

I object to the Loss of Best and Most Versatile (BMV) Agricultural Land. The Applicant admits that approximately 65% of the site comprises Grade 1, 2, and 3a land—classified as Best and Most Versatile. NPS EN-1 (2023) Paragraphs 5.11.12–14 require that development on BMV land should be avoided unless there is a clear and compelling justification, supported by evidence that no suitable alternative sites exist. The site selection process, as presented in the Environmental Statement, fails to robustly demonstrate that less valuable land, brownfield sites, or rooftop solar options were fully considered and discounted. This represents non-compliance with national policy. The National Planning Policy Framework also states that development should seek to avoid the loss of high-quality agricultural land where possible, giving preference to lower-grade and previously developed sites. The proposal is therefore contrary to both national policy documents. This is the wrong place to put a solar farm.