the counties such as Sheffield

705

00:35:54.925 --> 00:35:56.325

s Scunthorpe and Grimsby.

706

00:35:58.175 --> 00:36:01.885

These people, if they wanted their issues raised, have had

707

00:36:01.885 --> 00:36:04.805

to brave a technically challenging inquiry process

708

00:36:05.825 --> 00:36:07.885

in a digitally challenged county

709

00:36:08.745 --> 00:36:11.365

to wear their hearts on their sleeves in front of all of us

710

00:36:12.435 --> 00:36:14.165

instead of being sought out

711

00:36:15.315 --> 00:36:17.495

and hopefully their problems mitigated.

712

00:36:18.555 --> 00:36:21.175

It would not be surprising if many have remained silent

713

00:36:21.315 --> 00:36:24.615

and that the vast amount of disadvantage remains buried.

714

00:36:27.005 --> 00:36:28.845

I commend the inspectors for having

715

00:36:29.925 --> 00:36:32.725

encouraged till Bridge Solar to properly

716

00:36:33.365 --> 00:36:35.525

complete their EQIA on our behalf.

717

00:36:37.275 --> 00:36:40.565

What puzzles me is how till Bridge Solar would ever be able

718

00:36:40.625 --> 00:36:43.045

to expand a desktop Google search

719

00:36:43.545 --> 00:36:46.165

to a professionally competent EQIA

720

00:36:46.375 --> 00:36:47.765

addressing real questions.

721

00:36:49.335 --> 00:36:52.845

Their cynical regard disregard for proper process

722

00:36:53.065 --> 00:36:56.765

to date should condemn till bridge Solar to a refusal

723

00:36:56.765 --> 00:36:57.765

of their application.

724

00:36:59.245 --> 00:37:02.765

I say again please Mr. Inspector say no.

725

00:37:06.095 --> 00:37:06.845

Thank you very much.

726

00:37:12.545 --> 00:37:17.195

Okay, um, could we please hear from Ms. Garbo?

727

00:37:17.415 --> 00:37:20.995

Uh, who's speaking on behalf I assume is speaking on behalf

728

00:37:20.995 --> 00:37:22.035

of 7,000 acres.

729

00:37:22.505 --> 00:37:22.795

Okay,

730

00:37:31.625 --> 00:37:32.115
good evening.

731

00:37:33.065 --> 00:37:36.675
Good evening. Thank you sir.

732

00:37:37.385 --> 00:37:38.955
This gar at 7,000 acres.

733

00:37:41.255 --> 00:37:43.755
It is genuinely difficult to understand how

734

00:37:43.755 --> 00:37:46.835
to make a community's voice heard in a process such as this.

735

00:37:48.255 --> 00:37:50.075
In this and previous examinations.

736

00:37:50.495 --> 00:37:52.835
We believe that we have made clear, rational

737

00:37:52.855 --> 00:37:55.915
and powerful arguments and stated our concerns,

738

00:37:56.535 --> 00:37:59.795
but the relentless machinery grinds on perhaps some

739

00:37:59.795 --> 00:38:02.075
of our issues are noted in the recommendations

740

00:38:02.075 --> 00:38:05.515
and final reports, but they are never truly addressed.

741

00:38:06.375 --> 00:38:08.035
So we would like to wish you a challenge

742

00:38:08.655 --> 00:38:09.715
to the examine authority.

743

00:38:10.515 --> 00:38:13.995

A request that eight specific questions are answered in full

744

00:38:14.655 --> 00:38:16.035

in the course of the examination.

745

00:38:16.855 --> 00:38:18.915

We feel it is the least the community is owed

746

00:38:18.915 --> 00:38:20.755

for the upheaval and major life changes

747

00:38:20.785 --> 00:38:23.915

that we are potentially set to endure in the face

748

00:38:23.915 --> 00:38:25.795

of multiple nip solar

749

00:38:25.855 --> 00:38:27.675

and grid developments in the coming years.

750

00:38:28.885 --> 00:38:31.715

First of all, this region phase is not one

751

00:38:31.815 --> 00:38:34.395

but multiple developments on a scale the

752

00:38:34.395 --> 00:38:35.605

country has never seen before.

753

00:38:36.905 --> 00:38:38.685

In communities with few amenities,

754

00:38:38.785 --> 00:38:41.965

the surrounding green space is their treasure and amenity.

755

00:38:42.865 --> 00:38:45.605

The examination process feels inadequately equipped

756

00:38:45.665 --> 00:38:48.325

to consider the impact of development at this scale.

757

00:38:49.825 --> 00:38:52.245

Can you be certain that this unprecedented scale

758

00:38:52.245 --> 00:38:55.685

of development will not have a seriously adverse impact on

759

00:38:55.685 --> 00:38:57.685

the quality of life and ultimately the mental health

760

00:38:58.145 --> 00:39:00.765

and wellbeing of people living in affected communities

761

00:39:01.185 --> 00:39:03.325

and what safeguards can you propose?

762

00:39:04.715 --> 00:39:07.685

Also, we believe that if the key purpose of the scheme is

763

00:39:07.685 --> 00:39:10.485

to provide decarbonized power, the detail

764

00:39:10.505 --> 00:39:12.925

of this should be considered an issue specific hearing

765

00:39:12.925 --> 00:39:14.165

related to energy.

766

00:39:14.795 --> 00:39:18.005

Otherwise, there is a potential for insufficient oversight

767

00:39:18.065 --> 00:39:20.165

of the applicant's claims in this regard.

768

00:39:21.425 --> 00:39:24.245

For instance, in December, 2024,

769

00:39:24.245 --> 00:39:27.365

the government published its green power 2030 action plan,

770

00:39:27.775 --> 00:39:31.285

which included a breakdown of regional capacity required

771

00:39:31.285 --> 00:39:33.445

for different technologies including solar

772

00:39:33.985 --> 00:39:37.165

and which represents the upper end of capacity range,

773

00:39:37.715 --> 00:39:41.045

balancing current and likely future network management

774

00:39:41.095 --> 00:39:43.125

needs for the whole country.

775

00:39:43.275 --> 00:39:45.285

This includes 10.8 gigawatt

776

00:39:45.285 --> 00:39:48.165

of transmission connected solar nationally by 2030

777

00:39:48.905 --> 00:39:51.805

and 17 gigawatt by 2035.

778

00:39:52.505 --> 00:39:57.085

By contrast nationally there is currently over 128

779

00:39:57.195 --> 00:40:00.645

gigawatts of nip scale solar development in national grids

780

00:40:00.645 --> 00:40:02.365

transmission energy capacity register.

781

00:40:03.185 --> 00:40:06.645

Linker alone currently has 15 gigawatts

782

00:40:06.985 --> 00:40:09.645

of nip scale seller capacity projects listed

783

00:40:10.625 --> 00:40:11.885

at a fundamental level.

784

00:40:11.885 --> 00:40:15.205

Therefore, this scheme cannot purport to be essential

785

00:40:15.265 --> 00:40:18.925

to the country's decarbonization objectives when there are

786

00:40:19.075 --> 00:40:22.165

more schemes than required by a factor of 10,

787

00:40:22.255 --> 00:40:24.725

which it should be noted contributes

788

00:40:24.725 --> 00:40:25.925

to the country's planning

789

00:40:25.985 --> 00:40:29.125

and grid connection process being utterly overwhelmed.

790

00:40:30.625 --> 00:40:33.845

The government is scrambling to gain some sense of control

791

00:40:33.845 --> 00:40:37.285

of this wild west landscape by creating mission control,

792

00:40:37.845 --> 00:40:40.245

establishing the national energy system operator

793

00:40:40.265 --> 00:40:42.885

and creating its clean power 2030 plan.

794

00:40:43.705 --> 00:40:45.445

Our second question that arises

795

00:40:45.445 --> 00:40:48.725

therefore is this, how does the examining authority plan

796

00:40:48.725 --> 00:40:51.045

to consider the tillage scheme in light

797

00:40:51.045 --> 00:40:52.485
of the government's clear desire

798

00:40:52.505 --> 00:40:55.765
to improve the effective spatial delivery of decarbonization

799

00:40:56.935 --> 00:40:58.845
associated with the technical energy?

800

00:40:58.845 --> 00:41:01.685
Nature of the scheme is a contribution scheme can make.

801

00:41:02.505 --> 00:41:06.645
We are a windy island where wind is foreseen to provide 70%

802

00:41:06.645 --> 00:41:08.605
of the UK's electricity by 2050.

803

00:41:09.755 --> 00:41:11.485
Soda will provide a fraction of that

804

00:41:11.865 --> 00:41:13.725
and contribute most when demand

805

00:41:13.745 --> 00:41:15.445
and prices are at their lowest.

806

00:41:16.305 --> 00:41:19.165
It won't provide power when we need it most,

807

00:41:19.945 --> 00:41:23.045
but simply not all energy is equal.

808

00:41:24.155 --> 00:41:27.685
This lowest value energy should come with the lowest harms

809

00:41:27.705 --> 00:41:30.845
and impacts as it can be delivered on rooftops.

810

00:41:31.465 --> 00:41:34.445

So for our third question as the examiner authority,

811

00:41:35.025 --> 00:41:37.765

how can you be certain that the limitations to the energy

812

00:41:37.765 --> 00:41:40.765

and decarbonization contributions of the proposed scheme

813

00:41:41.525 --> 00:41:45.245

outweigh the concentrated local harms communities in this

814

00:41:45.245 --> 00:41:48.085

region will suffer perhaps more

815

00:41:48.085 --> 00:41:50.165

obviously for our fourth question.

816

00:41:50.545 --> 00:41:53.885

If the climate emergency demands the UK deploy solar

817

00:41:54.025 --> 00:41:57.405

so rapidly, why do we continue to leave commercial

818

00:41:57.425 --> 00:41:58.965

and domestic rooftops vacant?

819

00:41:59.585 --> 00:42:02.405

And why is it fair that this community be asked

820

00:42:02.405 --> 00:42:04.645

to bear the impact of over a decade to fa

821

00:42:04.645 --> 00:42:07.165

to put solar on rooftops, particularly in the context

822

00:42:07.185 --> 00:42:09.765

of the UK now being such a marginal contributor

823

00:42:10.145 --> 00:42:13.885

to global CO2 emissions, despite the assertion

824

00:42:13.885 --> 00:42:17.285

of the industry, ground mounted solar at this scale is not

825

00:42:17.285 --> 00:42:19.125

about supporting farms and farmers.

826

00:42:20.065 --> 00:42:23.165

We do not oppose farmers turning over a field

827

00:42:23.185 --> 00:42:24.885

or two to diversify their business.

828

00:42:25.385 --> 00:42:28.085

But development at this scale eliminates

829

00:42:28.175 --> 00:42:29.405

farms and tenant farmers.

830

00:42:30.465 --> 00:42:31.845

So our fifth question is,

831

00:42:32.185 --> 00:42:34.685

if these schemes were truly supporting farms

832

00:42:34.685 --> 00:42:36.765

and farmers, why do do some

833

00:42:36.765 --> 00:42:38.725

of them face losing their livelihoods?

834

00:42:39.745 --> 00:42:41.805

And all the land that is proposed to be used

835

00:42:41.805 --> 00:42:45.285

for solar is already being used providing food

836

00:42:45.285 --> 00:42:46.685

and biofuels for the country.

837

00:42:47.475 --> 00:42:51.845

Perhaps with one scheme it may be tolerable not to consider

838

00:42:52.025 --> 00:42:54.765

how and where else production shortfall is made up.

839

00:42:55.105 --> 00:42:57.805

But solar industry is currently eyeing up sways

840

00:42:57.805 --> 00:42:58.885

of the UK for solar.

841

00:42:59.315 --> 00:43:01.005

That would occupy a vast area

842

00:43:01.005 --> 00:43:04.085

of land more than the country uses for its golf courses,

843

00:43:04.555 --> 00:43:06.165

more than uses to grow potatoes.

844

00:43:06.865 --> 00:43:09.565

An area the land bigger than greater Manchester.

845

00:43:10.585 --> 00:43:14.405

The potential impacts of so much land use change even

846

00:43:14.465 --> 00:43:15.845

for the temporary decades.

847

00:43:16.135 --> 00:43:19.645

These schemes demand simply cannot be ignored

848

00:43:20.025 --> 00:43:21.045

as if a lifecycle

849

00:43:21.105 --> 00:43:24.205

of over 70 years could ever be considered temporary

850

00:43:25.825 --> 00:43:26.925

or six questions

851

00:43:26.925 --> 00:43:30.085

therefore related to what happens to the displaced crops.

852

00:43:30.815 --> 00:43:34.645

Where else do we get those food and bioenergy crops?

853

00:43:34.745 --> 00:43:35.765

And overall does

854

00:43:35.765 --> 00:43:38.045

that represent a truly sustainable solution?

855

00:43:38.785 --> 00:43:41.885

We recognize that there are huge pressures on land use on

856

00:43:41.885 --> 00:43:43.805

this small island from housing

857

00:43:43.985 --> 00:43:47.565

to commercial development reservoirs transport, as well

858

00:43:47.565 --> 00:43:49.885

as farming for food and green fuels.

859

00:43:50.625 --> 00:43:53.365

The Climate change Committee also calls for land to be used

860

00:43:53.365 --> 00:43:55.405

for direct decarbonization measures,

861

00:43:55.715 --> 00:43:57.685

including the establishment of peatlands

862

00:43:57.685 --> 00:44:00.365

and planted tens of thousand hectare of trees every year.

863

00:44:01.345 --> 00:44:04.765

Our seventh question therefore is how does this scheme

864

00:44:05.345 --> 00:44:08.205

and so many more other ground mount solar schemes

865

00:44:08.205 --> 00:44:09.805
with such a voracious appetite

866

00:44:09.865 --> 00:44:12.165
for land impact on the country's ability

867

00:44:12.185 --> 00:44:13.485
to optimally use its land

868

00:44:13.485 --> 00:44:15.445
and meet all those competing demands?

869

00:44:16.635 --> 00:44:19.885
Finally, and perhaps most perplexingly, we face the,

870

00:44:20.105 --> 00:44:22.685
the prospect of this small region becoming one

871

00:44:22.685 --> 00:44:26.325
of the largest areas of concentrated ground mounted,

872

00:44:26.355 --> 00:44:28.765
mounted solar anywhere worldwide.

873

00:44:29.715 --> 00:44:32.325
This area rich with productive farmland

874

00:44:32.325 --> 00:44:33.565
and beautiful landscape,

875

00:44:34.065 --> 00:44:37.045
but with some of the lowest solar gains shown on the global

876

00:44:37.535 --> 00:44:40.365
solar atlas will have such, will have

877

00:44:40.385 --> 00:44:43.245
as much solar panel coverage as schemes in the deserts

878

00:44:43.245 --> 00:44:44.365
of India or China,

879

00:44:44.905 --> 00:44:48.285
but with half the power yield making these some

880

00:44:48.285 --> 00:44:51.685
of the lowest output solar panels on earth.

881

00:44:52.585 --> 00:44:54.165
Please can you explain to us

882

00:44:54.305 --> 00:44:58.565
and future generations why this is a sensible use of global

883

00:44:58.785 --> 00:45:00.445
and national resources?

884

00:45:01.495 --> 00:45:03.605
There surely has never been development

885

00:45:03.605 --> 00:45:07.085
that has required such sudden land use change at this

886

00:45:07.085 --> 00:45:08.125
scale in the uk.

887

00:45:08.955 --> 00:45:12.125
Therefore the impacts on affected communities have never

888

00:45:12.125 --> 00:45:15.405
been explored and residents in the area feel they are

889

00:45:15.405 --> 00:45:17.525
subjects of a huge experiment.

890

00:45:18.785 --> 00:45:20.045
We are proud of our region

891

00:45:20.145 --> 00:45:22.205

and what it contributes to the United Kingdom,

892

00:45:22.445 --> 00:45:25.445

particularly in the case of its farming and food production.

893

00:45:26.345 --> 00:45:28.845

No doubt the region would love to be similarly proud

894

00:45:28.845 --> 00:45:31.285

of the contribution of local energy schemes in the fight

895

00:45:31.285 --> 00:45:32.405

for decarbonization.

896

00:45:33.635 --> 00:45:35.245

Unfortunately, the cluster

897

00:45:35.545 --> 00:45:38.765

of nip scale solar schemes in the region are representative

898

00:45:38.965 --> 00:45:42.565

uncontrolled wholesale development, the cumulative impacts

899

00:45:42.565 --> 00:45:44.485

of which have not been thoroughly explored,

900

00:45:44.955 --> 00:45:46.485

leaving serious concerns

901

00:45:46.485 --> 00:45:49.565

that they represent a gross misstep in the quest

902

00:45:49.585 --> 00:45:52.765

for decarbonization sustainability more widely.

903

00:45:53.785 --> 00:45:56.845

It is therefore no wonder that is so little support

904

00:45:56.845 --> 00:45:58.125

for these schemes within the region,

905

00:45:58.125 --> 00:45:59.925
particularly when the immediate impacts

906

00:45:59.925 --> 00:46:01.645
of concentrated development will fall

907

00:46:02.065 --> 00:46:03.965
so heavily on a handful

908

00:46:04.105 --> 00:46:08.245
of communities in which when such fundamental questions have

909

00:46:08.865 --> 00:46:11.445
failed to be addressed or clear explanations

910

00:46:11.765 --> 00:46:14.965
provided over the course of multiple examinations.

911

00:46:15.815 --> 00:46:16.815
Thank you.

912

00:46:19.105 --> 00:46:20.485
Um, thank you Ms. Garbin.

913

00:46:20.545 --> 00:46:24.725
If you could provide that statement in writing, um,

914

00:46:25.105 --> 00:46:27.685
that'd be really helpful by deadline four.

915

00:46:27.875 --> 00:46:29.845
Yeah, no problem. Okay, thank you very much.

916

00:46:36.835 --> 00:46:39.765
Okay. Um,

917

00:46:39.905 --> 00:46:44.365
if we could now please hear from, uh, Margaret O'Grady of

918

00:46:44.945 --> 00:46:46.485

Ham Parish Council,

919

00:46:46.485 --> 00:46:50.085

please. Good evening.

920

00:46:50.755 --> 00:46:51.805

Good evening. Uh,

921

00:46:52.125 --> 00:46:54.645

Margaret O'Grady chair Ingham Parish meeting.

