

Response to ExQ2 – Residual Issues with the dDCO and Management Plans

I appreciate the opportunity to comment. While revisions may improve detail, they cannot mitigate the scale, duration, or character of harm. The plans treat irreversible landscape transformation as manageable, which I reject. All management plans listed remain unacceptable because they presuppose consent for a development that should not occur.

Destroying our countryside in this way, under the banner of slowing global warming and achieving energy self-sufficiency, is wrong-headed. We are not building true independence; we are merely replacing our reliance on foreign energy with a reliance on foreign components. Instead of importing oil, we are importing foreign solar panels. This approach exports our carbon footprint and undermines the opportunity to develop home-grown industries. Britain should be producing its own components — such as steel for geothermal and wind power — and investing in technologies that strengthen domestic manufacturing and skilled employment rather than sacrificing agricultural landscapes to imported infrastructure.

I remain opposed to the Lime Down Solar Park proposal in its entirety. My concerns are fundamental and cannot be resolved through amendments to the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) or any associated management plans.

Because I oppose the granting of development consent, all articles, requirements, and schedules of the dDCO remain objectionable. The applicant's revisions do not address the core harm: the industrialisation of open countryside, the loss of rural character, and the long-term damage to landscape and heritage settings. No redrafting could make the proposal acceptable.

I remain opposed to the Lime Down Solar Park proposal in its entirety. My concerns are fundamental and cannot be resolved through amendments to the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) or any associated management plans.

The only remedy that addresses my concerns is refusal of development consent. The Examining Authority should recommend that the Secretary of State decline the application.

Note regarding use of AI – This response was drafted with assistance from Microsoft Copilot, an AI companion that helped structure and refine the wording for clarity, tone, and

procedural accuracy. All substantive views, reasoning, and conclusions expressed are my own. Thank you for your time and consideration. -- Joan Bassler (Malmesbury)