

Blight

Within the Applicants Funding Statement [APP-009], the Applicant has asserted that “it has not identified any interests which it considers could be eligible to serve a blight notice” as a result of the Proposed Development. This position is not supported by planning or compensation law. Blight is a statutory entitlement that arises from the effects of safeguarding, compulsory acquisition powers and prolonged uncertainty, and is assessed by reference to individual circumstances rather than developer expectation.

Affected landowners are being asked to tolerate extended uncertainty. In that context, the Applicant’s dismissal of future blight claims is not credible and should be given little weight.

Hydrology and Hydrogeology

6.7.4 Chapter 7 - Hydrology and Hydrogeology [REP6-010] acknowledges that large areas of the proposed development lie within Flood Zones 2 and 3, that flooding in the site is medium to high risk, and that groundwater vulnerability is high with limited natural protection. Despite this, the assessment relies heavily on qualitative professional judgement and outline-stage mitigation measures, with key design controls deferred to future detailed design and Flood Risk Requirement 22. The repeated assertion that a sequential approach has been taken reflects flood risk management rather than avoidance, with inverters and solar infrastructure explicitly proposed within design flood extents and engineered around flooding. In these circumstances, the reliance on future mitigation, functioning flood defences, and assumed effectiveness of raised infrastructure reduces confidence that impacts will remain negligible over the 60-year lifetime of the scheme and limits the weight that can be placed on the conclusions of the assessment.

Closing Statement

In closing the One Earth Solar scheme site has been selected for ease of the developer with willing land owners being the key factor, this has resulted in the wrong site location with dangers to water supplies which cannot be fully mitigated.

Key site issues are:

Drinking water protected area

Drinking water reservoir next to BESS

Water treatment plant next to BESS

Over 50% of site located on flood zones 2 & 3

Over 50% of site located on grade 2 & 3a BMV land

Increased flood risk to flood risk area

Currently no grid connection point

Cumulative Effects with other solar schemes within Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire

