



Keir Mather MP
Member of Parliament for Selby and Kippax

Examining Authority
Light Valley Solar Project
Planning Inspectorate
[Sent by Email]

Monday 10th August 2026

Dear Examining Authority,

I'm writing to you today in accordance with Deadline 1 of the Examination Timetable to reiterate my significant concerns regarding the Light Valley Solar project, in my capacity as the Member of Parliament for Selby and Kippax.

From the outset of this process, I have been clear that I cannot support a project of this scale, in its current form. From the evidence submitted in the first set of Examination Hearings, I remain unconvinced that the evidence from the applicant has adequately addressed the concerns repeatedly raised by residents, Parish Councils and affected landowners.

Throughout the hearings, the Examination Authority heard the profound impacts that the scheme would have on the daily lives of those living closest to the development. Constituents described feeling as though they would be enveloped by the infrastructure associated with this project, with one constituent explaining that their home would be surrounded by solar panels. Others described the proposal as amounting to the industrialisation of the Selby District's natural landscape.

I remain particularly concerned about the cumulative impacts of this project. Landscape change, construction activity resulting in traffic and noise, lighting and ecology cannot be considered in isolation when residents will experience them simultaneously. Across the remaining examination period, I urge the Examining Authority to continue to scrutinise whether the cumulative impacts of the scheme have been effectively assessed and mitigated by the applicant.

Throughout the Compulsory Acquisition hearings, it was demonstrated that the applicant had failed to adequately justify the amount of land they wished to acquire, including for areas with wider cable corridors and I would like to see individual assessments of private losses assessed by the applicant, rather than a reliance on general compensation guidelines.

Across the Selby district, we have never shied away from playing our part in powering Britain and taking on our fair share of infrastructure that comes with it. As many constituents emphasised, we want to see rollout of renewable energy so we can lead in tackling the climate crisis, but this must be done in a way that is fair, equitable and takes residents with them.

I would be grateful if the concerns in this letter are considered by the Examination Authority throughout the remainder of your deliberations, and a copy placed in the Examination Library.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

With best wishes,



Keir Mather MP
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