

Letter from parish councils.

For the attention of Examiners for the Greenhill Solar Farm application.

As Parish Councils representing areas directly and indirectly affected by the planning proposals for the Greenhill solar farm, currently under examination, we write to express our concern and our opposition to the proposals.

It is evident from the proposals that a very large area of Northamptonshire and neighbouring areas will be subject to unreasonable and unnecessary impacts from the construction, operation and, in due course, decommissioning of the solar arrays and associated infrastructure. Although we support the development of solar power in appropriate locations such as the many available roofs on warehouse and logistics units, we consider that the imposition of this industrial technology will cause permanent damage to the valuable farmland, the rural character and the historic heritage of the area. In addition, the disruption caused by the construction of this facility will cause stress on the minor roads and tracks, to our historic villages, as well as for residents in the area.

You will appreciate that, as Parish Councils, our council members have, over a long period of time, sought to protect the character and biodiversity of our local environment. We are in no doubt that granting the application will result in consequences to the area which, in reality, will never be reversed and which will render attractive villages and surrounding countryside less appealing to both residents and visitors.

We urge you, on behalf of Parish Councils and their residents, to stop this application from proceeding.

Your sincerely,

From the Parish Councils of:

Bozeat

Cogenhoe and Whiston

Earls Barton

Easton Maudit Parish Meeting

Grendon

Holcot

Lavendon

Mears Ashby

Odell

Walgrave

Wilby

Wollaston