

I object to the Fosse Green Energy proposal. While I acknowledge the national need for renewable energy, the scale and location of this scheme, when considered alongside other major developments such as Springwell, results in unacceptable impacts that conflict with North Kesteven Local Plan policy and raise serious concerns for Lincolnshire County Council's strategic responsibilities.

#### 1. Cumulative Impact – Conflict with Local Planning Policy

The proposal fails to adequately address cumulative impacts, particularly in combination with Springwell and other solar, BESS and grid infrastructure projects in North Kesteven.

This conflicts with:

Policy LP2 (Spatial Strategy and Settlement Hierarchy), which seeks to ensure development is appropriately located and does not impose disproportionate harm on rural areas.

Policy LP13 (Landscape Character), which requires development to respect the character, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape.

The concentration of multiple NSIPs within the same rural area would result in:

the effective industrialisation of open countryside

significant cumulative landscape and visual harm

erosion of tranquillity and rural character

When considered cumulatively, these impacts are no longer moderate or temporary but fundamental and long-term, contrary to the Local Plan's objective of sustainable, balanced growth.

#### 2. Transport and Construction Impacts – Lincolnshire County Council

Lincolnshire County Council, as Highway Authority, must consider cumulative impacts on the local highway network.

The proposal conflicts with:

Policy LP25 (Transport and Accessibility), which requires development to avoid severe residual cumulative transport impacts.

Overlapping construction periods across multiple NSIPs raise serious concerns regarding:

increased HGV movements on rural roads

road safety and network resilience

prolonged disruption to local communities

These cumulative impacts have not been convincingly mitigated.

#### 3. Loss of Agricultural Land – Strategic and Policy Harm

The scheme would result in the loss of productive agricultural land, conflicting with:

Policy LP2, which seeks to protect the rural economy

Policy LP13, which recognises farmland as part of the landscape character and rural setting

The cumulative loss of farmland across several large-scale energy projects in North Kesteven represents a strategic planning issue. Agricultural land is a finite resource essential to food production and rural livelihoods. Its large-scale removal undermines long-term sustainability and resilience, particularly when alternative locations have not been prioritised.

#### 4. Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) – Safety and Cumulative Risk

The proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) raises serious safety concerns, particularly when considered cumulatively with other nearby BESS installations, including those associated with Springwell.

Lithium-ion BESS facilities carry known risks, including:

thermal runaway and long-duration fires

release of toxic gases

challenges for emergency response in rural locations

Lincolnshire County Council's responsibilities for emergency planning and public safety require confidence that:

worst-case scenarios have been robustly assessed

emergency services are adequately resourced

cumulative risk from multiple BESS sites has been fully considered

This level of assurance has not been demonstrated.

#### 5. Conclusion

In summary, the Fosse Green Energy proposal:

results in unacceptable cumulative impacts, contrary to Policies LP2 and LP13

places undue pressure on rural transport infrastructure, contrary to Policy LP25

causes significant and cumulative loss of agricultural land

raises unresolved BESS safety and emergency planning concerns

For these reasons, the proposal fails to represent sustainable development when assessed in its full cumulative and policy context, and I respectfully request that the Examining Authority gives these matters significant weight.