

**From:** [Councillor Bert Bingham](#)  
**To:** [Great North Road Solar](#)  
**Subject:** Post-hearing submission - EN010162  
**Date:** 10 December 2025 17:00:39

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Dear ExA,

Interested Party Ref No: [REDACTED]

I am Nottinghamshire County Councillor Bert Bingham Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment, and Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Minerals and Waste Planning.

The Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park development (and battery energy storage system) extends over 11 square miles and is by a considerable margin the largest of over 40 square miles of such NSIPs planned in Nottinghamshire. In addition, there are many miles of new SMART grid pylons required to connect the planned parks.

Nottinghamshire County Council's formal response has been communicated in the Local Impact Report and at the recent Pre-Hearing, with the impact on historic environment (buried and built), land use and soils, biodiversity, landscape and visual, waste management, traffic and transport, public rights of way and local flood risk issues addressed.

There needs to be adequate consideration of any minerals that may be sterilised as such an industrial-scale development cannot be considered "temporary" in any true meaning of the word.

The concentration in Nottinghamshire of so many ultra-large schemes and the cumulative impact across all areas of social, environmental and economic issues are of major concern to communities across the county, especially here.

The adverse effect on landscape, soils and ecology is also a source of significant anxiety for local people. Biodiversity Net Gain ("BNG") is now a statutory requirement on all developments in Nottinghamshire from November 2025, including for NSIPs.

Our Local Nature Recovery Strategy ("LNRS") will help to prioritise the location of off-site BNG projects to ensure these are strategically located and deliver maximum benefits for nature recovery. All applicable projects must deliver a minimum of 10% and a target of 20% BNG from November 2025 with both off-site and significant on-site gains to be legally secured for 30 years.

Food security is a paramount consideration in schemes of this scale, together with the supply chain. A local sugar factory is supplied with beet from this land, for example.

The risk of fire in the battery plants is high and the potential for associated contamination of air, land and water must be carefully considered.

I trust that the Planning Inspectorate will take into consideration these comments in their examination of this application.

Kind Regards,

*Bert Bingham*

Councillor Bert Bingham  
Reform UK Worksop West Division

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