922

00:46:55.965 --> 00:46:57.845

I was taught that we needed to look after our

923

00:46:57.845 --> 00:46:59.245

World, our Environment,

924

00:46:59.345 --> 00:47:04.125

and our wildlife to be caretakers, custodians if you like.

925

00:47:05.015 --> 00:47:08.485

We're not here for very long, but we should take care.

926

00:47:09.195 --> 00:47:11.165

This is something I've tried to live by,

927

00:47:11.165 --> 00:47:13.085

particularly as I've grown older.

928

00:47:14.035 --> 00:47:16.245

I've lived in this community for over 20 years.

929

00:47:16.965 --> 00:47:19.685

I regularly rescue frogs from down

930

00:47:19.705 --> 00:47:20.925

drains in the summer months.

931

00:47:21.525 --> 00:47:25.285

I cleared the leaves from dry day d**e drainage channels

932

00:47:25.285 --> 00:47:27.845
to reduce of risk of flooding properties.

933

00:47:28.445 --> 00:47:30.085
I sweep the foot footpaths

934

00:47:30.305 --> 00:47:33.525
and I pick up dog mess that other people have left behind.

935

00:47:34.525 --> 00:47:35.845
I don't even have a dog.

936

00:47:37.005 --> 00:47:39.965
I wash the play equipment in my village and I try to look

937

00:47:39.965 --> 00:47:41.725
after my little area of the world.

938

00:47:42.315 --> 00:47:43.605
Hedgehogs are free to travel

939

00:47:43.605 --> 00:47:45.365
through the hedgehog holes in my fence

940

00:47:46.025 --> 00:47:48.285
and I feel feed the wild birds.

941

00:47:48.965 --> 00:47:52.445
I compost and try to use as little plastic as possible

942

00:47:53.025 --> 00:47:56.165
and I've had solar panels on my roof for over 15 years.

943

00:47:57.405 --> 00:47:59.685
I feel I'm a custodian of my little area

944

00:48:00.265 --> 00:48:03.285
and I try my best to leave my world in a place I would want

945

00:48:03.285 --> 00:48:06.405

my grandchildren or great-grandchildren to inherit.

946

00:48:07.565 --> 00:48:09.525

I do this all on a voluntary basis,

947

00:48:10.465 --> 00:48:12.205

but I'm starting to question why.

948

00:48:13.345 --> 00:48:15.125

If companies, planning authorities

949

00:48:15.145 --> 00:48:16.845

and the like can come into this area

950

00:48:17.105 --> 00:48:20.085

and disrupt wildlife, ruin the local environment,

951

00:48:20.505 --> 00:48:23.245

use the world's resources in an efficient way

952

00:48:23.385 --> 00:48:25.485

to mass produce solar panels

953

00:48:25.635 --> 00:48:27.325

that will not benefit this area,

954

00:48:28.075 --> 00:48:30.685

will barely produce the electricity they claim

955

00:48:31.865 --> 00:48:34.285

but will decimate fields and hedges

956

00:48:34.785 --> 00:48:37.045

and will massively damage biodiversity.

957

00:48:37.995 --> 00:48:39.085

What little good is it

958

00:48:39.085 --> 00:48:42.085

that I've rest saved a hundred frogs over the last summer?

959

00:48:42.945 --> 00:48:46.645

If I've composted the leaves that have fallen, if I've tried

960

00:48:46.645 --> 00:48:49.205

to keep the village in a way for future generations

961

00:48:49.865 --> 00:48:52.005

and if thousands of houses continue

962

00:48:52.005 --> 00:48:54.445

to be built without solar on their rooftops,

963

00:48:55.455 --> 00:48:58.725

there will soon be more solar industrialization on our land

964

00:48:58.795 --> 00:49:00.165

than is needed in the country.

965

00:49:00.995 --> 00:49:03.045

This won't be used during the summer months

966

00:49:03.275 --> 00:49:05.205

because there will be more than is needed

967

00:49:05.785 --> 00:49:07.085

and it won't be there at all.

968

00:49:07.265 --> 00:49:09.525

In the winter months when we need the energy, most

969

00:49:10.305 --> 00:49:13.085

our fields will have become barren, useless.

970

00:49:14.105 --> 00:49:16.765

We have again seen a wet and dull autumn winter

971

00:49:17.225 --> 00:49:19.485

and mainly last summer.

972

00:49:20.335 --> 00:49:22.245

Solar gain is poor in this country.

973

00:49:22.915 --> 00:49:25.245

It's not right that land which is under

974

00:49:25.305 --> 00:49:28.205

so much pressure should be used so inefficiently.

975

00:49:28.895 --> 00:49:32.165

There are other options for solar rooftops, both domestic

976

00:49:32.265 --> 00:49:35.925

and commercial, which make this scheme unnecessary.

977

00:49:37.065 --> 00:49:39.605

The cumulative effect of these schemes is

978

00:49:39.605 --> 00:49:40.685

beyond comprehension.

979

00:49:41.335 --> 00:49:43.285

Their consultation lacks honesty.

980

00:49:44.025 --> 00:49:46.445

People want to do their best for our environment

981

00:49:46.625 --> 00:49:49.325

and it's presented in a way that plays down their size

982

00:49:49.625 --> 00:49:52.005

and overstates the electricity they provide.

983

00:49:52.505 --> 00:49:53.845

So many people don't object

984

00:49:54.355 --> 00:49:57.685

because so many don't know what's coming.

985

00:49:58.865 --> 00:50:01.005

The reality hidden among hundreds

986

00:50:01.005 --> 00:50:04.285

of documents failed impartial truths from experts paid

987

00:50:04.285 --> 00:50:06.325

to give an answer to the company that's hired them.

988

00:50:07.225 --> 00:50:09.325

It is a largely one-sided process

989

00:50:09.795 --> 00:50:11.805

that falls short of actual scrutiny.

990

00:50:12.815 --> 00:50:16.125

7,000 acres are attempting to provide some balance,

991

00:50:17.105 --> 00:50:20.045

but what can a few volunteers do against companies spending

992

00:50:20.085 --> 00:50:21.765

millions on consultants?

993

00:50:22.755 --> 00:50:24.645

None of the over 20 parishes

994

00:50:24.705 --> 00:50:27.005

or parish meetings want this development.

995

00:50:27.705 --> 00:50:29.165

And you have residents sitting

996

00:50:29.265 --> 00:50:31.925

before this process asking for the scheme

997

00:50:31.985 --> 00:50:33.085

to not be permitted.

998

00:50:33.955 --> 00:50:35.175

The arguments are important.

999

00:50:35.635 --> 00:50:39.375

Mental health, farming, biodiversity, the limited

1000

00:50:39.935 --> 00:50:43.055

contribution solar generation can make the lack of jobs,

1001

00:50:43.875 --> 00:50:48.295

the lack of infrastructure, the impact on quality of life

1002

00:50:48.595 --> 00:50:49.695

for this community

1003

00:50:50.675 --> 00:50:52.895

and where there have already been two schemes

1004

00:50:53.495 --> 00:50:54.575

approved for this area.

1005

00:50:55.925 --> 00:50:59.575

When the machinery rolls are in on the two schemes

1006

00:50:59.595 --> 00:51:01.935

so far passed, people will then notice

1007

00:51:02.285 --> 00:51:04.655

that the promises are not justified.

1008

00:51:05.245 --> 00:51:07.375

That our infrastructure can't cope.

1009

00:51:07.885 --> 00:51:10.135

That flooding is likely to increase,

1010

00:51:10.605 --> 00:51:13.895

that our fields are gone, our farmers displaced,

1011

00:51:14.035 --> 00:51:17.135

our area changed forever, that they have not

1012

00:51:17.455 --> 00:51:19.135

provided the electricity promised,

1013

00:51:19.675 --> 00:51:21.735

but then it will be too late.

1014

00:51:22.995 --> 00:51:26.655

Do not allow a community effect to continue.

1015

00:51:27.285 --> 00:51:29.615

This countryside will be decimated.

1016

00:51:30.195 --> 00:51:34.295

Hedges will take decades to regrow. Wildlife will be gone.

1017

00:51:34.735 --> 00:51:37.835

I don't mean displaced, I mean dead. And for what?

1018

00:51:38.895 --> 00:51:40.905

It's not electricity production.

1019

00:51:41.725 --> 00:51:43.225

Our solar output is limited

1020

00:51:43.685 --> 00:51:48.265

and so mis mismatched with when we need energy in the uk.

1021

00:51:48.975 --> 00:51:51.145

It's not for environmental reasons because

1022

00:51:51.145 --> 00:51:53.145

otherwise we would be planting trees,

1023

00:51:53.575 --> 00:51:56.425

producing our own crops, making wildlife areas

1024

00:51:56.845 --> 00:52:01.785

and putting solar on rooftops first, How

1025

00:52:01.965 --> 00:52:06.025

as a community should we have faith in a process that fails

1026

00:52:06.205 --> 00:52:08.465

to seriously answer any of these issues

1027

00:52:09.405 --> 00:52:12.425

and will in inflict such damage on our region?

1028

00:52:13.635 --> 00:52:16.825

Especially when it's clear that the real driver for this

1029

00:52:17.845 --> 00:52:21.505

scheme is profit, pure and simple.

1030

00:52:22.035 --> 00:52:23.665

Greed. Thank you sir.

1031

00:52:25.455 --> 00:52:27.425

Okay, thank you very much.

1032

00:52:27.765 --> 00:52:32.655

Um, uh, we're now here from um, individual

1033

00:52:33.775 --> 00:52:35.235

or people representing themselves

1034

00:52:35.575 --> 00:52:36.915

as opposed to organizations.

1035

00:52:37.055 --> 00:52:41.035

So, uh, the first person who registered was, uh,

1036

00:52:41.055 --> 00:52:42.075

Martin Brown.

1037

00:52:46.085 --> 00:52:48.775

Do we, do we have Martin Brown?

1038

00:52:51.135 --> 00:52:51.875

No. Okay.

1039

00:52:56.445 --> 00:53:00.785

Uh, okay. We'll hear from Mark Pryor then please.

1040
00:53:26.885 --> 00:53:27.375
Alright.

1041
00:53:42.015 --> 00:53:46.305
Okay. Um, we will hear from

1042
00:53:46.885 --> 00:53:50.065
uh, uh, Tim l West, please.

1043
00:53:55.565 --> 00:53:55.855
Okay.

1044
00:54:00.655 --> 00:54:04.425
Good evening. Hello? Oh, sorry.

1045
00:54:04.455 --> 00:54:06.465
I've still got my, I was told it was gonna be cold.

1046
00:54:06.535 --> 00:54:08.225
I've got a rather extreme haircut now.

1047
00:54:08.325 --> 00:54:12.745
So let's get rid of the bobble hat. Uh, bit nervous.

1048
00:54:12.815 --> 00:54:14.065
This isn't what I normally do.

1049
00:54:15.545 --> 00:54:17.105
I think a lot of people are nervous,

1050
00:54:17.205 --> 00:54:19.345
but um, as I say, we are not gonna grill you

1051
00:54:19.345 --> 00:54:21.345
or anything, um, necessarily.

1052
00:54:21.545 --> 00:54:23.705
I mean we may have the odd question. No, no, no.

1053
00:54:23.705 --> 00:54:26.505

That, that's cool. You have um, five minutes?

1054

00:54:26.805 --> 00:54:27.945

Oh no, I've a little bit longer

1055

00:54:28.145 --> 00:54:31.745

'cause I'm representing a group I think as registered,

1056

00:54:31.845 --> 00:54:34.665

but I should be about three if I crack on right.

1057

00:54:34.665 --> 00:54:37.025

Okay. Uh, good evening.

1058

00:54:37.325 --> 00:54:42.105

Uh, my name is Tim Elis, uh, just Tim Elvis. Will do fine.

1059

00:54:42.105 --> 00:54:45.385

Thank you very much. Uh, I'm also representing Alice Elis,

1060

00:54:45.395 --> 00:54:48.865

David Elis, Debra Elis, Simon Elvis, and Victoria.

1061

00:54:49.095 --> 00:54:51.945

Elis, I believe you have all our details

1062

00:54:52.085 --> 00:54:55.505

as interested persons affected persons residential

1063

00:54:55.825 --> 00:54:57.865

receptors, landowners,

1064

00:54:57.965 --> 00:55:01.025

and occupiers within the principal site bounds.

1065

00:55:01.725 --> 00:55:03.265

I'd just like to make four points

1066

00:55:03.735 --> 00:55:07.725

regarding specifically employment, food security

1067

00:55:08.185 --> 00:55:10.365
and land use, developer engagement

1068

00:55:10.465 --> 00:55:12.565
and our changing landscape.

1069

00:55:13.105 --> 00:55:18.085
So, um, so, so I represent six people, six farmers,

1070

00:55:18.825 --> 00:55:20.525
um, but actually two of those

1071

00:55:21.785 --> 00:55:24.035
work off farm 40 hours a week.

1072

00:55:24.655 --> 00:55:26.995
Two of those people receive their state pension.

1073

00:55:27.895 --> 00:55:30.515
Um, none of us are actually losing our jobs

1074

00:55:30.785 --> 00:55:33.515
because of this development in, in any way.

1075

00:55:34.215 --> 00:55:37.035
On the contrary, we view this as a, a positive change

1076

00:55:37.255 --> 00:55:39.715
for our businesses and employment that have been encouraged

1077

00:55:39.715 --> 00:55:43.035
to diversify over the last 30 years.

1078

00:55:43.895 --> 00:55:46.155
The solar scheme will bring new jobs

1079

00:55:46.175 --> 00:55:47.275
and opportunities for us

1080

00:55:47.575 --> 00:55:50.075

and for others in things like site maintenance

1081

00:55:50.575 --> 00:55:52.715

and sheep grazing under the panels.

1082

00:55:53.495 --> 00:55:55.275

My brother and sister-in-law, for example,

1083

00:55:55.385 --> 00:55:58.155

have already successfully grazed sheep, uh,

1084

00:55:58.495 --> 00:56:00.315

on the sell site in West Lindsay,

1085

00:56:00.655 --> 00:56:02.915

and I'll be supplying photos in my written

1086

00:56:02.915 --> 00:56:04.315

submission to share that.

1087

00:56:06.825 --> 00:56:08.235

Turning to food security.

1088

00:56:08.895 --> 00:56:11.835

Um, when you made your site inspection,

1089

00:56:12.095 --> 00:56:13.715

you probably saw quite a lot of fields.

1090

00:56:13.715 --> 00:56:15.435

There's not really a lot else to see.

1091

00:56:15.975 --> 00:56:19.315

Um, but what were they actually growing mine for certain?

1092

00:56:19.515 --> 00:56:21.995

I can guarantee you weren't growing any food and,

1093

00:56:22.295 --> 00:56:25.645

and don't in the main, our land isn't used

1094

00:56:25.645 --> 00:56:27.005
for food production anymore.

1095

00:56:28.065 --> 00:56:31.045
On my 300 acres, I grow wheat for biofuel.

1096

00:56:31.545 --> 00:56:33.125
Uh, wheat is a product

1097

00:56:33.185 --> 00:56:37.605
that's generally in surplus in the uk, uh, whereas foods

1098

00:56:37.605 --> 00:56:41.725
that we as a nation need to import, for example, avocados

1099

00:56:42.685 --> 00:56:43.725
probably not gonna be very keen

1100

00:56:43.725 --> 00:56:47.965
to grow on my grade three B Clay, I would suggest,

1101

00:56:48.025 --> 00:56:50.125
and this is my personal view, um,

1102

00:56:50.195 --> 00:56:54.405
that low intensity carbon capturing selectively grazed

1103

00:56:54.475 --> 00:56:56.125
grassland grazed by sheep

1104

00:56:56.185 --> 00:56:58.765
and potentially hens, that would be a UK first.

1105

00:56:58.925 --> 00:57:01.565
I believe under solar panels will be a better use

1106

00:57:01.565 --> 00:57:04.245
of this land and the high inputs we are required to achieve

1107

00:57:04.765 --> 00:57:07.865

economic yields of biofuel, not food.

1108

00:57:07.925 --> 00:57:11.545

We, we don't, we don't grow food, people eat. Sorry.

1109

00:57:11.545 --> 00:57:15.825

We, we just, we just don't, uh, just like

1110

00:57:15.825 --> 00:57:17.105

to look at engagement quickly.

1111

00:57:17.725 --> 00:57:19.625

Um, we understand that lots

1112

00:57:19.625 --> 00:57:22.945

of people have concerns about noise and impact, um,

1113

00:57:23.245 --> 00:57:24.705

and there's no doubt that we

1114

00:57:24.705 --> 00:57:27.185

as the six people I represent are impacted

1115

00:57:27.405 --> 00:57:28.905

as residential receptors.

1116

00:57:29.585 --> 00:57:31.625

I think possibly the most impacted,

1117

00:57:31.765 --> 00:57:33.065

but I'm not a professional.

1118

00:57:33.065 --> 00:57:34.545

I'll leave you to make your judgment on that.

1119

00:57:34.545 --> 00:57:37.345

Looking at the maps, um, we've engaged

1120

00:57:37.425 --> 00:57:39.425

with a developer from, from early on

1121

00:57:39.605 --> 00:57:42.785

and have made quite a lot of positive changes in regard

1122

00:57:42.785 --> 00:57:45.505

to screening and other aspects in development in the

1123

00:57:45.505 --> 00:57:48.505

landscape that we are gonna continue to to live in.

1124

00:57:48.505 --> 00:57:50.225

It's literally all around us.

1125

00:57:50.925 --> 00:57:53.305

Um, the developers, they do actually listen

1126

00:57:53.525 --> 00:57:55.505

and take our local knowledge into account,

1127

00:57:55.525 --> 00:57:56.985

but only if you're actually willing to

1128

00:57:57.565 --> 00:57:59.585

engage in a conversation with them.

1129

00:58:00.685 --> 00:58:03.385

Uh, finally I'd just like to look at the, the landscape.

1130

00:58:03.685 --> 00:58:05.345

The landscape that I live in.

1131

00:58:06.085 --> 00:58:09.145

Uh, the landscape we live in isn't static

1132

00:58:09.725 --> 00:58:12.465

and I would argue it's not exactly a, a natural wilderness.

1133

00:58:13.055 --> 00:58:15.865

Ours is a largely manmade landscape.

1134

00:58:16.015 --> 00:58:18.705

It's a product of agricultural reform in the sixties.

