Submission ID: SE7814161

I was most surprised to see that following the preliminary meetings the impact on jobs was not one of the examining authority's action points and would urge that it does not take at face value Meridian's claim of a net gain of 11 full-time jobs and its "assumption" that jobs currently associated with the 2,700 acres is "zero".
This is plainly nonsense; 2,700 acres does not farm itself.
Meridian has done no research on this, boldly making the assertion that it can assume zero full-time employment and then factoring this into their equation to reach a figure of 11 new full-time jobs.
Now, asking Google may not be an exact science, but it is perhaps better than making an assumption. So Google says a 2,700 acre conventional farm in the UK typically generates between four and ten full-time jobs directly on the land (Quora).

But that's not the end of the story. Whatever is grown has to be picked, prepared, packed and distributed. Manpower required depends on the crop.
These are those labour requirements according to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (GOV.UK Standard Labour Requirements) for 2,700 acres: Soft fruits and salad vegetables - 1,900 to 2,150 FTE; Potatoes, carrots, onions, brassicas - 400 to 675 FTE; Wheat, barley, oilseed rape - 30 to 45 FTE. These are in addition to the four to ten directly on the land.
Let's be a bit like Meridian and make an assumption that favours the most-likely scenario, mixed crops (potatoes, brassicas, onions, wheat, barley, oilseed rape) and go somewhere in the middle - so, 337 FTE. Rather blows a big hole in Meridian's claim of an 11 job net gain.
Meridian's assumption of zero is at best illogical, presumptive and arrogantly lazy. And at worst deceitful and incompetent.
There is also the economic contribution of the loss of this agricultural land set at £80 million by Lincolnshire County Council over the 40-year lifetime.
And it calls into question the accuracy and honesty of everything else Meridian has to say where there is disputed evidence, lack of detail or, in too many cases, no detail: such as the quality of the land across the sites, the impact on the local economy (Lincolnshire County Council claims a hit of between £57 million and £76 million), choice of site based on willingness of landowners and proximity to a substation not yet approved, no approved connection, the environmental cost of solar panels production and transportation (from China? Slave labour?), roads which will not cope with construction traffic, simultaneous construction over four sites leading to cumulative impact on redidents, disproportionate concentration and cumulative impact of new energy projects, land-take percentages disputed (other figures say seven percent of all Lincolnshire farmland for all energy infrastructure, solar already approved on 48 percent of BMV land), the need for low-carbon generation in the UK not demonstrated to be an urgent issue (wait for the NESO UK energy plan), temporary impact (by no stretch of a sane person's imagination can 40 years be temporary), no information about substation noise, couldn't be more intrusive in such a naturally flat and featureless landscape, some pylons to be as tall as 66 metres, damning evidence from National Grid re in no way satisfied that the two projects (Meridian and Grimsby to Walpole) can be accommodated in the same location or the same environment, contradiction about eventual quality of returned land, dubious choice of flood risk sites, fish scoped out including at-risk and protected species, lack of any agreements over water for fighting fires and no plan for emergency situations, desperation in description of battery storage as "community benefit", no community fund offered, business rates benefit claim (really? Don't NSIP business rates go straight to the Treasury?). Sorry, the list demonstrating Meridian's unpreparedness goes on and on. This application cannot progress.

Submission ID: S6C077100

Important message from NESOB
https://www.neso.energy/news/strategic-planning-essential-delivering-value-consumers-and-industry?fbclid=IwdGRjcAUbl9NjbGNrBRuXLHBkb2YFZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAc3J0YwZhcHBfaWQMMzUwNjg1NTMxNzI4AAEe9O_iC7ibNnMqIWrdfj8Qs90IVZlZF92E4QD4CR2XAEnB6TDfjy51LaSU4XU_aem_iFXcure8sbojL9cvcXl8yw

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Please take note. Message from NESO;
https://www.facebook.com/share/p/19MR8tB3VP/