

From: Nikki Tomlinson

Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2026 12:41

To: Light Valley Solar

Subject: Fw: Light Valley Solar – EN0110012 – Written Representation – Nichola Tomlinson RR-1047

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Written Representation – Light Valley Solar

I support the principle of renewable energy and recognise the need for increased renewable electricity generation. However, I have concerns about the scale of the proposed development and, in particular, the impact that construction traffic and the proposed access arrangements would have on the rural environment, road safety, security and my family's established businesses at Field House Farm.

My family [REDACTED] run established rural tourism and storage businesses at the farm, directly alongside the lane off Skipwith Road proposed to be used for construction access. I grew up at the property and continue to visit regularly, so I know the lane, farm and surrounding area extremely well and have first-hand experience of how they are used on a day-to-day basis.

The lane is not simply an agricultural track. It provides access to our family home and businesses and is used by residents, holiday guests, caravan and motorhome customers, deliveries, agricultural vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists. At present, the relatively low level of traffic means that the lane is familiar and predictable to those who live and work there.

I am particularly concerned about the effect of introducing significant construction traffic onto this route. The junction with the main road is already a point of concern because traffic can approach at considerable speed and there is a bend which affects visibility. Large or slow-moving construction vehicles turning into or out of the lane would introduce a very different type and volume of traffic to what is currently experienced. A slow approach is required when turning from Skipwith village to ensure no vehicles are met exiting the lane, it can cause problems stopping on a fast road if meeting someone unexpectedly due to the bend just before.

There is also a safety issue at the entrance to the farm. When leaving the yard, people naturally concentrate on traffic approaching from the main road and would not ordinarily expect vehicles to be travelling towards them from further along the lane. A substantial increase in construction traffic would therefore change the way the access currently operates and would require considerably more caution from residents, visitors and customers.

This is particularly important to me because while we currently visit several times a week, my son will be spending significantly more time at the farm during school holidays once he starts school next month. He will be using the farm and surrounding lanes in the same way that I did when I was growing up there, including riding his bicycle down the track and spending time in the garden right next to the track with open access to it.

The current environment is relatively quiet and familiar, and the lanes and farm have historically been a safe and natural place for children to explore under normal supervision. Introducing regular construction traffic would make the environment much less predictable and would inevitably place greater restrictions on how children can safely use the farm and lanes.

Pedestrian safety is also important. Guests staying at the property regularly walk along the lane and into the surrounding countryside. They are unfamiliar with the area and would not necessarily expect a quiet rural lane to be used by frequent construction traffic, including potentially large vehicles. The interaction between construction vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists, guest vehicles and existing business traffic therefore needs to be properly considered.

There is also a genuine security concern. My family's business has previously been targeted by caravan thieves. More recently, my stepdad noticed an unusual vehicle on CCTV entering the lane. The car stopped half-way along the lane, where the two occupants changed the vehicle's registration plates, before continuing to our yard. The unusual stopping behaviour was what initially drew attention to the vehicle.

This incident demonstrates why the current character and relatively limited traffic on the lane is significant from a security perspective. Because vehicle movements are currently relatively familiar and limited, unusual activity can be noticed. If the lane were to experience substantially increased traffic, particularly from vehicles which have no connection with the existing home or businesses, it would become much more difficult to distinguish legitimate activity from unusual or potentially suspicious behaviour. This is a particular concern given the previous history of attempted caravan thefts from the property.

Finally, the rural setting is an important part of the established tourism businesses at the farm. Visitors choose to stay there because of the peaceful countryside environment. Construction traffic, machinery, vehicle movements, reversing alarms and general construction activity could materially alter that experience during the construction period and potentially affect an established small business.

My concerns are therefore not based on opposition to renewable energy itself. They arise from the particular circumstances of this proposal and the way the proposed construction access would interact with an occupied family home, established rural businesses, existing road users, the security of the property and the way the farm is used by my family.

I would ask that these local, practical impacts are given proper weight when considering the suitability of the proposed access arrangements and the overall scale of the development.

Kind regards

Nichola Tomlinson