1135

00:58:19.415 --> 00:58:22.705

Land enclosure beyond that and changes made by people,

1136

00:58:24.065 --> 00:58:26.065

although you can't see them, where crisscrossed already

1137

00:58:26.065 --> 00:58:28.945

with underground gas pipes, uh, taking energy in the form

1138

00:58:28.945 --> 00:58:32.345

of gas to cotton power station installed fairly recently.

1139

00:58:32.505 --> 00:58:35.625

I mean, could you tell, we drove around, uh,

1140

00:58:35.815 --> 00:58:37.905

what you see is not a natural landscape,

1141

00:58:37.905 --> 00:58:39.305

but one that's always been changing

1142

00:58:39.365 --> 00:58:40.665

to fit the needs to society.

1143

00:58:41.325 --> 00:58:43.025

Uh, the coming of the train power station,

1144

00:58:43.025 --> 00:58:44.505

cooling towers along the Trent Valley

1145

00:58:44.845 --> 00:58:47.345

and now solar to assist in the UK's binding

1146

00:58:47.345 --> 00:58:48.425

commitment to net zero.

1147

00:58:49.245 --> 00:58:53.625

Uh, in conclusion, um, big changes, positive opportunities,

1148

00:58:53.965 --> 00:58:56.505

and we're broadly in favor of the change, uh,

1149

00:58:56.965 --> 00:58:57.985

and have a busy day.

1150

00:58:58.045 --> 00:58:59.305

Uh, thank you very much for your time.

1151

00:59:01.195 --> 00:59:06.185

Don't expect any claps. Okay, thank you very much.

1152

00:59:08.875 --> 00:59:12.775

We will now hear from, um, Wendy Rose, please.

1153

00:59:19.205 --> 00:59:20.205

I,

1154

00:59:29.405 --> 00:59:30.405

Good evening.

1155

00:59:30.485 --> 00:59:33.455

Good evening. My name is Mrs.

1156

00:59:33.455 --> 00:59:36.335

Wendy Rose and I've lived in Ingham for 25 years.

1157

00:59:37.075 --> 00:59:40.135

My husband has farmed at ham for the last 55 years.

1158

00:59:41.295 --> 00:59:44.415

I will not waste time in repeating the technical arguments

1159

00:59:44.415 --> 00:59:48.295

against the proposals of placing solar panels long-term

1160

00:59:48.955 --> 00:59:52.415

on any type of agricultural farmland that could

1161

00:59:52.755 --> 00:59:54.375

and should be producing food.

1162

00:59:55.105 --> 00:59:57.895

There are people here who are far more knowledgeable than me

1163

00:59:57.995 --> 01:00:00.935

who can make a technically based sensible

1164

01:00:01.275 --> 01:00:04.495

and well-documented argument against these proposals.

1165

01:00:05.615 --> 01:00:08.335

I have two points to make, I believe are very important.

1166

01:00:09.555 --> 01:00:12.295

The first is that whilst we are here at a till bridge lane

1167

01:00:12.295 --> 01:00:16.655

hearing, we all know this is only one of four

1168

01:00:17.175 --> 01:00:19.015

proposals that make up a total

1169

01:00:19.015 --> 01:00:21.295

of 10,000 acres of solar panels.

1170

01:00:21.955 --> 01:00:23.735

We cannot ignore this fact.

1171

01:00:24.735 --> 01:00:27.275

All four of the schemes must be considered together

1172

01:00:28.645 --> 01:00:29.945

as the examining panel.

1173

01:00:30.145 --> 01:00:31.425

I would urge you to pause

1174

01:00:31.605 --> 01:00:35.305

and consider the impact on this huge area of rural land

1175
01:00:35.845 --> 01:00:37.905
and the 40,000 people who live there.

1176
01:00:39.525 --> 01:00:41.385
It is a fact that even in Germany,

1177
01:00:41.475 --> 01:00:44.225
which has a much larger landmass in the uk,

1178
01:00:44.715 --> 01:00:46.865
there are no plans to install a solar,

1179
01:00:47.025 --> 01:00:48.505
a solar farm of this size.

1180
01:00:49.335 --> 01:00:50.625
They have got their act together

1181
01:00:51.205 --> 01:00:53.705
and plus legislation so

1182
01:00:53.705 --> 01:00:55.665
that solar panels are placed on the roofs

1183
01:00:55.665 --> 01:00:56.905
of houses and other buildings.

1184
01:00:59.455 --> 01:01:01.375
Secondly, I urge you

1185
01:01:01.715 --> 01:01:04.335
to consider the impact on the public health

1186
01:01:05.195 --> 01:01:07.775
of all those people in the affected area.

1187
01:01:08.745 --> 01:01:11.215
These people have lived here for generations

1188
01:01:11.515 --> 01:01:12.975

or moved here by choice.

1189

01:01:14.645 --> 01:01:17.005

Although services are often poor and costs are higher.

1190

01:01:17.865 --> 01:01:20.525

People make these homes in these villages

1191

01:01:20.835 --> 01:01:23.525

because they want to live in a rural environment.

1192

01:01:24.385 --> 01:01:25.915

They know they will have access

1193

01:01:25.935 --> 01:01:27.795

to footpaths and bridal ways.

1194

01:01:28.655 --> 01:01:30.555

It will be quiet and peaceful.

1195

01:01:31.645 --> 01:01:33.175

They want to live amongst nature

1196

01:01:33.435 --> 01:01:35.895

and are used to the cyclical farming, sorry,

1197

01:01:35.955 --> 01:01:38.455

the cyclical pattern of the farming year.

1198

01:01:40.245 --> 01:01:42.495

Fast forward to these panels being approved

1199

01:01:43.035 --> 01:01:44.975

and this environment will have disappeared

1200

01:01:45.925 --> 01:01:49.185

and will have become a vast industrial landscape.

1201

01:01:50.305 --> 01:01:52.485

Who would want to live amongst thousands of acres

1202

01:01:52.485 --> 01:01:55.855
of solar panels, even if there were access

1203

01:01:55.855 --> 01:01:58.975
to the fields affected, it would not be allowed anyway.

1204

01:02:00.505 --> 01:02:03.305
I cannot stress highly enough that the physical

1205

01:02:03.365 --> 01:02:05.225
and mental health of thousands

1206

01:02:05.225 --> 01:02:07.985
of local residents will be hugely affected.

1207

01:02:09.525 --> 01:02:13.585
And senior NHF staff have stated this is a public health

1208

01:02:13.895 --> 01:02:15.865
catastrophe waiting to happen

1209

01:02:16.725 --> 01:02:18.625
and you will have played a part in

1210

01:02:18.625 --> 01:02:19.845
being responsible for that.

1211

01:02:21.015 --> 01:02:24.535
I urge you to take these considerations seriously

1212

01:02:24.535 --> 01:02:25.855
and stop these proposals.

1213

01:02:27.315 --> 01:02:28.775
We should be backing plans

1214

01:02:29.075 --> 01:02:32.415
for small nuclear reactors at the site of the power stations

1215

01:02:32.955 --> 01:02:35.055

and wind turbines that take up a fraction

1216

01:02:35.055 --> 01:02:37.695

of the land in comparison to the solar option.

1217

01:02:38.825 --> 01:02:42.715

Throughout this planning period, the people here,

1218

01:02:43.175 --> 01:02:45.235

the residents have felt depressed

1219

01:02:45.335 --> 01:02:49.155

and sick with worry about the future of such a large

1220

01:02:49.725 --> 01:02:53.075

industrial solar farm in their midst.

1221

01:02:53.215 --> 01:02:56.475

And I urge you to listen to us. Thank you.

1222

01:02:58.365 --> 01:03:02.875

Thank you very much. Okay, uh, could we hear from

1223

01:03:03.415 --> 01:03:04.595

Vander Coleman, please?

1224

01:03:10.695 --> 01:03:11.695

Good evening.

1225

01:03:14.505 --> 01:03:15.685

Uh, my name is Mrs.

1226

01:03:15.685 --> 01:03:18.645

Vander Coleman and I'm speaking here today

1227

01:03:18.945 --> 01:03:22.325

as a concerned resident living in the locality

1228

01:03:22.905 --> 01:03:25.245

of this development, who feels

1229

01:03:25.275 --> 01:03:28.005

that this will have a negative impact on our health,

1230

01:03:28.515 --> 01:03:30.925

wellbeing, and present way of life.

1231

01:03:32.325 --> 01:03:35.385

It will transform the existing rural landscape into an

1232

01:03:35.385 --> 01:03:40.065

industrial wasteland surrounded by metal secure fencing,

1233

01:03:40.585 --> 01:03:42.385

CCTV cameras, lighting.

1234

01:03:43.275 --> 01:03:46.585

It'll be like living in the confines of a giant prison camp.

1235

01:03:48.585 --> 01:03:52.285

Why are the areas of screening described as potential?

1236

01:03:53.265 --> 01:03:54.605

Surely there should be mandatory

1237

01:03:55.315 --> 01:03:58.605

that they seem completely inadequate for the scale

1238

01:03:58.605 --> 01:04:02.645

of the proposed development and any, any hedge rows

1239

01:04:02.705 --> 01:04:05.965

and trees will take in excess 15 to 20 years

1240

01:04:06.785 --> 01:04:07.925

to make any effect.

1241

01:04:08.875 --> 01:04:10.245

I'll probably be dead by then

1242

01:04:10.945 --> 01:04:15.765

and I find it very difficult to comprehend the scale

1243

01:04:16.225 --> 01:04:18.485

of what is proposed on our doorsteps.

1244

01:04:20.985 --> 01:04:23.165

The road infrastructure wasn't built

1245

01:04:23.185 --> 01:04:24.605

for this scale of development.

1246

01:04:25.465 --> 01:04:29.485

If we want to travel anywhere, it has to be by car or cycle.

1247

01:04:30.335 --> 01:04:32.845

Navigating narrow roads, blind bends

1248

01:04:32.845 --> 01:04:34.445

through our hamlets and villages.

1249

01:04:35.025 --> 01:04:37.765

We don't have a choice at the moment.

1250

01:04:38.025 --> 01:04:40.285

We can walk and cycle along our roads.

1251

01:04:41.285 --> 01:04:43.685

I feel these options will be taken away from us

1252

01:04:46.105 --> 01:04:49.045

during the construction phase til Bridge State

1253

01:04:49.635 --> 01:04:53.645

that there will be 1,250 workers working on site

1254

01:04:54.545 --> 01:04:58.735

who can only access the area by vehicles as they,

1255

01:04:58.755 --> 01:05:00.095

we don't have a bus service.

1256
01:05:01.245 --> 01:05:03.695
They in, they indicate that they intend

1257
01:05:03.695 --> 01:05:06.495
to work 12 hours a day, five

1258
01:05:06.515 --> 01:05:09.855
and a half days a week, including weekends.

1259
01:05:10.875 --> 01:05:12.015
The constant noise

1260
01:05:12.315 --> 01:05:15.975
and disturbance over a two year period will be relentless

1261
01:05:16.755 --> 01:05:21.005
and have a dev devastating effect on local residents.

1262
01:05:22.185 --> 01:05:25.125
In addition, there'll be large HGV movements

1263
01:05:25.715 --> 01:05:29.125
causing further distress to local residents

1264
01:05:30.145 --> 01:05:33.325
and in any and anyone using the local residents

1265
01:05:33.325 --> 01:05:35.565
and anyone using the local roads.

1266
01:05:36.315 --> 01:05:37.525
Sitting in the peace

1267
01:05:37.705 --> 01:05:40.605
and tranquility of our own gardens with family

1268
01:05:40.665 --> 01:05:42.525
and friends in the evenings

1269
01:05:42.525 --> 01:05:44.925

and weekends will not be an option.

1270

01:05:46.625 --> 01:05:48.565

My partners contacted till Bridge

1271

01:05:48.735 --> 01:05:51.965

after one of their presentations in our village hall with,

1272

01:05:52.435 --> 01:05:55.245

with questions relating to Bradfield road,

1273

01:05:55.395 --> 01:05:56.685

leading to middle road.

1274

01:05:57.225 --> 01:05:59.765

He never got a response. They just didn't care.

1275

01:06:02.095 --> 01:06:03.755

During the construction phase,

1276

01:06:03.815 --> 01:06:06.075

the existing wildlife will be displaced

1277

01:06:06.375 --> 01:06:08.475

and their natural habitat destroyed.

1278

01:06:09.085 --> 01:06:12.035

There will be nowhere for them to return to on completion

1279

01:06:12.975 --> 01:06:15.235

as the works of the works.

1280

01:06:15.305 --> 01:06:18.475

Instead, they will be excluded from the site by fencing.

1281

01:06:19.255 --> 01:06:22.675

The proposed areas of enhancements are completely inadequate

1282

01:06:22.775 --> 01:06:26.075

and fail to demonstrate any biodiversity gain.

1283

01:06:28.415 --> 01:06:31.875

We are led to believe that the battery storage units pro are

1284

01:06:31.885 --> 01:06:35.835

prone to internal combustion giving off toxic fumes.

1285

01:06:36.745 --> 01:06:40.035

Does our local fire brigade have adequate resources to deal

1286

01:06:40.035 --> 01:06:41.075

with any incidents

1287

01:06:41.615 --> 01:06:44.555

or is it acceptable to expect people to live

1288

01:06:44.745 --> 01:06:47.995

with constant fear of being gassed in their beds?

1289

01:06:50.235 --> 01:06:52.405

Finally, some of my neighbors say,

1290

01:06:52.405 --> 01:06:55.365

coming here tonight is a complete waste of time,

1291

01:06:56.065 --> 01:06:57.885

as in the rush rush for net zero.

1292

01:06:58.745 --> 01:07:01.205

Our way of life is not important to the government.

1293

01:07:01.745 --> 01:07:03.765

And as we, as we stand, no chance

1294

01:07:03.825 --> 01:07:05.445

of fighting this development,

1295

01:07:07.165 --> 01:07:08.565

I would love to prove them wrong.

1296

01:07:09.255 --> 01:07:10.255

Thank you.

1297

01:07:13.755 --> 01:07:15.085

Okay, thank you very much for your time.

1298

01:07:15.305 --> 01:07:18.165

Um, could we hear from David Wells please?

1299

01:07:23.565 --> 01:07:25.415

No. Okay.

1300

01:07:27.115 --> 01:07:29.855

Um, we'd like to hear from Sean Todd, please.

1301

01:07:39.985 --> 01:07:41.275

Good evening. Good evening.

1302

01:07:42.695 --> 01:07:44.715

You've got five, five minutes, right? Thank

1303

01:07:44.715 --> 01:07:45.715

You. I've not prepared

1304

01:07:45.715 --> 01:07:46.875

anything like everybody else

1305

01:07:46.975 --> 01:07:48.155

has done here tonight.

1306

01:07:48.975 --> 01:07:52.315

Um, I've heard lots of great points made, lots of which

1307

01:07:52.315 --> 01:07:54.235

that I would've covered, so I don't wanna repeat them.

1308

01:07:55.095 --> 01:07:57.875

Um, everybody's insult their opinion.

1309

01:07:58.935 --> 01:08:02.195

The man with the woolly hat that came over has an opinion,

1310

01:08:03.135 --> 01:08:06.955

but the vast majority of residents here don't own vast farms

1311

01:08:07.615 --> 01:08:10.555

and won't profit by any of the work that's gonna be done.

1312

01:08:11.225 --> 01:08:14.755

They're simply residents that fight to pay their mortgages

1313

01:08:15.585 --> 01:08:17.605

to have a home for their children to live in.

1314

01:08:18.425 --> 01:08:20.725

And when that has taken a huge amount of time

1315

01:08:20.725 --> 01:08:22.365

and effort from an individual basis,

1316

01:08:23.355 --> 01:08:24.845

this company will simply come in

1317

01:08:25.345 --> 01:08:28.605

and destroy the value of that land to destroy the value

1318

01:08:28.625 --> 01:08:31.685

of those properties, forcing people into negative equity,

1319

01:08:32.175 --> 01:08:34.165

which is something that's never been considered

1320

01:08:34.165 --> 01:08:35.285

or even talked about tonight.

1321

01:08:36.145 --> 01:08:38.445

You're dealing with people of different ages here.

1322

01:08:39.225 --> 01:08:41.765

The vast majority of people here are a bit older than

1323

01:08:41.765 --> 01:08:43.645

myself and have different drivers.

1324

01:08:44.655 --> 01:08:47.075

But to be honest, I repeat everything these guys are saying.

1325

01:08:47.945 --> 01:08:51.155

It's about making sure that environments are kept

1326

01:08:51.495 --> 01:08:54.755

as environments that people can thrive in, not die in,

1327

01:08:55.595 --> 01:08:59.835

struggle in, have no work in the gentleman behind,

1328

01:08:59.835 --> 01:09:02.155

talked about work for people.

1329

01:09:03.005 --> 01:09:06.765

There'll be less work for people here on those sites.

1330

01:09:07.715 --> 01:09:10.485

I've built power plants in different countries. Personally.

1331

01:09:11.075 --> 01:09:13.765

I've built water plants in different countries. Personally.

1332

01:09:14.275 --> 01:09:17.205

I've built solar projects in different countries personally,

1333

01:09:17.865 --> 01:09:20.645

all of which have more sunshine than we will ever

1334

01:09:20.645 --> 01:09:21.725

have in a year.

1335

01:09:22.545 --> 01:09:26.645

And even those entities struggle to utilize the energy

1336

01:09:26.795 --> 01:09:29.565

because they have other energy they can tap into,

1337
01:09:30.175 --> 01:09:32.565
which is cheaper, to make more reliable

1338
01:09:32.945 --> 01:09:34.285
and is needed when they need it,

1339
01:09:34.945 --> 01:09:37.445
not when we have the summer when no one cares.

1340
01:09:38.585 --> 01:09:41.365
So for me, I won't take much of your time.

1341
01:09:42.105 --> 01:09:45.365
I'm really asking you to look at the application with

1342
01:09:45.845 --> 01:09:47.655
what I would classify as common sense.

1343
01:09:48.925 --> 01:09:51.815
Does it provide what it says that it will do?

1344
01:09:52.875 --> 01:09:55.375
If it doesn't provide those aspects

1345
01:09:55.685 --> 01:09:58.975
that are strictly specified within that application,

1346
01:10:00.075 --> 01:10:02.175
how can we move forward with it at all?

1347
01:10:03.015 --> 01:10:06.875
If it can produce five megawatts, 10 megawatts,

1348
01:10:06.915 --> 01:10:09.875
a hundred megawatts, show me, prove it.

