

I wish to object to the current proposals for the East Yorkshire Solar Farm on the following grounds:

(1) The proposal takes prime agricultural land out of food production and while I am sure it provides an 'easy income' for those farmers involved it makes no strategic/ logistical sense for the country. There are plenty of brownfield sites and an extensive existing roof space on houses where land has already been developed. Whilst I appreciate that it maybe more difficult to develop these quickly this should not be an excuse for rushing into a 'quick' solution which local communities will be stuck with for 40 or more years.

(2) I also wish to object on the grounds that the development may affect the very important 'Lower Derwent Valley SPA/ SSSI and its migrating birds. This is a locally unique resource and a strategic 'stopping off' point for European migrating birds. I am not convinced that incoming birds migrating from abroad will not be confused by the 'new lakes' of a 'sea of glass' locally. Has any research been done on this aspect in any country where these structures have been put in place?

(3) I wish to object to the proposals on the scale of the project which 'industrialises' a large amount of the land surrounding existing rural villages. The scale is totally overwhelming and might be more acceptable to local people if substantially scaled down.

(4) I wish to object to the proposal in that currently only limited 'local benefit' is proposed. If the project provided more local benefits (such as reduced-price electricity to locals) it might be seen as more locally beneficial and be tolerated more.

(5) I wish to object to the project on the grounds of disturbance to local deer populations. Has any modelling work been done on understanding the effect of corralling local deer populations into smaller areas such will be the case on the edges of this solar (and adjacent solar panel farms)? I suspect that deer populations will be concentrated into the remaining (very few) woodland areas which may be devastated by increased local deer browsing. Is there any evidence from other large-scale solar farms elsewhere in Britain?