

I would like my comments to be heard against the plans by East Pye Solar to erect acres of solar panels on land in our villages.

The impact forced upon us in these villages will be huge, from the erection process which will effect our every day lives, with haulage vehicles, construction vehicles, noise, impassable roads etc to the actual destruction of our beloved landscape that surrounds us and enriches our daily lives. This will have a huge detrimental impact on us and future generations who will be left with tonnes waste materials from these projects for many years. Our valuable farmland will be lost forever after being piled with concrete supports to hold the panels and will cost far too much for future generations to put back to agricultural use ever again.

Our county is loved by visitors from other parts of the country who visit again and again to see our beautiful open spaces. Tourism brings in thousands of pounds every year and this too would be lost. Our county would shrivel and die, with no real means of support left.

We know for a fact that the generation of energy from the solar panels would not benefit us as it would be for those in London and the South East, yet rather than use the acres of brownfield sites in their area we are supposed to suffer for them.

Our wildlife will suffer immensely as they will never again be able to roam freely across the miles of countryside that they do now. There is a herd of 70-100 red deer that have been seen by many of us that cover many miles in this area. They will be lost forever, being moved on to less hospitable areas and probably killed on roads. We have many roosts of Barbastelle bats across most of the proposed sites. This has been proven and to disturb them would be illegal. We have many ponds and wetlands which are home to Great Crested Newts which again are protected by law. We are so blessed with our wildlife and the beautiful land that surrounds us and we will fight with every means available to us to make sure that a more sensible answer can be found to the accommodation of the solar power that is needed. We all know that there are huge brownfield sites that can be utilised as well as the obvious car parks and roofs. We will not stand by to watch our land be taken by these huge companies who would desecrate all that we hold dear. I am [REDACTED] and I love the county that I live in and the home that my grandparents bought in this wonderful place. I want to leave it to my daughter and her family to enjoy not to leave her with a burden surrounded by industrialised ugliness which by the time her children are my age could be a useless wasteland.