

Submission ID: 33476

Dear Team

Please see the attached document which is the written confirmation of my comments kindly spoken on my behalf by Dawn at the OFH in January.

Tillbridge Solar OFH – Carol Gilbert. 20048981

Surprisingly, considering the number of solar sites being currently proposed for our area the last thing I have ever associated with UK is an abundance of sunshine. Wind (sometimes), rain (copious), clouds (check) but lots and lots of sunshine? NO. NHS advice is that citizens should supplement with vitamin D to mitigate against the fact that we do not have enough sun. Go figure!

There are many concerning aspects to the prospect of living within a solar zone.

The disruption of construction, the practicality of actually living amongst 5–6 million solar panels and the associated infrastructure; inverters and not least the risks BESS bring.

These are all tangible aspects.

What about the parts which are not under the control of developers?

The wildlife.

There are large populations of deer across the whole area of each and every project. How are they going to be managed? Are they going to be managed? Will deer be subject to culling (hardly fair when all they do is roam)? Or will we have to get used to seeing the aftermath of deer coming into conflict with vehicles? The carcasses next to the verge, the damage to cars and people. Who is going to mitigate this?

Who should the unfortunate driver claim against in the event of a contact with deer? Whichever solar site is nearest?

Wildlife will be dislocated, unable to access land which has been home for centuries. Funnelled towards roads and the sure consequence of conflict. What does the developer propose to avoid this? Nothing.

Fence the land off with deer fencing (effective to keep them out) after that; not my problem?

These solar sites are NOT urgent.

If there was true urgency then this process would not be high level. The plans would be detailed, well thought out and not done as a desktop overview.

There is no altruistic thought for any of this debacle. This is purely and simply about money.

Does anyone actually understand what net zero actually means? This is not about reducing emissions, but offsetting. The offshoring of production NOT a reduction of any means.

When the sun doesn't shine and the wind doesn't blow – what then?
Gas, nuclear and hydro. These are the technologies which should be being implemented not the unreliable and frankly disingenuous so called renewable of solar.

Leave solar utilisation to the fields of crops. Feed the nation not some foreign owned business.