Submission ID: 36565

I wish to speak about the surface water implications of this project

I am very disappointed that neither the applicant or any of the agencies including the EA, IDB's and District Council have not addressed the issue of potential damage to the land drainage systems to the land east of the B1188 and north of Scopwick is all under drained and has been since the enclosures in one form or another. Most of this under draining consist of fragile clay pipes running either into a mains or ditches through channels called laterals, these clay pipes about 75mm - 100 mm in diameter are very fragile by virtue of being porous I am very worried that the method of percussion piling will fracture this drainage system. It doesn't have to hit the pipe. The vibration in the earth from percussion piling will fracture these pipes, once that happens this land will become nothing more than a wet bog and rainfall will then run off it downhill towards the settlement of Scopwick.

We are talking about 80 ha which during 25 mm of rainfall it will produce 8,000,000 litres of water which at the moment percolates through the soil into main drains, onward into ditches and then finds its way via a large culvert into Scopwick beck. These lands are usually ripped to aerate the soil and entrance the rainwater into the drainage systems. This procedure cannot take place once the construction of these panels are complete. You need a 300 hp tractor with a large chisel plough entrancing the earth to approximately 500 mm in depth. The land I have mentioned is situated approximately 10 to 12 m above the settlement of Scopwick & Kirkby Green.

I met two surveyors from Gateley Harmer Springwells agents, they say that they construction of swales and vegetation absorption would prevent this happening. I know quite a lot about shallow swales and they would need to be miles long to address this happening and vegetation will absorb approximately 3 mm to 10mm of water per day per hectare and that is it if would continue to grow when prevented from receiving sunlight under the panels and the effect of boggy conditions. In my opinion neither of those procedures will be able to prevent what I am stating.

I do know that land drainage plans should be available to the applicant. I worked for the landlord company as their estate manager until 2010. And as a retired rural practice surveyor, I think I do know what I'm talking about when it relates to the design, installation and maintenance of land drainage systems. If these matters I have mentioned are not fully addressed by the applicant emonstrating how they will prevent this scenario happening and giving engineering details and calculations, which I might add should be examined for compliance by a chartered civil, or drainage engineer. Failure to do so then I believe the inspector should recommend

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The other thing I am worried about is by penetrating these piles into the water bearing strata it is widely known that this water bearing strata has artesian effect which in the winter time emanate water from springs in the locality. I do believe by piercing this clay middle strata above the water bearing strata will exacerbate tis hydraulic water effect.

And finally my other issue is there ppars to be no external supervision to any of these works, it is the gamekeeper and the poacher cap in hand, if these works are not closely supervised by a resident engineer employed by DEFRA or one of the local agencies they will be able to do just as they like we know that if this happens we may get sub-soil and topsoil mixing and it is not separated like it should be and reinstated in correct layers this land will become unable to farm productively for hundreds of years,if ever and that is not taking into effect the chemical contamination addressed by others.
Kindest regards

John
John F Money
Sent from my iPhone