

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Tillbridge Solar Project](#)
Subject: Tillbridge Solar - Comments following the open floor hearing
Date: 07 November 2024 15:17:31

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Dear Planning Inspectorate,

I am writing as a concerned resident of Cammeringham, deeply disturbed by the proposed industrial-scale solar panel projects that threaten to transform our cherished rural landscape in my neighbouring parishes. I had the opportunity to listen to the recording of the recent open floor hearing and feel compelled to voice my strong objections alongside fellow residents of our surrounding villages.

This unprecedented industrialisation of productive farmland is not only a blight on our environment but also an irreversible mistake with far-reaching consequences. **The cumulative impact of these projects is simply too great to ignore.**

From the taxpayer's perspective, this represents another colossal UK infrastructure misstep. The efficiency of solar panels is highly questionable, particularly during the winter months when their contribution to our national power grid is minimal. Moreover, the so-called green credentials of these panels are deeply flawed. The extraction of rare earth metals and the manufacturing processes involved have significant environmental footprints, counteracting any potential benefits.

Additional Concerns:

- **Loss of Prime Agricultural Land:** The conversion of fertile farmland to industrial solar farms undermines local food security and the economic sustainability of our agricultural communities. This land is vital for our local farming heritage and future food production.
- **Visual and Environmental Impact:** The scale of these installations will forever alter the character of our rural landscape, transforming serene fields into industrial zones. The construction and ongoing maintenance will disrupt local ecosystems, harming wildlife and natural habitats that have thrived here for generations.
- **Community and Economic Impact:** The introduction of such large-scale projects will undoubtedly lead to a decline in property values and negatively impact the quality of life for residents. Increased noise, traffic, and potential health hazards from these installations pose serious concerns.
- **Questionable Return on Investment:** The financial justification for these projects is weak. The intermittent nature of solar power means that during periods of low sunlight, particularly in winter, the energy produced will not add to our energy security at all.
- **Sustainability and Greenwashing:** The broader sustainability claims are dubious. The lifecycle environmental costs of producing, transporting, installing, and eventually decommissioning these solar panels, along with the environmental damage caused by mining for rare earth metals, greatly diminish their purported

green benefits.

In conclusion, the long-term implications of approving these projects are dire and far-reaching. I urge the Planning Inspectorate to consider the irreversible damage to our environment, community, and agricultural heritage before making any decisions.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime transformation that we and you cannot afford to get wrong.

Graeme Beattie

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