

## Reference number:

I want to make clear at the outset that I am not opposed to renewable energy in principle. My concern is with the scale and location of this particular proposal and with the effect it would have on the area and on those of us who live here.

My main concern is that this is the wrong site for a development of this scale. The area is already under very heavy pressure from major infrastructure, including HS2, East West Rail and other large-scale development. That cumulative pressure is already changing the character of the area and causing repeated disruption. In that context, it is difficult to understand why another major industrial-scale energy project has been proposed in this location.

I am also concerned about the effect on the wider heritage and environmental value of the area. It is not an empty or interchangeable landscape. It is a place with an established rural character, an important historic setting, phenomenal biodiversity and a strong connection to the surrounding countryside and villages. It is also an area where biodiversity clearly matters, both in its own right and as part of the wider landscape that people value and experience every day. In my view, insufficient weight has been given to those combined qualities in choosing this site.

The likely disruption during construction is another major issue. It would mean regular construction traffic, noise, activity and general disruption on top of the pressures the area is already facing from other infrastructure schemes, especially HS2.

The proximity of the battery storage site is also a serious concern. I remain concerned about noise, visual impact and the overall effect of having this kind of infrastructure so close by. Even if Rosefield claim those effects can be managed, I do not believe the material provided gives enough confidence that the impacts on local amenity will be limited in practise.

More broadly, I do not believe enough weight has been given to the cumulative impact of all of these changes together. Looking at this project in isolation does not reflect the reality on the ground. For those of us living here, the issue is not just one development, but the repeated addition of major infrastructure into the same landscape.

In my view, site selection is central to the examination. Even if a project of this nature may be acceptable in principle, that does not mean this particular site is suitable. Given the known pressures already affecting the area, the sensitivity of the surrounding landscape, the heritage value of the setting and the biodiversity interest of the wider countryside, I do not believe Rosefield Solar Farm have shown why this is the right location.

For those reasons, I respectfully ask the Examining Authority to look very carefully at the cumulative impacts of the proposed development, the suitability of this location and the effect the scheme would have on local amenity, the character of the area and those of us who live here.

Thank you for reading,

James Preston