

The East Yorkshire Solar Farm, if approved in its current form is going to ruin my life and that my fellow residents in Gribthorpe and other villages about to be encircled by this gargantuan development. The losses we will suffer are protean. Visual amenity will be totally lost as the surrounding rural landscape is transformed into a regimented industrialised eyesore of 3.2 meter high photovoltaic panels and associated fencing, security lighting and cameras. The quiet tranquil atmosphere will be disrupted during the construction phase by the racket of pile driving and thereafter by the mechanised hum of tracking motors and inverters.

I am fearful of fire breaking out in the solar panels and associated battery energy storage systems. Gribthorpe is served by a single track road into a cul-de-sac and there is a very real risk that the residents could be trapped in the event of a fire. I am concerned about the risk of environmental contamination from bis-perflouroalkyl sulphonamides (bis-FASIs), a subgroup of PFAS (forever chemicals, known to be carcinogenic and highly toxic to wildlife) which I understand are widely used in lithium ion batteries, a key component of sustainable energy infrastructure. A recent article in Nature (Guelfo, J.L., Ferguson, P.L., Beck, J. et al. Lithium-ion battery components are at the nexus of sustainable energy and environmental release of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. *Nat Commun* 15, 5548 (2024).

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-49753-5>) concluded "that environmental impacts of clean energy infrastructure merit scrutiny to ensure that reduced CO2 emissions are not achieved at the expense of increasing global releases of persistent organic pollutants".

There is also the matter of the financial losses which will be sustained by people living in close proximity to the proposed development. Property values will be negatively affected. Previous research suggests that the magnitude of this effect positively correlated with the size of the solar development and is also is greater the closer the property is situated to the development. On both counts the residents of Gribthorpe will be particularly disadvantaged.

I am mindful that this proposed development is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. Its private equity investors stand to make vast profits at our expense. Throughout the consultation process the developer has frankly shown a contemptuous disregard for the views and concerns of the people whose lives are about to be irreversibly blighted. There has been no meaningful overture from the developer about providing realistic compensation for our loss.