

1. This is one of a number of speculative solar developments randomly proposed in arbitrarily chosen locations based on existing land ownership rather than any technical assessment. . The individual developments (currently three totalling some 9086 acres ) are interlinked as it is proposed that they will each connect to a proposed new National Grid substation on a site of 32 acres less than one mile east of Navenby. Government Guidance in May 2024 stated that decision-makers should not only consider the impacts of individual proposals but also cumulative impacts “where several proposals come forward in the same locality”. As such the massive cumulative impact of all the linked developments should be considered and I have not seen any evidence of this.
2. As is outlined in the National Policy Statement, the starting position for solar PV developers in taking forward Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects is that applicants should seek to minimise impacts on the best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land (defined as land in grades 1, 2 and 3a of the Agricultural Land Classification) and preferably use land in areas of poorer quality. It was stated that over 40% of the proposed site is within the BMV category. The land included in the application relates to existing ownership and there did not appear to have been any attempt to minimise or justify the inclusion of BMV land.
3. Despite the applicants promises the land will not be reinstated when the solar use ceases. It will be contaminated with particles from degrading solar panels and an ongoing liability for future generations.