

It is becoming increasingly alarming at the pace of applications for solar, battery and data storage ahead of the decision to upgrade the East Claydon Power Station. The ridiculous thing is none of these projects can go ahead until the substation at East Claydon is upgraded. Among these projects, and by quite a long way, the biggest is the Rosefield Solar Farm. There is currently no consultation date let alone planning application for this upgrade. It will takes years (current best forecast is 3034), until this project will be commissioned and operational.....by which time (1) it is highly likely that we will have enough renewable energy in the UK and (2) technology in non-fossil fuel energy is sure to have advanced. For the avoidance of doubt, I don't think that anyone rejects the need to upgrade East Claydon - we all recognise that the grid infrastructure is dated and that between Oxford and Cambridge there is going to be increased demand on the grid. The objection is about 'what' is going into East Claydon to generate electricity and the logic/lack of understanding behind the Net Zero strategy.

The latest available updated map of our surrounding countryside (and this doesn't include the latest application at Poundon), demonstrates very clearly that the area is being overwhelmed with with applications for plug-ins to the new power station.

Beyond any doubt, the Net Zero goal/objective is fundamentally floored. The UK contributes less than 0.5% of all global CO2 emissions. In the bizarre attempt to demonstrate some form of delusional 19th Century colonial leadership, our pursuit of Net Zero, is resulting the highest domestic and industrial energy prices in the developed world. So whilst we destroy our manufacturing economy, lose jobs and reduce taxed income, we seem to think that is acceptable that all the products we can't now produce and grow ourselves, we import from the very economies to whom we are trying to show this leadership.

It does not seem to bother India, China, Asia or Africa that using fossil fuels and fertilisers to make and grow the very products that we now don't, put them on planes and boats (the two worst fossil fuels), and move them across oceans and through the skies, is contributing to "global emissions".

Why does it seem acceptable that as long as we don't produce things in our own country, it's ok if they are produced or grown elsewhere. Add to this the burden of moving these across the world.

Why also does it seem acceptable that we use the Chinese economy to manufacture the solar equipment that we are using to our achieve our own Net Zero goals.

We know little or nothing about the conditions that people are employed across China, India, Asia and Africa; but one can assume that the conditions and wages of many of the jobs that we are underpinning in these economies would not be acceptable in our own.

Aside from the utterly floored Net Zero plans, possibly more important is the impact on our rural and agricultural economies. We currently import over 50% of our food, our summers are drier and we will have to produce more food for our animals. Where is this going to come from if we are industrialising so much of our countryside? The Rosefield site/application removes circa 2000 acres of productive agricultural land out of production.

I have focused this email on the disastrous Net Zero goals and the need to protect our food security. For brevity, I have avoided writing about the local impact on the conditions of the roads, the road closures and the littering on the verges caused by HS2, East West Rail and the prison expansion at Grendon. I have avoided writing about a further 7 years of possible disruption in the interest of 'progress'. I have also avoided writing about the loss of recreational areas, wildlife habitats and the destruction of ancient woodlands (I haven't even mentioned the bats). I have not written about the fire risk associated with battery storage units and the lack of access that the Buckingham Fire Service should be aware of. And finally, and possibly most important of all is the devastating impact that the Rosefield project will have on a farming business that provides animal blood to the NHS that saves lives everyday.

We are all exhausted and fed up from the continual fight to save our countryside from the on going applications for solar farms, battery storage and data storage. No one seems to be taking into account the cumulative effect of all these projects, it's bewildering and irresponsible.

I would ask for carefully consideration of the Rosefield Solar Farm. Consideration of its suitability, its need, its destruction of an beautiful environmental landscape that is home to amazing wildlife, it's unnecessary removal of much needed agricultural land from the UK's supply chain and its contribution to an already outdated net zero strategy.