

Date: 5 October 2025

Subject: Formal Objection to the Proposed Springwell Solar Farm Installation

I am writing to formally object to the proposed Springwell Solar Farm development on the following grounds:

1. Commercialisation Over Clean Energy Goals

The proposed installation, if approved, will become a traded commodity. This indicates that the primary motivation behind the project is financial gain rather than a genuine commitment to clean energy or environmental stewardship.

2. Inherent Inefficiency of Large-Scale Solar Installations

Solar farms of this scale are inherently inefficient in terms of energy output per acre. The technology proposed is not state-of-the-art, and the project appears to prioritise cost-cutting over long-term sustainability and performance.

3. Decommissioning Burden on Taxpayers and Residents

There is no clear or binding commitment from the developers to fully fund the decommissioning of the solar panels and battery systems at the end of the project's lifespan. This raises serious concerns that the financial burden will fall on British taxpayers and local ratepayers. Furthermore, many of the components, including batteries, are not recyclable, posing long-term environmental risks.

4. Loss of Agricultural Heritage and Future Farming Generations

The project will occupy thousands of acres of productive farmland for up to 40 years. This will disrupt local agricultural practices and risks creating a generational gap in farming expertise and land stewardship.

5. Increased Reliance on Imported Food

The loss of productive arable land will inevitably lead to increased food imports, undermining national food security and contributing to higher carbon emissions associated with transportation.

6. Use of Outdated and Inefficient Equipment

The proposal appears to rely on outdated and inefficient solar technology, chosen to maximise profit margins rather than deliver optimal environmental or energy outcomes. This compromises the integrity of the project and its purported environmental benefits.

In light of these concerns, I urge the Planning Inspectorate to reject the proposal for the Springwell Solar Farm. The long-term environmental, economic, and social costs far outweigh the short-term gains.

Thank you for considering my objection.

Yours faithfully,
Barry Walker