

Mark Henstock

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30th April 2025

Interested Party Reference number: F7349F247

To Whom It May Concern,

RE: Objection to the Proposed Fenwick Solar Farm (Application by Boom Power)

I am writing to formally object to the proposed development of the Fenwick Solar Farm near the village of Fenwick in Doncaster. While I fully support the transition to renewable energy, this proposal is inappropriate in terms of scale, location, and the potential negative impacts on the local community, environment, and my personal property.

1. Impact on Local Landscape and Character

The development spans more than 400 hectares of predominantly agricultural land. This scale of industrialisation would irreversibly alter the rural character of Fenwick and its surrounding areas, significantly affecting the natural landscape valued by both residents and visitors.

2. Loss of Agricultural Land

The land in question is high-quality farmland, essential for local food production and employment. Given current concerns over food security and rural economic resilience, the permanent removal of this land from agricultural use is unacceptable.

3. Environmental and Biodiversity Concerns

The site borders several Local Wildlife Sites and ancient woodland, including Bunfold Shaw. The introduction of solar panels and associated

infrastructure at this scale risks habitat fragmentation, disruption to local ecosystems, and harm to protected species.

4. Pollution and Construction Disruption

The construction phase is expected to generate significant noise pollution and vehicle emissions due to an increased volume of heavy traffic, particularly through the village of Moss. This will adversely affect air quality and the wellbeing of residents, including vulnerable groups such as children and the elderly.

5. Direct Impact on My Property

The proposed cable route passes directly through land I own, which would restrict access to my property and disrupt its use. This raises serious concerns about property rights, safety, and compensation.

6. Flood Risk

Parts of the proposed development lie within Flood Zones 2 and 3. The addition of impermeable surfaces and infrastructure could worsen flood risks in adjacent areas, including residential zones, which have historically faced drainage challenges.

7. Impact on Public Access and Bridleways

Reports suggest that over 90% of public bridleways in Fenwick may be affected. This would significantly reduce access to green space for walking, riding, and recreation—activities that are vital to the health and wellbeing of local people.

8. Lack of Genuine Community Engagement

Many residents feel sidelined during the consultation process. The formation of the Fenwick Solar Farm Action Group highlights widespread local opposition and dissatisfaction with how the process has been managed.

Conclusion

Renewable energy is essential for the UK's future, but it must be developed in the right locations and with the support of local communities. I respectfully urge the Planning Inspectorate and relevant authorities to reject this proposal and instead explore more suitable, less intrusive sites—such as brownfield land or smaller-scale projects—closer to demand centres.

Thank you for considering my objection.

Yours faithfully,

Mark Henstock