1349
01:10:10.105 --> 01:10:11.675
Because none of the evidence that's been

1350
01:10:11.875 --> 01:10:13.475

provided can prove any of that.

1351

01:10:14.545 --> 01:10:17.395

It's like building a car with no roads.

1352

01:10:18.445 --> 01:10:21.055

It's like building a water mill in the desert.

1353

01:10:21.805 --> 01:10:24.575

There's no reason for it. It provides no value.

1354

01:10:25.435 --> 01:10:27.815

It provides no flexibility in the power market.

1355

01:10:28.315 --> 01:10:30.455

It cannot give us the energy we need when we need it.

1356

01:10:31.575 --> 01:10:34.355

So in danger of going around in circles here,

1357

01:10:34.935 --> 01:10:37.755

nobody sees a benefit other than the landowner

1358

01:10:37.755 --> 01:10:40.635

that came in earlier who will benefit from a financial

1359

01:10:40.635 --> 01:10:42.355

perspective, which none of us will.

1360

01:10:43.835 --> 01:10:45.455

So I leave with that message.

1361

01:10:46.775 --> 01:10:48.915

As it was mentioned before, it's about profit,

1362

01:10:49.625 --> 01:10:51.155

it's about manipulating the system.

1363

01:10:51.785 --> 01:10:53.155

It's nothing about energy,

1364

01:10:53.345 --> 01:10:54.675

it's nothing about climate change.

1365

01:10:54.705 --> 01:10:55.915

It's nothing about net zero.

1366

01:10:56.425 --> 01:10:57.835

It's purely and simply about money.

1367

01:10:58.255 --> 01:10:59.915

That's why the farmer behind me wants it.

1368

01:10:59.975 --> 01:11:02.435

That's why the guys who are putting application in wants it

1369

01:11:03.055 --> 01:11:05.875

and when the money runs out, when the government decide not

1370

01:11:05.875 --> 01:11:08.595

to subsidize it anymore, it'll be offloaded

1371

01:11:08.975 --> 01:11:10.715

and it'll be offloaded to somebody who may

1372

01:11:10.715 --> 01:11:11.835

or may not want it.

1373

01:11:12.215 --> 01:11:15.725

And when that money train fails, it will sit

1374

01:11:15.725 --> 01:11:16.965

as an industrial wasteland.

1375

01:11:17.915 --> 01:11:20.125

Just like most of the things

1376

01:11:20.125 --> 01:11:22.965

that have happened in the last 50 years that I've seen,

1377

01:11:23.505 --> 01:11:25.565

for example, the loss of reservoirs

1378

01:11:25.565 --> 01:11:29.005

because we needed more housing, so we built on floodplains

1379

01:11:29.105 --> 01:11:31.805

and reservoirs, we then have droughts.

1380

01:11:32.265 --> 01:11:33.605

We now have widespread flooding.

1381

01:11:34.465 --> 01:11:37.635

Okay, my question is, do you want to be responsible

1382

01:11:37.935 --> 01:11:40.705

for a legacy, you know, that has not

1383

01:11:41.185 --> 01:11:42.185

provided anything for the,

1384

01:11:42.285 --> 01:11:43.585

for the people in that environment?

1385

01:11:44.115 --> 01:11:46.025

We're seeing people now all over this nation

1386

01:11:46.395 --> 01:11:47.545

struggling with flooding.

1387

01:11:49.115 --> 01:11:50.405

It's not a nice Christmas present.

1388

01:11:50.765 --> 01:11:53.405

I watched the news and thought, what have we done here?

1389

01:11:53.945 --> 01:11:55.125

And when you take a step back

1390

01:11:55.125 --> 01:11:56.365

and you look back at the development

1391

01:11:56.365 --> 01:11:59.525
of those housing estates, those buildings,

1392

01:12:00.365 --> 01:12:03.695
they were sat in a place like this with people like us

1393

01:12:04.315 --> 01:12:05.615
asking the question of why,

1394

01:12:05.995 --> 01:12:07.255
why are you building on flood plains?

1395

01:12:07.715 --> 01:12:09.695
And we were ignored and know

1396

01:12:09.695 --> 01:12:10.935
there's, people can't get insurance.

1397

01:12:11.765 --> 01:12:13.455
They can't get their money back for their homes.

1398

01:12:14.405 --> 01:12:18.055
They like to swim on a yearly basis. Their lives are ruined.

1399

01:12:19.045 --> 01:12:21.055
This has led to people taking their own lives.

1400

01:12:21.645 --> 01:12:23.775
It's led to people in mass depression.

1401

01:12:24.525 --> 01:12:28.385
It's really left a scar on the landscape in those places.

1402

01:12:29.445 --> 01:12:33.625
So please think of those type of projects, think of this

1403

01:12:34.085 --> 01:12:36.305
and think of the benefit that this will not have.

1404

01:12:36.875 --> 01:12:37.875

Thank you.

1405

01:12:40.295 --> 01:12:42.025

Okay. Thank you very much.

1406

01:12:42.925 --> 01:12:45.945

Um, could we hear from Alistair

1407

01:12:47.125 --> 01:12:48.295

Broadband, please?

1408

01:12:58.825 --> 01:12:59.755

Good evening. Evening.

1409

01:13:00.555 --> 01:13:02.155

Alistair Broadman, local resident.

1410

01:13:04.035 --> 01:13:07.495

Um, I'm speaking today, um, despite the fact, I'm concerned

1411

01:13:07.495 --> 01:13:10.415

that the, this political will for anything

1412

01:13:10.415 --> 01:13:13.095

with the label green agenda to, to a go ahead.

1413

01:13:13.235 --> 01:13:16.175

No matter what the pros and cons in reality are

1414

01:13:16.395 --> 01:13:19.895

or any recommendation given from yourself would be.

1415

01:13:20.555 --> 01:13:23.615

Um, but I think it's important to still come forward

1416

01:13:23.635 --> 01:13:24.775

and, and share opinions.

1417

01:13:25.925 --> 01:13:28.655

This should come down to nothing short

1418

01:13:28.755 --> 01:13:30.175

of pros versus the cons.

1419

01:13:30.405 --> 01:13:32.855

Just do the advantages outweigh the negatives.

1420

01:13:33.515 --> 01:13:36.455

So in, in this case, the advantage is the electric

1421

01:13:37.015 --> 01:13:40.095

electrical production that's gonna be generated from this.

1422

01:13:40.755 --> 01:13:44.655

Um, so when the applicant has given those, those figures,

1423

01:13:44.655 --> 01:13:46.695

they've used the design capacity,

1424

01:13:46.985 --> 01:13:49.775

which isn't the real world capacity, uh, output.

1425

01:13:49.995 --> 01:13:53.255

The real world output is dependent on the utilization factor

1426

01:13:53.355 --> 01:13:54.895

of the, the country and us.

1427

01:13:55.595 --> 01:13:57.095

For, in our area in this country,

1428

01:13:57.115 --> 01:14:00.895

in the uk it's on an average around 11%, depending on the,

1429

01:14:01.035 --> 01:14:02.215

the exact panel used.

1430

01:14:02.915 --> 01:14:07.775

Um, so the, the benefit is a 10th of what they've given to

1431

01:14:07.955 --> 01:14:09.695

as design capacity a lot of the time.

1432

01:14:10.155 --> 01:14:12.045

So it isn't a fair representation.

1433

01:14:12.105 --> 01:14:13.565

That's what's been given to the public.

1434

01:14:14.425 --> 01:14:19.005

Um, the, the negatives, uh, so the, uh, that,

1435

01:14:19.195 --> 01:14:22.045

that isn't the full story in terms of the, the, uh,

1436

01:14:22.115 --> 01:14:23.165

utilization factor.

1437

01:14:23.725 --> 01:14:24.965

'cause that doesn't take into account that

1438

01:14:24.965 --> 01:14:26.045

that's heavily influenced

1439

01:14:26.045 --> 01:14:28.285

by the summer months when it's greater and,

1440

01:14:28.345 --> 01:14:30.125

and winter months it's much less.

1441

01:14:31.025 --> 01:14:33.845

Um, and that also isn't the full story

1442

01:14:33.845 --> 01:14:36.445

because it's also during the day when demand is less.

1443

01:14:36.865 --> 01:14:39.085

We don't have the technology at the moment in order

1444

01:14:39.105 --> 01:14:42.285

to store electronic electricity for later use.

1445

01:14:42.285 --> 01:14:46.285

Effectively over hours, let alone, um, seasons.

1446

01:14:46.675 --> 01:14:48.885

It's, we're not there yet. And the battery storage

1447

01:14:49.455 --> 01:14:51.165

isn't a, an answer to that.

1448

01:14:51.235 --> 01:14:54.405

It's a, a very small negligible benefit, really.

1449

01:14:55.985 --> 01:15:00.525

So, um, so the, the effect is also on,

1450

01:15:00.665 --> 01:15:02.685

uh, nationally.

1451

01:15:02.685 --> 01:15:04.645

Uh, we, our infrastructure is quite old

1452

01:15:04.665 --> 01:15:07.125

and a lot of our traditional power stations,

1453

01:15:07.515 --> 01:15:09.605

they work the most effectively, efficiently,

1454

01:15:09.625 --> 01:15:12.725

and reliably when they're at full capacity all the time.

1455

01:15:12.725 --> 01:15:14.525

That's not possible due to trends.

1456

01:15:15.065 --> 01:15:18.565

So it has to meet the demands of, of, of, of the, the,

1457

01:15:18.785 --> 01:15:19.925

uh, consumers at the time.

1458

01:15:20.385 --> 01:15:22.285

Um, but that's massively reduced

1459

01:15:22.285 --> 01:15:24.845

during the day when the solar panels will be making

1460

01:15:24.845 --> 01:15:26.085

quite a lot of electricity.

1461

01:15:26.425 --> 01:15:28.405

So those that are already cutting back quite a lot

1462

01:15:28.405 --> 01:15:29.445

will have to cut back further.

1463

01:15:29.825 --> 01:15:32.405

And at that point, boilers do struggle with, with flow.

1464

01:15:32.405 --> 01:15:33.965

They, the conventional boilers

1465

01:15:34.065 --> 01:15:35.365

do struggle and become less reliable.

1466

01:15:35.385 --> 01:15:37.845

And a lot of our boilers are quite old in this country.

1467

01:15:38.585 --> 01:15:40.685

Um, so that, that will have a negative impact on them.

1468

01:15:41.545 --> 01:15:46.125

The, uh, the negatives of the, the,

1469

01:15:46.585 --> 01:15:49.005

um, the plants, these, these, uh,

1470

01:15:49.005 --> 01:15:50.685

industrial solar farms are real.

1471

01:15:50.685 --> 01:15:54.405

They can be negated to some level, but they still exist.

1472

01:15:54.405 --> 01:15:57.645

There'll still be a negative impact on local commun local

1473

01:15:57.645 --> 01:15:58.765

communities and mental health.

1474

01:15:59.015 --> 01:16:01.365

There will be negative effects on wildlife.

1475

01:16:01.535 --> 01:16:04.925

There will be negative effects on, um, food production that,

1476

01:16:04.925 --> 01:16:07.125

that the, the, the land is producing.

1477

01:16:07.225 --> 01:16:09.005

Um, it's, it's all used currently.

1478

01:16:09.035 --> 01:16:10.725

It's not, it's not there doing anything.

1479

01:16:10.725 --> 01:16:12.325

It's producing, uh, food

1480

01:16:12.465 --> 01:16:15.165

and, um, that food is gonna have to come from somewhere.

1481

01:16:15.185 --> 01:16:16.965

We already import food.

1482

01:16:17.505 --> 01:16:19.845

Um, so that the land that would now have

1483

01:16:19.845 --> 01:16:23.925

to be imported from other countries, one of the main, um,

1484

01:16:25.305 --> 01:16:29.335

great, uh, products growing that land is, um, sort of wheat,

1485

01:16:29.625 --> 01:16:31.615

which we import from places like Canada.

1486

01:16:32.155 --> 01:16:36.055

How can it be economical or wait is economical,

1487

01:16:36.355 --> 01:16:38.935

but in the best interest of the environment

1488

01:16:38.935 --> 01:16:40.695

to import it thousands

1489

01:16:40.695 --> 01:16:43.935

of miles on massive great ships burning fossil fuels.

1490

01:16:44.355 --> 01:16:47.335

Has that been taken into account that the what we,

1491

01:16:47.355 --> 01:16:48.695

the land isn't gonna be doing anymore?

1492

01:16:49.035 --> 01:16:52.175

And those impacts the app.

1493

01:16:52.175 --> 01:16:53.895

As far as the applicants is concerned,

1494

01:16:54.755 --> 01:16:56.095

locals are always gonna

1495

01:16:56.095 --> 01:16:59.215

to be against any development in their area, which it's,

1496

01:16:59.215 --> 01:17:00.695

it is true, it's gonna, is the case.

1497

01:17:01.395 --> 01:17:05.375

Um, but when the benefits clearly outweigh the, the,

1498

01:17:05.375 --> 01:17:08.455

the costs, it, the just, people have to get over that.

1499

01:17:09.145 --> 01:17:12.085

But that's why people are so upset about this development.

1500

01:17:12.625 --> 01:17:15.325

The evidence isn't clear, isn't obvious

1501

01:17:15.325 --> 01:17:18.445

that the benefits do outweigh the, the, the, the negatives.

1502

01:17:18.705 --> 01:17:20.445

So that's why people are so against it

1503

01:17:20.445 --> 01:17:25.355

and why it should be heavily considered the, um,

1504

01:17:30.015 --> 01:17:32.045

sorry, I lost what I was going say next then.

1505

01:17:32.045 --> 01:17:33.325

30 seconds. 30 seconds.

1506

01:17:33.545 --> 01:17:37.085

Um, so in, in, in conclusion, I don't believe

1507

01:17:37.085 --> 01:17:39.965

that this is a green, um, program.

1508

01:17:40.545 --> 01:17:43.285

It isn't gonna produce electricity in the level we need,

1509

01:17:43.285 --> 01:17:44.805

so it isn't of national and importance.

1510

01:17:45.505 --> 01:17:48.485

It therefore it can only be of financial benefit

1511

01:17:48.665 --> 01:17:49.685

to the applicant.

1512

01:17:50.025 --> 01:17:51.485

And also a tick box

1513

01:17:51.545 --> 01:17:55.765

or tariff meeting, um, agenda for government potentially.

1514

01:17:56.425 --> 01:17:57.425

That's it. Thank you.

1515

01:17:59.475 --> 01:18:04.155

Okay, thank you. Um, okay.

1516

01:18:05.085 --> 01:18:08.035

Could we please hear from Peter O'Grady?

1517

01:18:18.165 --> 01:18:22.635

Bear with us. Could we just a reminder

1518

01:18:22.695 --> 01:18:24.555

to turn phones to silent please.

1519

01:18:25.715 --> 01:18:29.085

Okay. Good evening, sir. Hi, good evening. Peter O'Grady.

1520

01:18:29.345 --> 01:18:30.725

I'm, uh, resident of Ingham.

1521

01:18:31.545 --> 01:18:34.405

Um, um, but I'm also an energy professional.

1522

01:18:34.515 --> 01:18:36.405

I've worked in the industry for 36 years.

1523

01:18:37.185 --> 01:18:38.605

I'm a chartered electrical engineer

1524

01:18:39.425 --> 01:18:41.965

and I've been managing power assets for 25 years.

1525

01:18:44.865 --> 01:18:49.305

And I can't believe the scale of development in this region

1526

01:18:51.585 --> 01:18:56.395

and the cumulative impact of that development being as large

1527

01:18:56.395 --> 01:19:00.055

as anywhere on earth in terms of solar, given the,

1528

01:19:01.045 --> 01:19:02.155

given the low output.

1529

01:19:03.625 --> 01:19:08.575

And it's really hard to explain to this community

1530

01:19:08.845 --> 01:19:10.015

what they're gonna have to bear

1531

01:19:12.815 --> 01:19:14.555

for such little contribution.

1532

01:19:14.895 --> 01:19:17.075

You know, we've heard about how

1533

01:19:17.695 --> 01:19:20.595

low the output is in terms of yield.

1534

01:19:21.645 --> 01:19:26.115

We've heard about how mismatched the output is from when

1535

01:19:26.695 --> 01:19:27.995

the country needs its power.

1536

01:19:31.525 --> 01:19:34.145

And crucially, as ever more intermittent energy

1537

01:19:34.325 --> 01:19:35.545

is added to the system.

1538

01:19:36.405 --> 01:19:38.985

The more intermittent capacity is, the more

1539

01:19:38.985 --> 01:19:43.845

that becomes a problem, the more the genuine

1540

01:19:43.915 --> 01:19:47.445

challenge is about how to manage that intermittency

1541

01:19:48.025 --> 01:19:51.005

and how to deliver flexible green energy.

1542

01:19:55.295 --> 01:19:57.395

The uncontrolled development that we're seeing

1543

01:19:59.165 --> 01:20:03.445

represents a really expensive path, a really wasteful path

1544

01:20:03.505 --> 01:20:04.645

to decarbonization.

1545

01:20:07.405 --> 01:20:11.945

And what's worse is that it's completely unnecessary given

1546

01:20:11.945 --> 01:20:14.265

what other countries have delivered on rooftops.

1547

01:20:17.025 --> 01:20:20.505

I find it genuinely hard to explain to my family

1548

01:20:21.085 --> 01:20:22.145

as a power expert

1549

01:20:23.665 --> 01:20:28.455

and to my community why this is a sensible approach.

1550

01:20:30.525 --> 01:20:35.495

All I can explain is that is a quirk of economics.

1551

01:20:37.995 --> 01:20:42.075

It's cheap to deploy solar energy.

1552

01:20:42.075 --> 01:20:43.835

Prices in the UK are high

1553

01:20:45.315 --> 01:20:47.575

and the economics of farming are down the path.

1554

01:20:52.455 --> 01:20:56.695

It cannot be considered irrational, logical,

1555

01:20:57.855 --> 01:21:01.345

planned way to decarbonize our country.

1556

01:21:04.255 --> 01:21:06.105

It's a mess. That's what it is.

1557

01:21:12.205 --> 01:21:12.815

Okay, thank you.

1558

01:21:19.235 --> 01:21:22.245

Okay. Could we please hear from Dawn Johnson?

1559

01:21:34.235 --> 01:21:34.765

Good evening.

1560

01:21:35.495 --> 01:21:36.925

Hello, my name is Mrs.

