

My husband and I bought our house, [REDACTED] in 2013.

We moved from West Yorkshire and chose the rural property very carefully as we had made the decision that we wanted to change our lifestyle and move from suburbia to a rural location.

From a financial perspective, we were at the upper end of our budget and as a result, put everything into buying our dream home. Our focus was to be close to nature, I personally find our local environment therapeutic and spend lots of time walking and exercising around our village and I worry about my mental health when the environment is changed beyond recognition and the only places to walk and exercise will be along provided "corridors" surrounded by 8 ft high security fencing and lighting.

We have recently had our house valued and the Estate Agent confirmed that if this proposal goes ahead, the value of our property is likely to be reduced significantly and if we made the decision to move, it would be difficult to sell it while surrounded by 3.5 metre high solar panels causing noise and light pollution in addition to ruining the rural landscape. Our home is arguably one of, if not the most likely to be adversely affected by the proposed development of the East Yorkshire Solar Farm in terms of the proximity to our house and garden but also it will be on three sides of our property and practically surrounding the hamlet of Gribthorpe. The roads accessing our village will all be occupied by the panels, from all directions for at least 2 miles.

We are not against solar but firmly believe that there are more appropriate places for it than productive farm fields. This proposal is wrong on so many levels, this proposal would engulf small hamlets like ours, completely industrialising the whole area. To force small communities like ours to live in such surroundings has surely got to compromise our human rights.

There simply isn't the infrastructure to support heavy goods vehicles on our network of single-track roads, they simply won't cope and again, it will be the local residents that will suffer. Boom have implied that they will enhance the road network but that is just altering further our rural environment, it would involve removing hedgerows and will increase the impact on our wildlife.

Boom have reiterated on a number of occasions to me personally that this development will enhance our local wildlife by increasing populations of insects but what about the mammals, deer's, hedgehogs and badgers? Boom have no answers for this and showed little concern. We have a whole variety of migrating birds including ground nesting Curlews, Lapwings and Snipes (photographic evidence with co-ordinates can be provided), these birds return year on year. Also, the fields to be used are hunting grounds for Barn, Tawny and Little owls in addition to Sparrowhawks, Kestrels and Buzzards, the list goes on.

Boom have carried out noise/sound tests throughout the proposed site, in Gribthorpe, they carried out their noise/sound test during a week of RAF training, they later published their findings and the decibels in Gribthorpe are likely to double. When asked, Boom employees admitted this and explained that the sound would not be above normal suburbia at night!! They also admitted that this was estimated as the panels that they intend to install have never been used in the UK.

Most of the land that is intended to be used on the proposed East Yorkshire site is classed as 3B, I believe that the categorisation dates back to 1985, some 39 years ago. I believe that there have been a number of soil tests carried out although I have not been privy to the results, I am only aware of what has been publicised by Boom. The land around Gribthorpe has, year on year been productive, again, photographic evidence can be provided over the years with co-ordinates. Our country is sleepwalking into a national food crisis, I fail to understand how losing thousands upon thousands of acres to solar rather than producing food will help this situation be it for animal or human consumption. Especially when there are numerous warehouse roofs in the area that could be utilised. There are literally thousands of new properties being developed nearby in Howden, consideration must be given to making it compulsory for new builds to have solar panels fitted to their roofs where, in my opinion solar panels belong, thus leaving agricultural land to continue to produce our food.

This proposed development has been classed as temporary but will be insitu for around 40 years, the Oxford Dictionary defines temporary as "lasting or intended to last or be used only for a short time; not permanent", I am currently [REDACTED] years old, if this development goes ahead, it is very likely to last my entire remaining lifetime which certainly doesn't feel temporary.

How are the 3.5 tall panels, equipped with motors to facilitate rotation to be disposed of? I have read multiple articles in relation to this, a tiny fraction of the panels can be recycled but unfortunately most components will have to go to landfill, how can that possibly be environmentally friendly? I have also been told that it will be the landowners responsibility to dispose of the panels, firstly, are they equipped with the knowledge of how to responsibly dispose of them? and secondly, I suspect that a large proportion of the landowners, like myself will be unlikely to outlive the "temporary" development, thus passing the responsibility on to the next generation which leads to a further consideration of who will return the land to it's former state as promised by Boom? Will the next generation of farmers in our area retain their predecessors farming skills? It may be difficult if the local farmers and landowners are only maintaining the enclosed sites.

The scale of this proposed development is huge, if it should go ahead, it will transform a rural environment into an industrial one, completely changing the landscape. Every local resident will be adversely affected.

Finally, there has been mention of Boom contributing to a community fund, this will most likely go to Bubwith, or perhaps some will go to Foggathorpe Parish Council, either way, I will not benefit directly from it, it will not help to maintain the value of my property, it will not reduce my utility bills, Gribthorpe doesn't need a playground or a community bench, there are only 19 properties in our lovely little hamlet and not one of them will benefit from whatever contribution Boom make to a community fund. Every single resident is against this proposal and has signed a petition to say as much, 100% of the community want to retain it's rural present and past.