

I am incredibly concerned about these proposals and would like the whole process to be stopped for the following reasons

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1. The main reason is the derogatory effect on the public health of the residents of this huge area of 10,000 acres. Most of us can only visualise an acre and it has been absolutely shocking to see on an aerial map, the vast area of agricultural land that will be affected.

It is well known that rapid industrialisation in a landscape can contribute to mental health issues, such as stress, anxiety, and depression.

The residents in the area are feeling this way already and this is just the planning process. It is so wrong that the area involved is so large and that it will affect up to 40,000 people. These people have made their homes in the villages affected, some for generations.

I see this scheme as a major risk to public health. Eventually, the residents will move away because why would you want to stay in an industrial site and then the villages will be empty. I liken this to the Highland clearances in the 19th century.

2. The NPP framework expects local authorities to 'protect and enhance valued landscapes and sites of biodiversity and recognise the character and beauty of the countryside and the benefits of the farmland in their policies and decisions'.

Clearly, a 10,000 acre solar farm does none of the above. The land is currently used for growing food and this should be valued in a time when we have a war in Europe and worries around food security.

Solar panels on farm land cause visual harm, harm to amenity and harm to openness

The NPP Framework asks local authorities to 'encourage the re-use of brownfield land and to recognise the character and beauty of the countryside'.

I could not agree more with the above and just ask that the planning inspectors take this into account.