1561

01:21:36.925 --> 01:21:39.965

Dawn Johnson and I'm speaking this evening on behalf

1562

01:21:40.105 --> 01:21:42.245

of Carol Gilbert, who wanted to speak

1563

01:21:42.465 --> 01:21:43.685

but is poorly at the moment.

1564

01:21:44.465 --> 01:21:48.245

Um, she's a local resident and I'm also a local resident.

1565

01:21:50.045 --> 01:21:52.605

Surprisingly, considering the number

1566

01:21:52.605 --> 01:21:55.485

of solar sites being currently proposed for our area,

1567

01:21:56.385 --> 01:21:58.205

the last thing I've ever associated

1568

01:21:58.235 --> 01:22:03.045

with the UK is an abundance of sunshine, wind, sometimes

1569

01:22:04.035 --> 01:22:08.565

rain, copious clouds check, but lots

1570

01:22:08.565 --> 01:22:09.685

and lots of sunshine.

1571

01:22:10.465 --> 01:22:13.555

No NHSS vice is

1572

01:22:13.555 --> 01:22:16.715

that citizens should supplement with vitamin D

1573

01:22:16.975 --> 01:22:20.795

to mitigate against the fact that we do not have enough sun.

1574

01:22:22.015 --> 01:22:26.155

Go figure. There are many concerning aspects

1575

01:22:26.415 --> 01:22:29.075

to the prospect of living within a solar zone.

1576

01:22:30.535 --> 01:22:34.275

The disruption of construction, the practicality of living

1577

01:22:34.275 --> 01:22:36.795

amongst five to 6 million panels

1578

01:22:37.335 --> 01:22:40.795

and the associated infrastructure inverters

1579

01:22:41.375 --> 01:22:42.835

and not lease the risks

1580

01:22:43.145 --> 01:22:46.035

that the battery energy storage systems will bring.

1581

01:22:47.845 --> 01:22:50.555

These are all tangible aspects.

1582

01:22:51.825 --> 01:22:53.835

What about the parts which are not under the

1583

01:22:53.835 --> 01:22:54.955

control of the developers?

1584

01:22:56.095 --> 01:22:59.515

The wildlife? There are large populations

1585

01:22:59.515 --> 01:23:03.275

of deer across the whole area of each and every project.

1586

01:23:04.375 --> 01:23:05.845

How are they going to be managed?

1587

01:23:06.905 --> 01:23:08.205

Are they going to be managed?

1588

01:23:09.075 --> 01:23:10.885

Will deer be subject to culling

1589

01:23:11.465 --> 01:23:13.845

or will we have to get used to seeing the aftermath

1590

01:23:13.845 --> 01:23:16.165

of deer coming into conflict with vehicles,

1591

01:23:17.065 --> 01:23:20.325

the carcasses next to the verge, the damage to the cars

1592

01:23:20.625 --> 01:23:24.525

and people who is going to mitigate this?

1593

01:23:26.015 --> 01:23:27.675

Who should the unfortunate driver

1594

01:23:28.095 --> 01:23:30.195

and passengers claim against in the event

1595

01:23:30.195 --> 01:23:31.595

of a contact with deer?

1596

01:23:32.685 --> 01:23:34.815

Whichever solar site is, the nearest

1597

01:23:36.875 --> 01:23:38.115

wildlife will be dislocated

1598

01:23:38.895 --> 01:23:42.835

and able to access land, which has been home for centuries,

1599

01:23:43.635 --> 01:23:47.555

funneled towards rose and the sure consequence of conflict.

1600

01:23:48.435 --> 01:23:51.085

What does the developer propose to do to avoid this?

1601

01:23:52.115 --> 01:23:56.925

Nothing. Fence the land off

1602

01:23:56.925 --> 01:24:01.085

with deer fencing effective to keep them out after that.

1603

01:24:02.105 --> 01:24:06.005

Not my problem. These solar sites are not urgent.

1604

01:24:07.065 --> 01:24:09.845

If there was too urgency, then this process

1605

01:24:10.415 --> 01:24:11.645

would not be high level.

1606

01:24:12.345 --> 01:24:16.485

The plans would be detailed, well thought out, and not done.

1607

01:24:16.665 --> 01:24:20.925

As a desktop overview, there is no altruistic thought

1608

01:24:20.985 --> 01:24:22.445

for any of this debacle.

1609

01:24:22.995 --> 01:24:25.805

This is purely and simply about money.

1610

01:24:27.035 --> 01:24:30.365

Does anyone understand what net zero actually means?

1611

01:24:31.355 --> 01:24:33.685

This is not about reducing emissions,

1612

01:24:33.985 --> 01:24:37.165

but offsetting the offshoring of production.

1613

01:24:37.385 --> 01:24:41.325

Not a reduction of any means when the sun doesn't shine

1614

01:24:41.705 --> 01:24:42.845

and the wind doesn't blow.

1615

01:24:43.595 --> 01:24:47.075

What then? Gas, nuclear, and hydro.

1616

01:24:48.005 --> 01:24:50.035

These are the technologies which should be being

1617

01:24:50.145 --> 01:24:52.355

implemented, not the unreliable

1618

01:24:52.615 --> 01:24:56.555

and frankly disingenuous so-called renewable solar

1619

01:24:57.715 --> 01:25:00.855

leaves, solar utilization to the fields of crops,

1620

01:25:01.525 --> 01:25:04.335

feed the nation, not some foreign and business.

1621

01:25:05.785 --> 01:25:09.135

Thank you. Okay,

1622

01:25:11.505 --> 01:25:12.505

Thank you very much.

1623

01:25:15.145 --> 01:25:19.635

Okay. Uh, so, uh, John Rapley. Yes, John Rapley.

1624

01:25:19.885 --> 01:25:20.885

Thank you.

1625

01:25:34.905 --> 01:25:37.195

Good evening. Hello, sir. John Rapley. Mr.

1626

01:25:37.935 --> 01:25:40.675

Um, there's nothing really that I can say

1627

01:25:40.785 --> 01:25:41.915

that hasn't already been said.

1628

01:25:42.385 --> 01:25:44.115

Okay. There's lyrics to a song there.

1629

01:25:44.615 --> 01:25:49.355

Um, but, so instead of rehashing things

1630

01:25:49.385 --> 01:25:51.235

that have already come before, uh,

1631

01:25:51.255 --> 01:25:53.595

and just repeating verbatim pretty much

1632

01:25:53.595 --> 01:25:55.195

what other people have said, uh,

1633

01:25:55.215 --> 01:25:57.875

and quoting statistics, which I don't have on paper in front

1634

01:25:57.875 --> 01:25:59.475

of me, and I'll probably get wrong anyway.

1635

01:25:59.855 --> 01:26:01.955

Uh, instead I'm going to do something

1636

01:26:01.955 --> 01:26:05.565

that I'm uniquely unqualified to do, which is

1637

01:26:05.585 --> 01:26:07.845

to talk about the more emotive side of this.

1638

01:26:08.265 --> 01:26:11.565

To talk about, uh, uh, uh, something that's gonna affect me

1639

01:26:12.595 --> 01:26:16.855

in the future that I don't yet fully understand,

1640

01:26:18.035 --> 01:26:21.495

is not one would think the most sensible thing to do,

1641

01:26:21.835 --> 01:26:23.055

but I'm gonna give it a go anyway.

1642

01:26:23.635 --> 01:26:28.055

Uh, and in order to do that, I'm going to use, uh,

1643

01:26:28.375 --> 01:26:32.375

a story as it were, uh, about an interaction I had with one

1644

01:26:32.375 --> 01:26:33.615

of the members of Till Bridge Solar.

1645

01:26:34.595 --> 01:26:38.555

I went to a meeting, uh, probably about a year ago or so

1646

01:26:38.645 --> 01:26:41.075

after I'd just moved up to Lincoln Shear.

1647

01:26:41.175 --> 01:26:42.675

Uh, I came to Lincolns Shear

1648

01:26:42.675 --> 01:26:43.875
back in the early two thousands.

1649

01:26:44.065 --> 01:26:47.675
Went to university, uh, in, in central Lincoln, moved back

1650

01:26:47.675 --> 01:26:49.035
to Kent, garden of England.

1651

01:26:49.035 --> 01:26:52.395
Lovely place. Uh, kind of like Lincoln Shear, uh,

1652

01:26:52.415 --> 01:26:54.475
or Lincoln Shear is kind of like Kent 50 years ago.

1653

01:26:54.855 --> 01:26:55.995
And then it's much more rural.

1654

01:26:56.385 --> 01:26:58.555
It's much more sparsely populated.

1655

01:26:59.145 --> 01:27:00.635
It's mostly a farming community.

1656

01:27:00.935 --> 01:27:02.035
Now, I'm not 50 years old,

1657

01:27:02.035 --> 01:27:04.915
so I'm going anecdotally based on, uh, stories

1658

01:27:04.935 --> 01:27:06.275
of my parents and grandparents.

1659

01:27:07.865 --> 01:27:11.395
That rural way of life was always something

1660

01:27:11.745 --> 01:27:15.475
that I held as being the epitome of

1661

01:27:16.095 --> 01:27:18.315

the good life, the life that I wanted.

1662

01:27:18.635 --> 01:27:21.035

I lived in a town. I grew up in the middle of a town.

1663

01:27:21.475 --> 01:27:23.595

I spent my weekends in a town.

1664

01:27:23.795 --> 01:27:26.355

I spent my holidays in towns for the most part.

1665

01:27:26.895 --> 01:27:29.395

Uh, but on the other occasion, we would get to go

1666

01:27:29.735 --> 01:27:33.075

to counties where it was countryside, it was open fields.

1667

01:27:33.455 --> 01:27:35.395

So when I moved to moved to Lincoln Shear,

1668

01:27:35.835 --> 01:27:36.915

I got to experience that.

1669

01:27:37.705 --> 01:27:39.475

Fast forward to a year

1670

01:27:39.475 --> 01:27:42.195

and a half ago, nearly two years ago now, uh, I decided

1671

01:27:42.295 --> 01:27:46.355

to move from a very, very busy, very industrialized,

1672

01:27:46.745 --> 01:27:48.595

very heavy populated area of the country

1673

01:27:49.085 --> 01:27:52.195

where there are large solar developments being put in

1674

01:27:52.525 --> 01:27:54.715

where there's even more, even, even, you know,

1675

01:27:54.715 --> 01:27:56.315
greater limitations on space.

1676

01:27:56.935 --> 01:27:58.435
Um, but oddly enough,

1677

01:27:58.715 --> 01:28:01.915
slightly more sunshine than in this part of the country, uh,

1678

01:28:01.915 --> 01:28:04.035
to an area of what I consider

1679

01:28:04.035 --> 01:28:05.435
to be outstanding natural beauty.

1680

01:28:05.625 --> 01:28:09.115
Somewhere where for not the first time in my life,

1681

01:28:09.115 --> 01:28:13.075
but for first certainly, uh, my adult life, I felt at peace.

1682

01:28:13.875 --> 01:28:15.955
I was able to step outside my front door

1683

01:28:16.375 --> 01:28:20.555
and be confronted with silence or near silence bird song,

1684

01:28:20.895 --> 01:28:22.235
but considerably more silent.

1685

01:28:22.295 --> 01:28:26.875
In the middle of a town where I lived in Kent was one of,

1686

01:28:27.175 --> 01:28:30.115
if not the most density populated areas of the county.

1687

01:28:30.525 --> 01:28:32.275
There were large industrial parks,

1688

01:28:32.485 --> 01:28:34.035

there were huge motorways.

1689

01:28:34.455 --> 01:28:38.955

So that singular thing that silence, that rural silence

1690

01:28:39.925 --> 01:28:42.555

means more to me than almost anything.

1691

01:28:43.975 --> 01:28:48.075

And that's at significant risk. Significant risk.

1692

01:28:50.105 --> 01:28:52.805

So the story, as I said, I I would talk to you about, um,

1693

01:28:52.945 --> 01:28:55.365

was a meeting, uh, at one of the local villages

1694

01:28:56.135 --> 01:28:57.365

where the plans

1695

01:28:57.745 --> 01:29:00.405

for the till bridge solar development were being put

1696

01:29:00.405 --> 01:29:02.030

forwards for public consultation.

1697

01:29:02.805 --> 01:29:05.245

I went there just to find out what was going on.

1698

01:29:05.685 --> 01:29:06.965

I moved here with no knowledge

1699

01:29:07.075 --> 01:29:08.285

that this was in the pipeline.

1700

01:29:08.505 --> 01:29:10.365

Now that's my own negligence. I didn't check into it.

1701

01:29:10.445 --> 01:29:12.605

I didn't, I didn't do due diligence in my research

1702

01:29:12.605 --> 01:29:13.925
and to see what was happening in the

1703

01:29:13.925 --> 01:29:15.005
environment that I was moving to.

1704

01:29:15.625 --> 01:29:18.005
But I moved up because I loved what I saw.

1705

01:29:19.265 --> 01:29:23.245
Uh, at that meeting, I had a discussion with, um,

1706

01:29:23.445 --> 01:29:24.605
I forget the gentleman's name.

1707

01:29:24.845 --> 01:29:26.965
I believe his position was to do

1708

01:29:26.965 --> 01:29:28.765
with the environmental impact

1709

01:29:29.155 --> 01:29:30.445
that the development would have.

1710

01:29:31.185 --> 01:29:32.965
And I discussed a few things with him about

1711

01:29:33.105 --> 01:29:35.285
how solar panels were gonna be disposed of

1712

01:29:35.465 --> 01:29:39.725
how they would be recycled, um, to which he said that the,

1713

01:29:40.025 --> 01:29:43.445
uh, that, that it would be dealt with at the time.

1714

01:29:44.195 --> 01:29:48.685
That there are no plans, that there is no consideration

1715

01:29:49.025 --> 01:29:51.805

for the impact that this is going to have long term

1716

01:29:52.385 --> 01:29:55.445

on the people living here on the emotional wellbeing

1717

01:29:55.985 --> 01:29:57.765

or on the environment as a whole.

1718

01:29:58.765 --> 01:30:02.515

Thank you. Okay. Thank you very much.

1719

01:30:10.905 --> 01:30:13.795

Okay, so that's everyone who hasn't spoken before,

1720

01:30:14.135 --> 01:30:15.915

and thank you very much for your time.

1721

01:30:16.415 --> 01:30:20.515

Um, I think we have probably got just enough time to plow

1722

01:30:20.515 --> 01:30:24.035

through the, um, ips

1723

01:30:24.035 --> 01:30:26.755

who have spoken at the previous open floor hearing,

1724

01:30:27.495 --> 01:30:30.915

but we will have to be limited on the, on the time, um,

1725

01:30:32.005 --> 01:30:34.265

which is reasonable.

1726

01:30:35.125 --> 01:30:39.145

So could I hear from Andrew Johnson please?

1727

01:30:43.905 --> 01:30:46.795

When I say limited on the time, I mean we won't be going on

1728

01:30:46.935 --> 01:30:51.515

beyond the five minutes, um, this time round. Good evening.

1729

01:30:51.695 --> 01:30:52.915

Oh, good evening, gentlemen.

1730

01:30:53.135 --> 01:30:56.475

Uh, Andy Johnson for, I'm a resident of, uh, Glen Village.

1731

01:30:56.855 --> 01:30:58.755

Uh, I think, first of all, I'll just thank everyone

1732

01:30:58.835 --> 01:31:01.595

that's gone before me 'cause I've gone down from 20 pages

1733

01:31:01.695 --> 01:31:03.715

to two, so I'm sure you'd be glad to hear that.

1734

01:31:04.735 --> 01:31:07.435

Um, uh, firstly, thank you for allowing me to speak today.

1735

01:31:07.895 --> 01:31:10.315

Uh, I have spoken, uh, spoken previously

1736

01:31:10.375 --> 01:31:11.995

and submitted supporting documents.

1737

01:31:12.335 --> 01:31:13.915

My points are in addition to these

1738

01:31:20.065 --> 01:31:21.635

landscape and visual impact,

1739

01:31:22.315 --> 01:31:25.075

I understand the develop developers have presented a

1740

01:31:25.235 --> 01:31:27.355

proposal with hedges and trees to mitigate the,

1741

01:31:27.735 --> 01:31:29.795

the visual impact from the Jurassic Cliff.

1742

01:31:30.315 --> 01:31:33.115

I now understand that these have been withdrawn this

1743

01:31:33.395 --> 01:31:36.015

proposal to provide this.

1744

01:31:36.335 --> 01:31:37.375

I wonder why this is

1745

01:31:37.835 --> 01:31:40.415

and are they proposing an alternative to this

1746

01:31:41.675 --> 01:31:44.495

or do they now concede it cannot be disguised

1747

01:31:46.915 --> 01:31:49.015

If no acceptable alternatives on the table?

1748

01:31:49.285 --> 01:31:50.655

This then throws into question,

1749

01:31:50.805 --> 01:31:55.175

what will the area look like from the cliff fences

1750

01:31:55.175 --> 01:31:58.015

with CCT weak points open for all

1751

01:31:58.015 --> 01:32:00.925

to see surrounding development great for tourism

1752

01:32:01.105 --> 01:32:02.845

and the local businesses providing

1753

01:32:02.845 --> 01:32:04.205

accommodation for visitors.

1754

01:32:04.585 --> 01:32:06.645

And let's not forget the local population,

1755

01:32:07.515 --> 01:32:09.725

this is a major point within the application.

1756

01:32:09.945 --> 01:32:12.445

And should the question be asked about the suitability

1757

01:32:12.445 --> 01:32:15.845

of this application as a whole, based upon this point alone

1758

01:32:17.835 --> 01:32:20.115

flooding over the last two weeks,

1759

01:32:20.255 --> 01:32:21.995

we have experienced considerable flooding

1760

01:32:22.055 --> 01:32:25.115

of the Trent Floodplain, ironically,

1761

01:32:25.165 --> 01:32:27.675

where the developers wish to mount solar panels.

1762

01:32:29.135 --> 01:32:31.635

The flooding is not an isolated occurrence,

1763

01:32:31.825 --> 01:32:33.075

it's a floodplain and

1764

01:32:33.075 --> 01:32:36.155

therefore needs to remain so to reduce the risk

1765

01:32:36.235 --> 01:32:38.395

to neighboring properties and places of work.

1766

01:32:39.305 --> 01:32:42.355

Naturally, all the rainfall works its way through a network

1767

01:32:42.495 --> 01:32:44.275

of relief channels to the river trend

1768

01:32:44.615 --> 01:32:47.115

and naturally soaks into the ground to the water table.

