

Hello my name is Sarah Payne

My family have lived in Wiltshire for generations.

Our home is [REDACTED], where our family enjoys a country way of life including dog walking, cycling, running and horse riding around the byways that surround us.

From my house I hack along pig lane past the horse livery at Townleaze then down Hill Hayes lane through Hullavington and back home over the bridle way.

One worry I have is the effect that the construction traffic and the HGV's carrying the panels will make it unsafe to ride around the area that we live.

Additionally, I fear my children will move away if these arrays of solar panels are erected in all the fields surrounding our home and the idyllic lifestyle would be gone.

I am in my twilight years and mobility is key to my health and wellbeing and who wants to walk down rows of high-wired security fencing and look at fields of glaring solar panels and listen to the whirring inverters and transformers.

Recently my surroundings have become a life line as family issues have led to me experiencing a huge amount of stress and I was admitted to Great Western Hospital.

My GP prescribed me anti-depressants and sleeping tablets, this medication made me feel worse.

I can now say that it has been my daily walks with my girlfriends around the local network of footpaths that have proved far more beneficial to my mental and physical health than the prescribed medication.

To walk in the fresh air amongst nature listening to the constant chirping of finches, blue tits and wrens in the trees and hedges.

Then across the fields with the skylarks hovering above singing their hearts out.

The hares zig-zagging around and we often meet and chat to dog walkers, joggers and horse riders all enjoying this paradise.

This paradise will be ruined by hearing inverters not birds, by seeing arrays of panels rather than fields with wildlife darting in and out of the crops.

That's without even considering the impact of the construction, maintenance and decommissioning of the project.

My favourite walk from my house takes us through my neighbour's farm, the view from this footpath GR11/22 is a panoramic patchwork of hedges, trees and fields.

My fear is that this will be unrecognisable if the lime down project gets permission.

I ask you to please stop IGP ruining Wiltshire.