

I object to the Springwell Solar Farm proposal for the following reasons.

The scheme is so large it will have a massive detrimental impact on the character of the local countryside and farmland which is enjoyed by locals, visitors, and those just passing through.

This scheme has been made possible because it is underpinned by long-term price guarantees to the foreign and investment companies involved. This represents an insane distortion of the market. No rational person would enter into a forty-year price promise in a quickly changing technology environment. It is only possible because it is driven by artificial political and personal ego motives. We can't easily change these political decisions, but we can and should stop the extreme effects of them destroying the beauty and the agricultural and social value of our countryside.

The cumulative effect of this with other massive solar proposals in the area will lead to a wholesale destruction of our landscape for generations.

It will also lead to the loss of local farming and associated skills and supporting services and industry. This would probably never be recovered.

This is not temporary! Forty to sixty years is not temporary.

There can be no guarantee that the scheme can ever be decommissioned satisfactorily. Experience with other long term government contracts indicates this.