1769

01:32:48.175 --> 01:32:50.275

The introduction of solar panels is going

1770

01:32:50.275 --> 01:32:53.075

to reduce the ability of the ground to absorb rainfall

1771

01:32:53.215 --> 01:32:57.195

as the ground soak away area is massively reduced.

1772

01:32:57.665 --> 01:33:00.395

This in turn will in will increase flood risk

1773

01:33:01.915 --> 01:33:03.085

vehicle movements.

1774

01:33:04.315 --> 01:33:07.085

Ksby Road in Glenworth is down as one of the entry

1775

01:33:07.085 --> 01:33:10.685

and exit points for the construction traffic CEX road.

1776

01:33:10.825 --> 01:33:13.325

If you've not visited and reviewed the access road,

1777

01:33:13.885 --> 01:33:14.965

I would recommend you do.

1778

01:33:16.275 --> 01:33:19.045

Upon leaving G Glenworth, it turns into a single carriageway

1779

01:33:19.045 --> 01:33:22.405

with passing places whilst not being a specialist

1780

01:33:22.405 --> 01:33:23.445

in road construction.

1781

01:33:23.505 --> 01:33:26.405

And looking at the road conditions today, it is obvious

1782

01:33:26.405 --> 01:33:28.765

that the road structure and design is not suitable

1783

01:33:28.785 --> 01:33:30.605
for heavy construction traffic.

1784

01:33:32.305 --> 01:33:34.565
I'm not sure if the expectant is aware

1785

01:33:35.305 --> 01:33:37.565
of the other major development that are planning

1786

01:33:37.585 --> 01:33:38.725
to use Kepi Road.

1787

01:33:39.685 --> 01:33:43.685
I guess they have been granted permission

1788

01:33:43.685 --> 01:33:46.045
to open another oil drilling operation to add

1789

01:33:46.045 --> 01:33:47.165
to the existing wells.

1790

01:33:48.185 --> 01:33:51.445
The movement of HG vs involved in the construction

1791

01:33:51.445 --> 01:33:54.445
of these wells and those carrying away the crude oil along

1792

01:33:54.505 --> 01:33:57.965
the road will naturally increase traffic significantly.

1793

01:33:59.785 --> 01:34:01.925
The combined traffic movements during the years

1794

01:34:01.945 --> 01:34:04.645
of construction are very difficult to predict.

1795

01:34:05.025 --> 01:34:08.405
But having had a little bit of research, I quickly got

1796

01:34:08.405 --> 01:34:12.275
to a thousand a day on Kby Road.

1797

01:34:16.075 --> 01:34:19.685
This doesn't even take into account vehicle movements from

1798

01:34:19.685 --> 01:34:21.245
the adjacent applications,

1799

01:34:21.245 --> 01:34:25.525
which I believe are also using Kby Road nor local traffic.

1800

01:34:27.225 --> 01:34:31.045
We may need to rename Ksby Road as an extension of the A 15.

1801

01:34:33.435 --> 01:34:34.575
An independent survey

1802

01:34:34.675 --> 01:34:37.415
of traffic movements road suitability along

1803

01:34:37.415 --> 01:34:40.095
with the effects on public health is surely required

1804

01:34:40.475 --> 01:34:41.735
as part of this application.

1805

01:34:43.005 --> 01:34:46.735
Last but not least, I understand tomorrow you'll be looking

1806

01:34:46.935 --> 01:34:49.095
at Pacific areas of the application in depth.

1807

01:34:49.805 --> 01:34:51.495
Will this include the production

1808

01:34:51.495 --> 01:34:53.415
of the solar panels from China

1809

01:34:53.715 --> 01:34:56.415

and the wellbeing of the people involved in this process?

1810

01:34:57.765 --> 01:35:00.525

Canadian Solar are a hidden company behind this application,

1811

01:35:00.665 --> 01:35:02.885

yet named on the website on our,

1812

01:35:03.025 --> 01:35:06.205

on our site at 23 times has been involved

1813

01:35:06.745 --> 01:35:09.845

in the exploitation of the Yuga people within the China

1814

01:35:10.785 --> 01:35:12.485

in solar panel production.

1815

01:35:13.225 --> 01:35:16.125

Are we in danger of supporting this exploitation

1816

01:35:16.225 --> 01:35:17.765

by allowing this supply chain?

1817

01:35:18.595 --> 01:35:20.725

This area has already been brought to the attention

1818

01:35:20.745 --> 01:35:23.405

of the government with part parliament debating

1819

01:35:23.905 --> 01:35:27.525

as this exploitation flouts world human rights

1820

01:35:28.265 --> 01:35:30.165

and our own UK legislation.

1821

01:35:31.185 --> 01:35:34.845

Should this application be successful in the years ahead.

1822

01:35:34.845 --> 01:35:37.405

There were a point of reflect, reflection on

1823

01:35:37.425 --> 01:35:39.645

how we arrived here and the true consequences

1824

01:35:39.745 --> 01:35:43.405

of a knee jerk reaction versus a a substantial,

1825

01:35:43.645 --> 01:35:45.725

a sustainable working model.

1826

01:35:46.065 --> 01:35:48.765

And the words if only will resonate across the barren

1827

01:35:48.765 --> 01:35:50.565

landscape for generations to come.

1828

01:35:51.695 --> 01:35:54.445

Thank you for listening to my points in seeking a fair

1829

01:35:54.765 --> 01:35:55.965

analysis of this application.

1830

01:35:58.155 --> 01:35:58.845

Okay, thank you.

1831

01:36:04.075 --> 01:36:06.175

Um, Tony Court please.

1832

01:36:19.155 --> 01:36:22.565

Okay, Mr. Court. Um, good evening. You have five minutes.

1833

01:36:22.755 --> 01:36:25.005

Good evening. Uh, my name's Tony Court.

1834

01:36:25.065 --> 01:36:28.165

I'm a local resident. I'm also on the 7,000 Acres committee.

1835

01:36:29.425 --> 01:36:31.445

One of my functions on the committee has been

1836

01:36:31.445 --> 01:36:32.845

to review statistics

1837

01:36:33.705 --> 01:36:35.885
and I've gathered together a number

1838

01:36:35.885 --> 01:36:37.685
of statistics from all four

1839

01:36:38.415 --> 01:36:40.485
solar farms proposed for this area.

1840

01:36:41.505 --> 01:36:42.925
And I'd just like to make you

1841

01:36:43.145 --> 01:36:46.245
and the audience aware of the impact

1842

01:36:46.265 --> 01:36:47.405
that's gonna happen here.

1843

01:36:49.505 --> 01:36:51.725
If, and I unfortunately, I should say,

1844

01:36:51.725 --> 01:36:53.845
when all four projects are under construction,

1845

01:36:54.475 --> 01:36:57.885
they will employ 3000 construction staff

1846

01:36:58.965 --> 01:37:02.685
a day over a four year period peaking for the whole year

1847

01:37:02.685 --> 01:37:03.805
of 2027.

1848

01:37:04.985 --> 01:37:07.765
To transport these people to sites will mean that over

1849

01:37:08.425 --> 01:37:11.165
1,400 cars, mini buses

1850

01:37:11.305 --> 01:37:15.125

and coaches will be on our six local roads accessing the

1851

01:37:15.445 --> 01:37:17.365

construction sites each morning

1852

01:37:17.365 --> 01:37:19.045

between the hours of six and seven.

1853

01:37:19.815 --> 01:37:20.875

And you know what's gonna happen?

1854

01:37:21.185 --> 01:37:23.435

Most of 'em are gonna get there 10 to seven

1855

01:37:24.605 --> 01:37:26.345

and then again between seven

1856

01:37:26.405 --> 01:37:28.385

and eight in the evening as they return home.

1857

01:37:29.385 --> 01:37:33.325

So that's 1,400 vehicles in those two hours.

1858

01:37:35.015 --> 01:37:36.955

In addition to that, between eight 30

1859

01:37:37.095 --> 01:37:41.155

and four 30, there will be a peak of 1,800

1860

01:37:42.185 --> 01:37:43.715

HTVs and Vans a day

1861

01:37:44.405 --> 01:37:48.675

delivering materials including over 5 million solar panels

1862

01:37:49.255 --> 01:37:52.515

to the sites for a year between mid 26 and mid 27.

1863

01:37:53.555 --> 01:37:55.445

So over an eight hour period,

1864

01:37:55.695 --> 01:38:00.085

there will be 3.75 vehicles a minute

1865

01:38:01.025 --> 01:38:02.405

on our six local roads.

1866

01:38:04.435 --> 01:38:07.255

Now so far we have local roads

1867

01:38:07.435 --> 01:38:09.655

and systems around here, which are peaceful.

1868

01:38:11.125 --> 01:38:14.125

I wouldn't like to try and cross a road for those four years

1869

01:38:15.185 --> 01:38:17.155

because that's not just traffic.

1870

01:38:17.655 --> 01:38:19.875

That's a jam, that's traffic jam

1871

01:38:20.175 --> 01:38:22.395

and that's going to be tremendous difficulty

1872

01:38:22.495 --> 01:38:24.835

for the local population to actually move

1873

01:38:24.835 --> 01:38:26.475

around this area for four years.

1874

01:38:28.045 --> 01:38:29.065

Now, the responsibility

1875

01:38:29.165 --> 01:38:32.065

for managing this traffic is West Linda District Council

1876

01:38:32.125 --> 01:38:33.945

and Linkage County Council.

1877

01:38:34.645 --> 01:38:37.465

So now is the time for us all to rebel

1878

01:38:37.845 --> 01:38:40.545

to our parish counselors, our district counselors,

1879

01:38:40.565 --> 01:38:42.385

our county counselors and mps,

1880

01:38:42.725 --> 01:38:45.265

and insist that they stop this madness

1881

01:38:45.765 --> 01:38:47.505

before it destroys our villages

1882

01:38:47.505 --> 01:38:49.705

and countryside Solar should be on

1883

01:38:49.705 --> 01:38:51.065

rooftops and not on farms.

1884

01:38:51.975 --> 01:38:54.995

So please pass on these statistics to your neighbors

1885

01:38:54.995 --> 01:38:57.515

and friends and make them all aware of

1886

01:38:57.545 --> 01:38:59.835

what could happen if we let it continue.

1887

01:39:01.425 --> 01:39:02.425

Thank you.

1888

01:39:08.215 --> 01:39:10.115

Yep. Um, if you could provide

1889

01:39:10.115 --> 01:39:13.035

that in writing if you're able to, that'd be great.

1890

01:39:13.135 --> 01:39:17.605

Uh, by deadline four. Um, Simon Skelton.

1891

01:39:21.215 --> 01:39:23.305

Good evening, Mr. Skelton. Hi,

1892

01:39:23.925 --> 01:39:26.025

Uh, Simon Skelton, local resident

1893

01:39:26.645 --> 01:39:29.705

and I've worked in the power industry

1894

01:39:29.705 --> 01:39:31.745

for 37 years now retired.

1895

01:39:37.475 --> 01:39:41.965

When I built my house in the side, I was quite rightly made

1896

01:39:41.965 --> 01:39:45.165

to design it, to be in, keeping with the local vernacular

1897

01:39:46.065 --> 01:39:48.445

and utilize materials that would work in harmony

1898

01:39:48.675 --> 01:39:50.485

with the landscaping, which it would sit.

1899

01:39:50.715 --> 01:39:53.485

This was costly, but very much the right thing to do.

1900

01:39:55.635 --> 01:39:57.285

Soon I'll be surrounded by four

1901

01:39:57.285 --> 01:39:59.645

and a half meter high solar panels of a giant

1902

01:39:59.825 --> 01:40:01.685

and unnecessary solar plant.

1903

01:40:02.635 --> 01:40:04.125

What a waste of time, money,

1904

01:40:04.505 --> 01:40:07.325

and resource planning control has proved to be

1905

01:40:09.775 --> 01:40:13.005

These solar schemes equating to the size of the city

1906

01:40:13.005 --> 01:40:16.205

of Lincoln on all its boroughs, will do nothing

1907

01:40:16.385 --> 01:40:18.485

but degrade the countryside for many miles.

1908

01:40:19.705 --> 01:40:20.925

The impact will massive.

1909

01:40:22.225 --> 01:40:25.485

All, all sensible planning concerns are now being ignored.

1910

01:40:25.785 --> 01:40:27.605

The undeniable blight on the landscape

1911

01:40:28.395 --> 01:40:30.765

with a land use change from agriculture

1912

01:40:31.225 --> 01:40:34.925

to a sole industrialized zone is beyond criminal.

1913

01:40:36.285 --> 01:40:38.565

I suspect no one cares or needs to care

1914

01:40:39.035 --> 01:40:41.125

because these things are now classed

1915

01:40:41.145 --> 01:40:43.365

as a critical national priority.

1916

01:40:44.865 --> 01:40:48.675

What a joke. They're of course nothing of the sort

1917

01:40:49.175 --> 01:40:52.795

and they fall woefully short of such an impressive title.

1918

01:40:54.315 --> 01:40:57.245

They're ugly, ineffective, and totally avoidable.

1919

01:40:58.315 --> 01:41:02.205

Renewable energy generators are not all of equal value.

1920

01:41:04.855 --> 01:41:08.395

The 10% generation yield from solar mounted on our precious

1921

01:41:08.395 --> 01:41:10.715

farmland and in a country of one

1922

01:41:10.715 --> 01:41:12.315

of the lowest solar against the world,

1923

01:41:12.495 --> 01:41:15.435

is clearly not a critical national priority.

1924

01:41:16.145 --> 01:41:18.875

More like, more like a critical national disaster.

1925

01:41:20.455 --> 01:41:22.315

But the lobbying by the solar industry

1926

01:41:22.315 --> 01:41:24.355

for many years has brainwashed the government.

1927

01:41:24.975 --> 01:41:29.675

And half the nation, 70 gigawatts

1928

01:41:29.675 --> 01:41:33.995

of solar could cover 350,000 acres.

1929

01:41:35.295 --> 01:41:39.755

An area the size of greater London development on this scale

1930

01:41:40.465 --> 01:41:44.275

will still only provide a theoretical maximum of 20%

1931

01:41:44.275 --> 01:41:46.715
of our current electricity needs.

1932

01:41:47.135 --> 01:41:49.195
But in practice it will be far less due

1933

01:41:49.195 --> 01:41:50.395
to costly curtailment

1934

01:41:50.395 --> 01:41:53.915
during solar's excessive summer over generation peaks.

1935

01:41:55.735 --> 01:41:59.125
There is of course far more than 70 gigawatts of solar

1936

01:41:59.155 --> 01:42:01.565
that has already secured grid connections.

1937

01:42:01.745 --> 01:42:03.085
In fact, twice as much.

1938

01:42:04.365 --> 01:42:06.845
I think we need to wait court before it is too late.

1939

01:42:08.805 --> 01:42:12.345
It is worth understanding that currently we require

1940

01:42:12.345 --> 01:42:13.465
between 25

1941

01:42:13.725 --> 01:42:17.145
and 50 gigawatts of power at any single moment in time,

1942

01:42:17.805 --> 01:42:19.785
any single moment in time in the uk,

1943

01:42:20.645 --> 01:42:24.545
having excessive in-store capacity of any kind is wasteful,

1944

01:42:24.695 --> 01:42:26.945

inefficient, and extremely expensive.

1945

01:42:27.995 --> 01:42:30.145

Solar in the UK is only fit

1946

01:42:30.145 --> 01:42:33.105

for rooftops providing power at the point of view

1947

01:42:34.005 --> 01:42:36.505

for lowering national electricity demand.

1948

01:42:38.665 --> 01:42:41.785

I believe the developments, the developer's statement

1949

01:42:41.785 --> 01:42:43.825

of need to be misguided ideology.

1950

01:42:43.965 --> 01:42:47.625

And this solar farm like the other three, is destructive

1951

01:42:48.085 --> 01:42:49.745

and patently or necessary.

1952

01:42:51.675 --> 01:42:55.045

Finally, I remember when the Longfield solar farm was

1953

01:42:55.365 --> 01:43:00.005

approved, the campaigner, a campaigner reluctantly had

1954

01:43:00.005 --> 01:43:02.605

to say that the government wants these things

1955

01:43:03.935 --> 01:43:06.525

while I say the government are wrong.

1956

01:43:07.625 --> 01:43:08.625

Thank you.

1957

01:43:12.145 --> 01:43:15.385

Okay, thank you very much. Mr.

1958
01:43:15.665 --> 01:43:17.905
S uh, could we hear from Sue Bingham?

1959
01:43:21.885 --> 01:43:22.475
There she is.

1960
01:43:31.145 --> 01:43:32.195
Good evening. Good

1961
01:43:32.195 --> 01:43:33.195
Evening.

1962
01:43:34.415 --> 01:43:38.275
Um, Soham, I'm a local farmer

1963
01:43:38.735 --> 01:43:40.315
and we do produce food.

1964
01:43:41.665 --> 01:43:46.635
Okay, This is the fourth

1965
01:43:46.955 --> 01:43:49.355
planning inspection that I've sat in front

1966
01:43:49.455 --> 01:43:51.245
of over the last two years

1967
01:43:52.625 --> 01:43:56.825
and it gets harder, harder

1968
01:43:56.825 --> 01:44:00.945
because there is the realization that there is no sense

1969
01:44:01.245 --> 01:44:03.105
to this at all.

1970
01:44:04.175 --> 01:44:06.465
Nothing I've heard from politicians

1971
01:44:06.465 --> 01:44:08.425

and the applicants convinces me

1972

01:44:08.425 --> 01:44:11.545

that these projects make any sense whatsoever

1973

01:44:12.315 --> 01:44:16.625

other than making massive profits for the applicants.

1974

01:44:18.755 --> 01:44:21.965

It's not that I'm a NIMBY or a naysayer, but

1975

01:44:21.965 --> 01:44:23.485

because all the evidence

1976

01:44:23.595 --> 01:44:26.285

that the 7,000 acre group have given

1977

01:44:27.965 --> 01:44:31.325

convinces me that this is nothing to do with climate change.

1978

01:44:32.515 --> 01:44:35.685

This is nothing to do with cheap green energy,

1979

01:44:35.735 --> 01:44:37.845

which it most certainly is not,

1980

01:44:38.585 --> 01:44:41.165

and everything to do with profits.

1981

01:44:43.025 --> 01:44:47.945

If we can't mention politics, why do politics then?

