

Thank you for the email. I have tried to digest all of the information. Some of the points I have already made are referenced but others omitted.

I will restrict my comments to 3 simple points.

1 As raised by others consent to connect has not been given as National Grid confirm. This continuing to proceed before that is agreed is at least perverse and arguably Ultra Vires.

2 The conflict between land usage (agriculture/energy) is critical. However simply basing this on digging a few pits is insufficient. Please investigate past performance of the land to ascertain its quality. The existing farmers should be able to provide this information quickly and easily from their records.

3 Much is made of EMF that is Electro magnetic force from a safety view point...the distance needed to ensure electricity can jump from the wires to earth or ground mounted objects (basic school boy/girl physics) but nothing is said about EMR (electro magnetic radiation). That is as per Maxwell interference that could well be radiated from the line to affect radio/TV signals mobile phone coverage etc.

I have raised this a number of times with Meridian but they refuse to engage. At this stage I rely upon your good-selves to pursue this point.

As an aside I also note I await a response to the FOE request I raised with your inspectorate on 10/9.

Thank you,

Keith Tatnall

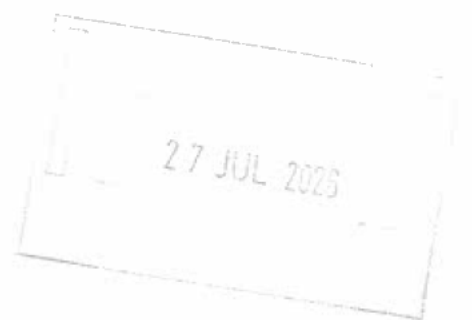
# Meridian Solar

I am registant as an objector to the application on

My initial note to you is now shown on your webpage.

However a few minutes after I sent you this I followed up with E Mail and full detailed grounds. This is NOT shown on your webpage.

This is IMPORTANT and to avoid doubt I send herewith hard copy. I reserve the right to refer to this when (as liberty) the matter goes to court



## Meridian Solar Application

This is an objection to this application. Below in quotes you will find previous communications to Meridian most of which they have chosen to ignore but do form part of my objection.

In this note I will also cover the most important points.

First on the solar panels batteries etc we all know that the (ex??) minister for net zero would be happy to see the whole country covered in panels. With respect it is your job to balance conflicts on planning merits and not just to say yes to all.

Since my notes below you will appreciate that Defra have now issued guidance against use of the best quality land for Solar and that carries significant weight.

I submit that the methodology put forward to balance this is wholly wrong. It is not just a question of % of land used (or even cumulative effects) but rather a proper scientific calculation should be applied on a cost/benefit analysis basis.

On one hand please ask the applicant to put forward a proper figure for best presumption of actual benefit. The forms I have suggest a supply of around 750MW. My assumption is that this is the max output on a sunny mid summer day. It will be much less on a cloudy mid winter day (when more supply is actually needed). My guess is that the average over 12 months would be half, that is 375MW BUT we should not be guessing. There is enough Solar in the locality to enable the applicant to put forward a proper estimate over a 12 month period. Please provide that.

Then looking at usage from the Ofgen web pages the suggest an average dwelling (that is 2 to 3 bedroom-2 to 3 occupiers) uses around 2500 to 2700 KWH per year electricity and 9500 to 11500 KWH per year gas. With proper production output one can then check actual benefit.

On the other side just doing ground checks is not enough/right. Every farmer keeps records of actual crops grown and produce lifted, usually for 5 years and often more. Please ask the applicant to produce this information in order to judge actual potential loss.

Moving on then to the grid connection I have heard nothing since being told at Weston Village Hall that the preferred connection was to the east of the plan. Much shorter, cheaper and less effect on landscape, what has happened to that? I have had no reply to the EMR issue which is of high significance to me. I'm not sure Meridian even understands the point. EMF and EMR are NOT the same thing.

On that point I should mention that Anglia Water is to roll out smart water meters as part of government's requirement to reduce usage and leakages. This will be done by low power signals to local base station receivers. Locally permission has been granted for the sewage unit close to the suggested cable. I fear this could well be harmed by these plans yet as far as I can see Meridian have not raised this with AW. Have they? Further the application is to connect to Weston Marsh B. Consent has not yet been given for Weston Marsh A and there are significant issues over that. I submit you should not even accept this application until Weston B is approved otherwise you are in effect condoning retrospective consent.

SO the application does not contain sufficient information to balance the arable land loss, the connection is impossible until National Grid get their act together and you, as planning inspectorate really I suggest should not be railroaded into dealing with it as yet.

Below are the previous submissions which form part of the objection.

20/10/25

"Meridian proposed solar factory

I have yours of 18th and 23<sup>rd</sup> ult each with no doubt expensive glossy brochure. There is no point in wasting your or my time going over old ground...these are best dealt with by submission to the planning inspectorate at the appropriate time.