1982

01:44:47.945 --> 01:44:49.065

That doesn't make sense

1983

01:44:49.065 --> 01:44:52.305

because the whole thing is shrouded

1984

01:44:53.365 --> 01:44:54.825

in sinister reasons.

1985

01:44:55.305 --> 01:44:58.665

E motives I think for land grabs

1986

01:44:59.725 --> 01:45:03.665

and the what we as farmers are being

1987

01:45:04.945 --> 01:45:08.065

expected to swallow this last few months

1988

01:45:09.525 --> 01:45:11.705

is just totally depressing.

1989

01:45:13.085 --> 01:45:17.155

And I'm not sure that the powers that be

1990

01:45:17.745 --> 01:45:20.115

want an agricultural industry.

1991

01:45:23.345 --> 01:45:25.575

There is a climate to nature bill due

1992

01:45:25.575 --> 01:45:28.375

for its second reading on Friday in Parliament

1993

01:45:29.675 --> 01:45:34.615

and there are sinister motives hidden within that bill.

1994

01:45:37.265 --> 01:45:39.805

And I am really worried for the future.

1995

01:45:43.485 --> 01:45:45.345

I'm really worried for my personal future

1996

01:45:49.285 --> 01:45:51.175

because of the dangers.

1997

01:45:51.715 --> 01:45:56.445

The look at angle sea,

1998

01:45:56.505 --> 01:46:00.645

the storms that created the devastation

1999

01:46:00.665 --> 01:46:02.965
of the solar panels on Angle sea.

2000

01:46:03.345 --> 01:46:04.525
How are we going to stop those?

2001

01:46:05.095 --> 01:46:10.085
These AI centers that the government are holding, uh,

2002

01:46:10.175 --> 01:46:13.805
their prayers for as regards to the economy, um,

2003

01:46:14.355 --> 01:46:16.285
need massive amounts of energy.

2004

01:46:16.515 --> 01:46:19.565
They need their own nuclear power station to power that.

2005

01:46:19.985 --> 01:46:23.205
And what is that all about? You can't eat data.

2006

01:46:24.845 --> 01:46:26.105
The Chinese involvement

2007

01:46:26.245 --> 01:46:30.185
and our chancellor, who has just been c in hand,

2008

01:46:31.605 --> 01:46:33.585
God knows what she's promised them,

2009

01:46:33.765 --> 01:46:36.225
but the potential for sabotage

2010

01:46:36.445 --> 01:46:40.775
and spying the nature of

2011

01:46:41.795 --> 01:46:44.015
our world at the moment with Russia, Ukraine,

2012

01:46:45.035 --> 01:46:49.805

and the potential for long range missiles

2013

01:46:49.905 --> 01:46:53.805

to hit our any future energy supplies

2014

01:46:54.275 --> 01:46:56.405

that are out there on the East Coast.

2015

01:46:58.475 --> 01:47:01.655

And what about the local weather affected by the panels?

2016

01:47:01.685 --> 01:47:02.855

Will we have more flooding

2017

01:47:02.855 --> 01:47:05.255

because of the hot air rising from the panels?

2018

01:47:09.345 --> 01:47:13.885

It is getting me down over this last two years hugely

2019

01:47:18.165 --> 01:47:22.615

Something that I wish that we'd, I'd raised over

2020

01:47:23.955 --> 01:47:26.375

the other three applications.

2021

01:47:27.765 --> 01:47:31.095

Certainly something that I should think we will need

2022

01:47:32.635 --> 01:47:36.615

is a direct easily contactable representative

2023

01:47:37.515 --> 01:47:39.615

for problems which will occur.

2024

01:47:40.835 --> 01:47:43.495

And my words, there will be problems

2025

01:47:45.055 --> 01:47:49.935

with HGV accidents when I walk my

2026

01:47:50.005 --> 01:47:53.255

dogs or ride my horse round quiet country lanes

2027

01:47:54.405 --> 01:47:59.295

that are no longer will I end up in a ditch run over

2028

01:47:59.355 --> 01:48:00.415

by an HGV.

2029

01:48:02.255 --> 01:48:06.685

Will our houses be threatened by best fires

2030

01:48:08.025 --> 01:48:10.365

and the pollution and run off from the,

2031

01:48:10.715 --> 01:48:13.445

into the water supply that all that will create.

2032

01:48:16.225 --> 01:48:20.255

We've heard from a very brave young man saying

2033

01:48:20.255 --> 01:48:24.335

that he came here for a quiet rural retreat

2034

01:48:28.645 --> 01:48:33.265

and these applicants want to industrialize our area.

2035

01:48:34.755 --> 01:48:37.085

That was a quiet rural retreat.

2036

01:48:40.395 --> 01:48:42.425

Makes no sense to me whatsoever

2037

01:48:43.685 --> 01:48:45.505

and I fear for our future.

2038

01:48:50.015 --> 01:48:52.185

Okay, thank you very much.

2039

01:48:52.685 --> 01:48:56.785

Um, could we hear from Deborah Luna?

2040

01:48:57.095 --> 01:49:00.055

Apologies if I pronounced that wrong.

2041

01:49:03.525 --> 01:49:05.885

Excuse me. Okay.

2042

01:49:08.625 --> 01:49:11.645

Uh, okay. Thank you very much.

2043

01:49:25.285 --> 01:49:27.905

Um, well we're gonna have a 10 minute break.

2044

01:49:28.165 --> 01:49:31.545

Um, although can I just confirm that the applicant, uh,

2045

01:49:31.645 --> 01:49:35.355

is intending to, uh, respond?

2046

01:49:38.055 --> 01:49:38.945

Yeah. Or not?

2047

01:49:43.955 --> 01:49:46.085

Okay. I think we'll just take a quick comfort break.

2048

01:49:46.225 --> 01:49:47.405

Um, 10, 10 minutes.

2049

01:49:47.985 --> 01:49:51.365

Um, so we'll reconvene at uh, two minutes past eight.

2050

01:49:51.505 --> 01:49:53.685

Uh, the hearing is now adjourned.

2051

01:49:56.985 --> 01:50:00.285

Uh, okay, it's um, three minutes past eight.

2052

01:50:01.225 --> 01:50:02.765

The hearing is now resumed.

2053

01:50:04.705 --> 01:50:07.005

Uh, could I just confirm with the case team

2054

01:50:07.005 --> 01:50:10.285

that the live recording has commenced?

2055

01:50:11.145 --> 01:50:12.525

Yes. Excellent, thank you.

2056

01:50:13.835 --> 01:50:15.805

Okay, let's move on to agenda item four,

2057

01:50:15.895 --> 01:50:17.925

which is responses by the applicant.

2058

01:50:18.825 --> 01:50:22.515

Um, before we do that, I would like to say

2059

01:50:23.105 --> 01:50:27.995

I've been very impressed with the cordial atmosphere.

2060

01:50:28.895 --> 01:50:33.395

Um, very respectful and hopefully we can keep it that way

2061

01:50:33.615 --> 01:50:36.355

and I won't tolerate any disruption anyway.

2062

01:50:37.495 --> 01:50:41.115

Um, so who is speaking on behalf of the applicant please?

2063

01:50:41.585 --> 01:50:43.915

Good evening, sir. And good evening everyone.

2064

01:50:44.015 --> 01:50:45.275

My name is Alexis Coleman.

2065

01:50:45.575 --> 01:50:47.795

I'm a legal director at Law Firm Pin at Mason's,

2066

01:50:47.795 --> 01:50:51.365
and I represent the applicant, uh,

2067

01:50:51.435 --> 01:50:52.725
firstly on behalf of the applicant.

2068

01:50:52.745 --> 01:50:54.285
I'd like to thank everyone who has attended

2069

01:50:54.305 --> 01:50:55.645
and spoken at this evening's.

2070

01:50:55.645 --> 01:50:58.725
Hearing representatives from Till Bridge Solar, as well

2071

01:50:58.725 --> 01:51:01.845
as its consultants are here to hear this evening to listen

2072

01:51:01.905 --> 01:51:03.045
to the concerns raised.

2073

01:51:03.045 --> 01:51:04.685
And that's the prime purpose of this hearing

2074

01:51:04.685 --> 01:51:06.165
that we hear what you say.

2075

01:51:06.265 --> 01:51:08.685
And if we've not already responded in writing, we will do

2076

01:51:08.685 --> 01:51:10.125
so at the next deadline.

2077

01:51:10.325 --> 01:51:14.285
Deadline four. I'll touch on some of the key themes raised,

2078

01:51:14.605 --> 01:51:16.405
although I would also note that we have a hearing tomorrow

2079

01:51:16.545 --> 01:51:18.485

on specific environmental topics

2080

01:51:18.485 --> 01:51:21.565

where we will have experts present who can talk to many

2081

01:51:21.565 --> 01:51:24.365

of the topics raised with far more expertise than I can.

2082

01:51:25.065 --> 01:51:26.325

We will also have a compulsory

2083

01:51:26.325 --> 01:51:27.525

acquisition hearing on Thursday.

2084

01:51:28.345 --> 01:51:30.005

I'm also conscious that I'm now eating

2085

01:51:30.035 --> 01:51:31.045

into people's evenings.

2086

01:51:31.865 --> 01:51:33.805

Uh, the process of determining application

2087

01:51:33.805 --> 01:51:36.125

for a nationally significant infrastructure energy project

2088

01:51:36.265 --> 01:51:38.325

almost always involves attention between

2089

01:51:38.985 --> 01:51:41.645

the urgent national need for low carbon generation,

2090

01:51:41.645 --> 01:51:44.645

including solar and local adverse effects,

2091

01:51:44.645 --> 01:51:47.805

which are unfortunately often unavoidable despite an

2092

01:51:47.805 --> 01:51:48.805

applicant's best efforts

2093

01:51:49.025 --> 01:51:50.925
to avoid, minimize or mitigate them.

2094

01:51:52.505 --> 01:51:54.925
The application for the Till Bridge Solar Farm has

2095

01:51:54.925 --> 01:51:55.965
to be determined in accordance

2096

01:51:55.965 --> 01:51:58.045
with the national policy statements for energy.

2097

01:51:58.745 --> 01:51:59.885
And that policy is clear

2098

01:51:59.885 --> 01:52:01.805
that there's a demonstrated urgent need for solar

2099

01:52:02.225 --> 01:52:04.325
and that substantial weight should be given to the need

2100

01:52:05.305 --> 01:52:07.725
the policy provides that in determining the application, the

2101

01:52:07.865 --> 01:52:09.045
of state is not required

2102

01:52:09.545 --> 01:52:11.245
to consider the specific contribution

2103

01:52:11.245 --> 01:52:12.325
of any individual project.

2104

01:52:12.505 --> 01:52:14.165
We satisfied that the need is established.

2105

01:52:15.425 --> 01:52:18.285
So whilst we are fully aware from the many submissions made

2106

01:52:18.285 --> 01:52:20.165

tonight that many people don't agree

2107

01:52:20.515 --> 01:52:22.805

that large scale ground mounted solar is part

2108

01:52:22.805 --> 01:52:25.765

of the solution towards net zero, those arguments go

2109

01:52:25.765 --> 01:52:27.845

to the merits of the national policy statements,

2110

01:52:28.015 --> 01:52:30.845

which the secular state cannot change via this application.

2111

01:52:36.265 --> 01:52:38.875

I've spoken about this scheme's benefits at the first open

2112

01:52:38.875 --> 01:52:40.475

floor hearing and in brief,

2113

01:52:40.475 --> 01:52:43.155

they're a substantial contribution to the urgent need

2114

01:52:43.155 --> 01:52:45.725

for renewable energy and a positive contribution

2115

01:52:45.725 --> 01:52:48.165

to energy security and on climate due

2116

01:52:48.165 --> 01:52:49.725

to it displacing the need for other forms

2117

01:52:49.725 --> 01:52:52.765

of conventional energy that would emit greenhouse gases.

2118

01:52:53.625 --> 01:52:54.885

The scheme is also predicted

2119

01:52:54.885 --> 01:52:57.245

to have significant beneficial effects from the cumulative

2120

01:52:57.245 --> 01:52:59.565

effect from construction employment as well

2121

01:52:59.565 --> 01:53:01.245

as from proposed habitat creation

2122

01:53:01.245 --> 01:53:02.485

and enhancement of habitat,

2123

01:53:02.935 --> 01:53:05.685

which would achieve a minimum 10% biodiversity net gain.

2124

01:53:06.415 --> 01:53:09.085

There are also benefits on the recovery of soil resources

2125

01:53:09.085 --> 01:53:11.485

and in diversifying activities of existing farms.

2126

01:53:12.845 --> 01:53:15.145

We understand the concerns raised by local people,

2127

01:53:15.195 --> 01:53:17.425

local people about the potential impacts of the scheme.

2128

01:53:18.085 --> 01:53:19.585

We take those concerns seriously.

2129

01:53:19.775 --> 01:53:20.785

This is why we've made sure

2130

01:53:20.785 --> 01:53:23.145

to address these effects thoroughly in our environmental

2131

01:53:23.145 --> 01:53:25.105

statement in order that they can be given proper

2132

01:53:25.425 --> 01:53:27.785

consideration in the decision alongside other

2133

01:53:27.985 --> 01:53:29.865

considerations, including representatives made

2134

01:53:29.865 --> 01:53:32.355
by interested parties in terms

2135

01:53:32.355 --> 01:53:34.955
of significant adverse effects these may arise, for example,

2136

01:53:34.955 --> 01:53:37.235
with respect to landscape impacts on some character areas

2137

01:53:37.235 --> 01:53:41.115
and viewpoints, the applicant has worked hard to avoid,

2138

01:53:41.555 --> 01:53:42.915
minimize, and mitigate these adverse

2139

01:53:42.915 --> 01:53:43.955
effects wherever possible.

2140

01:53:44.335 --> 01:53:46.835
And that's a task that starts from the site selection stage

2141

01:53:46.835 --> 01:53:48.595
and continues on through the design of the scheme

2142

01:53:48.775 --> 01:53:49.955
to consideration of additional

2143

01:53:49.955 --> 01:53:51.355
mitigation and management measures.

2144

01:53:52.815 --> 01:53:54.835
The process by which the scheme was originally selected

2145

01:53:55.115 --> 01:53:56.155
included identification and

2146

01:53:56.155 --> 01:53:58.035
where possible avoidance from the outset

2147

01:53:58.455 --> 01:54:00.395
of key environmental constraints such

2148

01:54:00.395 --> 01:54:02.835
as protected ecological areas and landscapes

2149

01:54:03.255 --> 01:54:05.715
and mapping of best and most suitable agricultural land.

2150

01:54:07.205 --> 01:54:09.985
As part of the design evolution, we've introduced offsets

2151

01:54:09.985 --> 01:54:12.985
and buffers for residential properties removed parcels due

2152

01:54:12.985 --> 01:54:15.305
to heritage and noise impacts, made adjustments

2153

01:54:15.305 --> 01:54:16.985
to the order limits in response to land

2154

01:54:16.985 --> 01:54:20.145
and discussions included two new permissive paths

2155

01:54:20.145 --> 01:54:21.705
to facilitate connection.

2156

01:54:21.715 --> 01:54:24.945
Connecting access by the public introduced archeological

2157

01:54:24.945 --> 01:54:25.945
mitigation sites

2158

01:54:26.005 --> 01:54:28.825
and biodiversity zones to provide connectivity for wildlife.

2159

01:54:29.885 --> 01:54:31.745
The applicant has done its utmost to avoid

2160

01:54:31.745 --> 01:54:34.345

and minimize residual adverse effects in applying the

2161

01:54:34.345 --> 01:54:35.465

mitigation hierarchy.

2162

01:54:36.045 --> 01:54:37.865

The decision is therefore for the XA

2163

01:54:37.865 --> 01:54:40.225

and the security state to consider whether the urgent need

2164

01:54:40.405 --> 01:54:41.705

and critical national priority

2165

01:54:41.705 --> 01:54:44.385

for the scheme outweighs any adverse effects.

2166

01:54:45.005 --> 01:54:46.145

The applicant considers

2167

01:54:46.145 --> 01:54:47.945

that those adverse effects are outweighed

2168

01:54:48.205 --> 01:54:50.225

by the substantial benefits the scheme would deliver.

2169

01:54:50.845 --> 01:54:53.745

Namely a substantial contribution to meeting the urgent need

2170

01:54:53.745 --> 01:54:56.745

for low carbon generation supporting the overarching aim

2171

01:54:56.745 --> 01:54:59.305

of meeting net zero targets and fighting climate change

2172

01:54:59.365 --> 01:55:02.345

and its effects, which ultimately will benefit us all.

2173

01:55:03.445 --> 01:55:04.985

In terms of other topics raised, I'll try

2174

01:55:04.985 --> 01:55:07.185

and cover some of the main ones, um, that have come up

2175

01:55:07.365 --> 01:55:08.985

and as I've said, we'll also respond in writing.

2176

01:55:10.125 --> 01:55:11.985

Um, so in terms of um, human health

2177

01:55:11.985 --> 01:55:13.825

and wellbeing, there's the various comments

2178

01:55:13.925 --> 01:55:15.305

by people including, um, Mr.

2179

01:55:15.405 --> 01:55:16.705

Latham, Dr. Procter, Ms.

2180

01:55:16.795 --> 01:55:19.785

Garbo, Ms. Rose, Mrs. Coleman, and Mr. Broadband.

2181

01:55:20.845 --> 01:55:22.945

Uh, the applicant recognizes that the potential

2182

01:55:22.945 --> 01:55:25.665

for future environmental changes associated with the scheme

2183

01:55:25.665 --> 01:55:27.145

during construction operation

2184

01:55:27.145 --> 01:55:28.985

and decommissioning is a source of concern

2185

01:55:28.985 --> 01:55:31.945

for local residents to address this concern

2186

01:55:32.045 --> 01:55:34.345

and support the long term wellbeing of the community.

2187

01:55:34.565 --> 01:55:36.345

The applicant has undertaken a comprehensive

2188

01:55:36.365 --> 01:55:38.985

and robust environmental impact assessment so

2189

01:55:38.985 --> 01:55:40.425

that any likely significant effects

2190

01:55:40.425 --> 01:55:42.305

of the scheme could be identified and mitigated.

2191

01:55:43.225 --> 01:55:44.445

The assessment considers effects

2192

01:55:44.445 --> 01:55:45.885

of the scheme on a wide range of health

2193

01:55:45.885 --> 01:55:48.725

and wellbeing, determinants which are relevant to wellbeing,

2194

01:55:48.725 --> 01:55:51.685

quality of life and amenity as well as physical health.