I will thus limit this response to three simple points all relating to the proposed transmission line as follows:-

1) Earlier on your website you made reference to an alternative shorter and no doubt much cheaper route from the Eastern end of site to link direct to the proposed overhead line itself heading east. This would have much less impact on the landscape. At the meeting at Weston village hall you told me that that was still on the agenda but you were awaiting the OK from National Grid. If that was true you should be pursuing that before submission of your application.

2) I note you are happy to underground where forced (that is under the existing 132KV line). There is no reason why the whole 13KM line should be underground.

3) You make reference to an order on Delgate Bank without specifying the nature of the order (and to avoid doubt I fully understand presumptions of ownership...I still have my old well thumbed copy of Gibson and happy to discuss exceptions such as former toll roads if you wish). The point however is that last year the highway authority spent significant amounts on a major re-surfacing project. Notwithstanding that the road is already breaking up with significant cracks and subsidence. It is my view that the road is not suitable for heavy constructional traffic. There is a history of damage to underground services (mains water) some of which have directly affected my property so I submit this method of access is not appropriate.

Please do not trouble to respond..... I mention these points only as they will also form part of the submission to the Inspectorate."

3/6/25

"Meridian Solar Statutory Consultation.

First thank you for organising the event at Weston Village Hall. When I first heard from you last summer I emailed you with various questions and you replied that you would answer them when you had made progress. No further response was forthcoming. In April this year when I received another circular I again emailed and this time didn't even have the courtesy of an acknowledgement. At least at the meeting some things became more clear although others are still outstanding.

Given the outstanding matters I would submit that the Statutory Consultation is premature

That said I do have many items of concern. To clarify we are really looking at 2 items. First a planning application for conversion from agricultural land to industry and second an application for possibly lengthy power line construction (OK there is some overlap).

I have read and considered your scoping info with response along with as much info as I can find on your webpage in order to appraise myself of your proposals.

My first concern is the loss of so much prime agricultural (that is food growing) land. I don't buy into a 40 year period being temporary in that respect and the percentages usually quoted re land loss totally ignore the actual food loss."

Generally we have a conflict. It is clear that the Minister for Net Zero is only interested in ticking the Yes Box usually quoting a need to remove Putin's foot from out throat.

DEFRA on the other hand have clear concerns about the loss of high quality land. You will be aware that their land usage consultation has recently closed and their conclusions are to be published later this year. Those will no doubt feed into your consideration.

Now I did feel that, given my age, the loss of productive land would hit the next generations more than me but given the unstable world we now live in I have my doubts. I am old enough (just) to remember ration books and the stories my late mother had over difficulties during the last War of producing enough food to feed the nation. Given the considerable increase in UK population since those days it is clear we are reliant on food imports but have to doubt the security thereof.

I note you have scoped out part of the property because of land quality. You have told me verbally that you have carried out trial digs every 200m to check land quality. I submit this is totally the wrong method. Whilst now retired when I used to deal with farmers I know they would keep a full history of cropping over many years and would fully know the land's capability. That info should form part of your evidence.

The other major point you have not been able to answer is your supply chain. I think I have understood that GB power (the Governments power company) has totally banned acquiring any Solar Panels etc from China (we all recall the chaos in having to remove Huawei from the telecoms network and issues with electric cars on MOD property). So if the matter does proceed please confirm that all infrastructures will be produced in the UK.

Second, and from my own perspective the most critical issue, is the line of the proposed 400Kv connection. As at present shown on your plans this passes very close to my house. In your jargon I m a receptor (I prefer to be regarded as a Human Being). Your scoping response indicates that no receptor will be affected to the degree of concern by this. I cannot accept this. As at the outset I notified you that I used at home a significant amount of very sensitive radio equipment (all Ofcom licensed) using frequencies between 1.8Mhz and 24 GHz and I have major concerns that your power line proposals will seriously harm my use of same. This is of major importance to me. You have as yet to complete your EMF calculations so I reserve the right to comment in more detail once you make those available. Further I have found no indication that you have even considered EMR figures and have sever doubts you will be able to show those at a reasonable level.

Frankly in my view National Grid and their predecessors really don't understand RF and the way to reduce interference form power lines. I have had major issues (involving their complaints procedure and Ofcom) on 11Kv line and believe a 400Kv line will so much more of an issue. Perhaps I cannot blame them too much when even the Government cannot understand this. Just as one example guideline EN5 on pylons says interference is more common in wet weather whereas in many cases the opposite is true (happy to explain if you wish). There is also a failure to fully understand the correct type of insulator to use based on line tension.

I could go on but suffice to say I can see many years of complaints and perhaps litigation if you do not get this right.

Now I do understand you are considering a much shorter grid connection from the East side of the site direct to the Walpole line but you have told me this is held up by National Power. If matters do go ahead using that connection not only would it

change the issue just referred to but dramatically reduce the number of pylons required and indeed reduce line losses.

May I respectfully suggest you raise this point with the Minister to apply pressure upon National Power

and get this resolved BEFORE you submit your application. No doubt you will wish to tie up all of these matters and provide an update before making your formal application.

Keith Tatnall