2195

01:55:52.685 --> 01:55:54.445

I appreciate people don't agree with this,

2196

01:55:54.465 --> 01:55:55.565

but that assessment shows

2197

01:55:55.565 --> 01:55:57.565

that no significant adverse effects were identified

2198

01:55:57.795 --> 01:55:59.045

with regard to human health

2199

01:55:59.045 --> 01:56:01.525

and wellbeing as the potential

2200

01:56:01.525 --> 01:56:03.165

for beneficial impacts on employment

2201
01:56:03.165 --> 01:56:04.925
and income prioritization of walking

2202
01:56:04.945 --> 01:56:06.005
and cycling routes

2203
01:56:06.115 --> 01:56:08.405
through new permissive paths and climate change.

2204
01:56:09.375 --> 01:56:10.565
These impacts will lead

2205
01:56:10.565 --> 01:56:13.605
to beneficial effects on human health and wellbeing,

2206
01:56:13.665 --> 01:56:14.765
and specifically could lead

2207
01:56:14.765 --> 01:56:16.125
to beneficial effects on mental health

2208
01:56:16.125 --> 01:56:17.525
through increasing public access

2209
01:56:17.525 --> 01:56:19.525
to recreational space in an area

2210
01:56:19.525 --> 01:56:21.085
where there are a few public rights of way.

2211
01:56:22.515 --> 01:56:25.335
Um, several people mentioned, um, impacts in terms

2212
01:56:25.335 --> 01:56:28.135
of agricultural land and food production, including Ms.

2213
01:56:28.155 --> 01:56:30.815
Gar, Mr. Broadband and Mr. Skelton.

2214
01:56:32.045 --> 01:56:33.495

Land use change is not feature

2215

01:56:33.495 --> 01:56:36.375

among the government's identified risk to UK food security.

2216

01:56:36.915 --> 01:56:37.975

Uh, climate change is

2217

01:56:37.975 --> 01:56:40.695

however highlighted as a key risk to future UK food,

2218

01:56:40.725 --> 01:56:42.535

food security just speaking up

2219

01:56:42.535 --> 01:56:43.655

on the agricultural land points.

2220

01:56:43.675 --> 01:56:46.255

So the applicant through its documents has demonstrated the

2221

01:56:46.255 --> 01:56:48.455

use of agricultural land for the scheme is justified

2222

01:56:48.765 --> 01:56:50.255

that the impact on best

2223

01:56:50.255 --> 01:56:51.815

of most versatile land has been minimized.

2224

01:56:52.555 --> 01:56:55.215

Um, I'd also obviously just note the submission on behalf

2225

01:56:55.215 --> 01:56:57.255

of the ELs family, which demonstrated some

2226

01:56:57.255 --> 01:56:58.775

of the benefits as well in this respect.

2227

01:57:00.315 --> 01:57:02.495

Um, in terms of wildlife, uh, ecology

2228

01:57:02.515 --> 01:57:05.015

and biodiversity, there were comments from, um, Mr.

2229

01:57:05.185 --> 01:57:07.135

Grady, Mrs. Coleman, uh, Mr.

2230

01:57:07.165 --> 01:57:09.735

Broadband and, and Mrs. Johnson on on those points.

2231

01:57:10.315 --> 01:57:13.655

Um, and we've assessed the, um, impact in terms

2232

01:57:13.655 --> 01:57:15.415

of the ecology and nature conservation in

2233

01:57:15.415 --> 01:57:16.695

the environmental statement.

2234

01:57:17.315 --> 01:57:20.575

The conclusion is that there is no significant adverse

2235

01:57:20.575 --> 01:57:23.015

effects on biodiversity with significant beneficial effects

2236

01:57:23.015 --> 01:57:27.815

to a variety of habitats, um, including breeding birds

2237

01:57:27.835 --> 01:57:29.495

and, and farmland birds associated

2238

01:57:29.495 --> 01:57:30.695

with hedgerow and field margins.

2239

01:57:32.465 --> 01:57:34.205

Um, the applicant has taken opportunities

2240

01:57:34.225 --> 01:57:35.285

to provide mitigation

2241

01:57:35.285 --> 01:57:36.805

and enhancement measures within the order limits

2242

01:57:36.945 --> 01:57:38.525

to increase biodiversity

2243

01:57:38.545 --> 01:57:40.405

and provide overall net gains in habitat.

2244

01:57:40.985 --> 01:57:42.725

Um, this means that any loss of vegetation

2245

01:57:42.725 --> 01:57:44.405

or trees required for the safe passage

2246

01:57:44.465 --> 01:57:46.205

of construction traffic will be replaced.

2247

01:57:46.785 --> 01:57:48.885

Um, these measures include woodland scrub

2248

01:57:48.885 --> 01:57:52.925

and hedge planting to naturally regenerate established

2249

01:57:52.925 --> 01:57:55.125

species rich grassland across the principle site

2250

01:57:55.705 --> 01:57:57.125

and other habitat restoration

2251

01:57:57.125 --> 01:57:58.685

and creation within the order limits.

2252

01:58:00.245 --> 01:58:01.645

I do wanna just touch on best safety.

2253

01:58:01.765 --> 01:58:03.165

I know we're picking on that, picking up

2254

01:58:03.165 --> 01:58:04.965

that in tomorrow's hearing, um,

2255

01:58:04.965 --> 01:58:07.285

but a couple of people mentioned that, um,

2256

01:58:07.385 --> 01:58:08.765

we will have our expert available tomorrow,

2257

01:58:08.765 --> 01:58:11.205

but we have worked very closely with Lincoln Shear Fire

2258

01:58:11.225 --> 01:58:13.565

and Rescue service in terms of the, um,

2259

01:58:13.565 --> 01:58:16.045

battery safety management plan and we'll continue to do so.

2260

01:58:16.065 --> 01:58:17.885

And, and they obviously attended today's hearing

2261

01:58:18.305 --> 01:58:22.005

and confirmed that, um, in terms of, um, landscape

2262

01:58:22.005 --> 01:58:24.565

and visual, again, I know that's a concern raised by, um,

2263

01:58:24.565 --> 01:58:27.365

several people including, um, Mrs. Coleman and Mr. Johnson.

2264

01:58:27.905 --> 01:58:31.285

Um, the applicant acknowledged that not acknowledges

2265

01:58:31.285 --> 01:58:33.085

that despite its best efforts to avoid

2266

01:58:33.085 --> 01:58:34.085

and mitigate landscape

2267

01:58:34.085 --> 01:58:37.005

and visual effects, there will be some adverse, um,

2268

01:58:37.405 --> 01:58:38.645

residual impacts in this respect.

2269

01:58:39.345 --> 01:58:42.045

Direct impacts within the area of great landscape value,

2270

01:58:42.055 --> 01:58:45.205

which is the cliff will arise during construction and

2271

01:58:45.205 --> 01:58:47.365

before planting matures through the presence

2272

01:58:47.365 --> 01:58:50.925

of an upgraded section of existing farm track to be used

2273

01:58:50.925 --> 01:58:53.645

for access with other areas within the order limits proposed

2274

01:58:53.645 --> 01:58:54.805

biodiversity enhancement

2275

01:58:54.825 --> 01:58:58.085

or remaining undeveloped as sensitive archeological sites.

2276

01:58:59.105 --> 01:59:01.245

No significant effects, um, at the,

2277

01:59:01.245 --> 01:59:03.485

at year 15 are assessed for that.

2278

01:59:03.545 --> 01:59:04.925

Um, landscape character area.

2279

01:59:05.955 --> 01:59:08.385

There are significant adverse effects of various viewpoints,

2280

01:59:08.945 --> 01:59:11.385

albeit most of those are, um, greatly reduced due

2281

01:59:11.385 --> 01:59:13.065

to planting being established by year 15.

2282

01:59:14.685 --> 01:59:17.465

Um, the applicant has proposed planting to assist

2283

01:59:17.465 --> 01:59:19.265

with screening and mitigating impacts

2284

01:59:19.885 --> 01:59:21.505

and we have a framework landscape

2285

01:59:21.505 --> 01:59:24.225

and environmental management plan which sets out monitoring

2286

01:59:24.225 --> 01:59:27.065

measure monitoring measures, um, order to ensure

2287

01:59:27.065 --> 01:59:30.185

that expected growth rates are achieved in order to ensure

2288

01:59:30.185 --> 01:59:32.065

that that screening is established by year 15.

2289

01:59:32.745 --> 01:59:34.145

I appreciate for people living locally

2290

01:59:34.145 --> 01:59:37.065

that year 15 is still a not not sure space

2291

01:59:37.065 --> 01:59:38.865

of timers was noted by Mrs. Coleman.

2292

01:59:40.095 --> 01:59:42.835

Um, in terms of flood risk, we've obviously, we've done,

2293

01:59:42.855 --> 01:59:43.995

um, a flood risk assessment.

2294

01:59:44.815 --> 01:59:48.955

Um, and we have, um, cited the scheme to, um, avoid

2295

01:59:49.745 --> 01:59:53.115

impacting on flood risk, um, including only having panels

2296

01:59:53.115 --> 01:59:55.075

and no built more, um,

2297

01:59:55.195 --> 01:59:57.315

infrastructure within flood zones two and three.

2298

01:59:58.015 --> 02:00:00.195

And there's no loss of existing floodplain storage

2299

02:00:07.745 --> 02:00:10.635

Just in terms of, um, criticism, criticism of the applicant

2300

02:00:10.635 --> 02:00:13.435

or the companies making up the till Bridge Solar Limited,

2301

02:00:13.695 --> 02:00:16.515

um, jv, these are unfounded

2302

02:00:16.515 --> 02:00:18.795

and we strongly refute allegations in this respect.

2303

02:00:19.055 --> 02:00:21.235

The applicant is a joint venture between tribes,

2304

02:00:21.235 --> 02:00:23.075

clean Energy Limited and recurrent energy,

2305

02:00:23.175 --> 02:00:25.715

who are both experienced developers of renewable projects.

2306

02:00:27.255 --> 02:00:29.755

Uh, it's very much the intention of Till Bridge so limited

2307

02:00:29.775 --> 02:00:30.955

to build and operate the scheme.

2308

02:00:31.055 --> 02:00:33.115

And there's further detail about both those companies

2309

02:00:33.115 --> 02:00:34.315
in the funding statement.

2310

02:00:36.055 --> 02:00:39.555
Um, there was a point about, um, recycling

2311

02:00:39.555 --> 02:00:41.315
and what will happen in decommissioning raised by Mr.

2312

02:00:41.455 --> 02:00:43.435
Rapley. Um, we've included,

2313

02:00:43.815 --> 02:00:45.955
and actually at all stages for construction operation

2314

02:00:46.055 --> 02:00:48.195
and decommissioning, we have plans that were secured

2315

02:00:48.195 --> 02:00:51.115
by requirements that will deal with how we, um, dispose

2316

02:00:51.115 --> 02:00:53.875
of any waste and they include requirements

2317

02:00:54.055 --> 02:00:56.035
to prioritize recycling and reuse.

2318

02:00:56.375 --> 02:00:57.835
And the decommissioning plan commits

2319

02:00:57.835 --> 02:00:59.195
to a 70% waste recovery.

2320

02:00:59.335 --> 02:01:00.635
So diversion from landfill

2321

02:01:00.635 --> 02:01:02.195
and connection with with decommissioning.

2322

02:01:03.615 --> 02:01:05.515

Um, I'll touch briefly on cumulative effects

2323

02:01:05.515 --> 02:01:08.275

with other solar schemes as raised by, um, several people.

2324

02:01:08.855 --> 02:01:12.515

Um, we have been very clear to assess cumulative effects

2325

02:01:12.695 --> 02:01:13.835

as have the other schemes

2326

02:01:13.835 --> 02:01:16.195

and they've been considered, um, as part of each application

2327

02:01:16.255 --> 02:01:20.835

by the, um, examining authority, um, panels

2328

02:01:20.855 --> 02:01:22.315

and by the sector state for the,

2329

02:01:22.335 --> 02:01:23.755

the schemes that have been consented.

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02:01:24.175 --> 02:01:25.715

And I know that we'll be considering that more

2331

02:01:25.715 --> 02:01:27.715

for individual topics in tomorrow's hearings.

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02:01:28.165 --> 02:01:31.155

We've worked very collaborative collaboratively with, um,

2333

02:01:31.235 --> 02:01:34.235

the other solar developers, um, by,

2334

02:01:34.235 --> 02:01:35.435

with a shared cable route.

2335

02:01:35.695 --> 02:01:37.755

And by looking at ways in which

2336
02:01:37.755 --> 02:01:40.525
during construction in particular, we can, um, work together

2337
02:01:40.545 --> 02:01:42.205
to make sure that effects are minimized,

2338
02:01:42.585 --> 02:01:43.885
for example, in relation to traffic.

2339
02:01:45.845 --> 02:01:47.705
Um, one of the final points relate,

2340
02:01:47.705 --> 02:01:50.625
there's a few comments about, um, ethical procurement.

2341
02:01:51.325 --> 02:01:52.785
The applicant recognizes that there are risks

2342
02:01:52.805 --> 02:01:54.065
of modern slavery being connected

2343
02:01:54.065 --> 02:01:55.785
to UK businesses and supply chains.

2344
02:01:55.885 --> 02:01:57.825
The applicant takes these risks seriously

2345
02:01:57.965 --> 02:02:00.385
and will comply with all legal obligations

2346
02:02:00.385 --> 02:02:02.385
regarding modern slavery and its procurement process.

2347
02:02:03.355 --> 02:02:05.865
We've submitted a framework skills, supply chain

2348
02:02:05.885 --> 02:02:07.545
and employment plan and

2349
02:02:07.545 --> 02:02:10.585

that sets out the procurement strategy for the scheme, um,

2350

02:02:11.645 --> 02:02:13.225

and how it must be shaped to maximize

2351

02:02:13.765 --> 02:02:15.385

our opportunities for local businesses.

2352

02:02:15.445 --> 02:02:18.985

Has an ethical procurement policy, um, while seeking

2353

02:02:19.005 --> 02:02:21.185

to minimize associated environmental effects

2354

02:02:21.245 --> 02:02:23.385

and safeguarding human rights in the supply chain.

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02:02:25.845 --> 02:02:27.825

Um, in terms of benefits, I've, I've touched on these.

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02:02:27.905 --> 02:02:30.105

I would just add that the applicant is proposing a community

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02:02:30.105 --> 02:02:31.625

benefit fund as part of the scheme.

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02:02:31.845 --> 02:02:34.425

Should the scheme receive development consent,

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02:02:34.425 --> 02:02:36.945

this would be independently administered by local foundation

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02:02:37.325 --> 02:02:39.025

and would be available for local initiatives

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02:02:39.025 --> 02:02:40.625

to provide services to the community.

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02:02:41.455 --> 02:02:42.825

Picking up on, um, Ms.

2363

02:02:42.825 --> 02:02:45.385

Bingham's point about having a contact for the applicant

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02:02:45.385 --> 02:02:47.905

during construction, there are measures like this included

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02:02:47.925 --> 02:02:49.745

in the construction environmental management plan

2366

02:02:49.745 --> 02:02:51.465

and also a requirement to, um,

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02:02:52.125 --> 02:02:54.025

set up a community liaison group during,

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02:02:54.165 --> 02:02:55.785

um, construction for that purpose.

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02:02:56.995 --> 02:02:59.145

There are other issues, as I mentioned on battery safety

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02:02:59.165 --> 02:03:01.425

and landscape and cumulative impacts that, um,

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02:03:01.455 --> 02:03:03.225

will be the subject of discussion tomorrow.

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02:03:03.285 --> 02:03:05.585

So I won't go, um, to there's any further.

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02:03:05.725 --> 02:03:08.985

But, um, thank you. I've tried to pick up on the key themes.

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02:03:09.065 --> 02:03:10.865

I appreciate I've not been able to cover everything.

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02:03:11.245 --> 02:03:13.945

Um, but we will respond in writing at deadline four.

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02:03:14.205 --> 02:03:16.145

And again, I would just like to thank everyone, um,

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02:03:16.205 --> 02:03:17.785

for attending and for their contributions.

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02:03:18.355 --> 02:03:19.355

Thank you.

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02:03:20.095 --> 02:03:22.975

Okay, thank you very much. I don't have any questions.

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02:03:23.915 --> 02:03:26.855

No, thank you very much Ms. Coleman. Okay.

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02:03:27.035 --> 02:03:29.135

Uh, I'm going to move on to item five,

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02:03:29.135 --> 02:03:30.775

which is the close of the hearing.

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02:03:32.275 --> 02:03:35.735

Um, firstly we would like to thank everyone

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02:03:35.795 --> 02:03:38.855

who has spoken today for taking the time to attend

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02:03:39.075 --> 02:03:40.135

and speak to us.

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02:03:41.355 --> 02:03:43.895

Um, we will take your views into consideration

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02:03:44.475 --> 02:03:46.815

in making our recommendation to the Secretary of State.

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02:03:48.315 --> 02:03:52.295

Um, the recording will be published on the project web page

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02:03:52.515 --> 02:03:54.735

as soon as is practicable.

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02:03:55.435 --> 02:03:58.215

Um, we'd also be grateful if those

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02:03:58.215 --> 02:04:01.375

who have spoken today could provide their oral statements in

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02:04:01.375 --> 02:04:03.575

writing by deadline four.

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02:04:04.115 --> 02:04:05.535

Um, that would greatly assist us,

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02:04:06.335 --> 02:04:09.375

albeit it's not essential to do so.

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02:04:10.475 --> 02:04:14.055

Um, yeah, please contact a member

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02:04:14.055 --> 02:04:15.535

of the case team at the back of the room

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02:04:15.955 --> 02:04:17.855

or, uh, their contact details are on

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02:04:17.855 --> 02:04:18.975

the notification letters.

2399

02:04:19.275 --> 02:04:22.135

If you dunno how to find the pro project webpage.

2400

02:04:22.955 --> 02:04:24.055

Uh, just to let you know,

2401

02:04:24.145 --> 02:04:27.015

we'll be holding a third issue specific hearing tomorrow.

2402

02:04:28.275 --> 02:04:29.975

Um, okay,

2403

02:04:32.485 --> 02:04:35.785

the time is now 18 minutes past eight

2404

02:04:35.925 --> 02:04:38.385

and this open floor hearing is now closed.

2405

02:04:38.635 --> 02:04:39.065

Thank you.