

I, like most Norfolk villagers, are country folk to our core with an unprecedented zest for a rural outdoor way of life with a conscious and proactive involvement in every complex conservation need of this vast and varied rural environment, benefiting from generations of learned and specialist history, skills, knowledge and our life's experiences, tales and learnings, passed generation to generation, securing and enhancing this most treasured rural Norfolk environment and way of life for our generations to come.

As country folk, past and present, we have never in our history taken our rural way of life, culture, our natural environment; our countryside, wildlife, flora, the tranquility of even just hearing birdsong and the wind, our plentiful and high grade producing farm lands so important to feeding this country, our legacy and ongoing conservation of this land and the enormity of our responsibility not only to our identity, but our core mental and physical wellbeing, by being so "simply at one with nature" in this irreplaceable environment, for granted.

I refer you to the Princes of Wales own recent public video accounts of "the importance to her family of being at one with nature for her and her family's physical and mental health wellbeing". "Their ground zero".

We feel no less of an attachment today and going forward at one with nature for the physical and mental wellbeing of Norfolk villagers and their rural environment.

Our countryside roots and all this encompasses are inherent in all Norfolk residents. It is our Norfolk shared heritage which forges our strong village and inter village communities and collaborations.

I have been a resident of my village for 36 years and now very frighteningly live within project sites 1&2 and in close vicinity (0.9km as the crow flies) of the Great Moulton "critical project deliverable infrastructures" i.e. the proposed 2 x 400 KV substations, the National Grid Substation at 6 hectares, the 800-1000 battery containers, miles of fences, security cameras and intensive lighting in this most compacted and most dangerous area of the EPS project as well as the 14 ½ ft rotating solar panels. The c 800 -1000 batteries will be only 0.9 km from our lives and property as the crow flies with the very real risk to life from these battery containers. No home insurance policies cover industrial chemical contamination which becomes the very real worry for residents within these project areas. Let alone the very real threat of fire, explosion and permanent noise from these industrialisations with no company or government plan for evacuation and rehoming of people and animals.

Listening first hand to other local project resident's accounts and experiencing this devastation to their lives first hand is harrowing. We Norfolk residents are being robbed of our peaceful and safe lives and homes and our beautiful holistic natural environments and instead are being incarcerated forever more in an industrial prison that is dangerous and noisy 24/7, 365 days a year against our will.

I am also directly impacted by site 4, Long Stratton and to the east of it, this being my nearest town and route along the A140 and to villages the "other side".

The unequivocal attraction of this village for my family and dogs 36 years ago was its unequalled 80 acre common and extensive range of rural footpaths and bridle paths (several historic like Boudicca way) to Great Moulton across the Great Moulton plateau and to the equally authentic surrounding villages, without barely needing to touch a road.

Whilst younger I used to bike everywhere around the local area of South Norfolk. I am so personally devastated by all of these villages and areas now shown within the EPS project area for South Norfolk from Great Moulton to Seething.

Now, every day I continue to walk or travel to and train my dogs around these same villages, footpaths and areas.

One of my favourite and main local routes is walking the Great Moulton plateau from Wacton along Hall Rd, Sallow Rd and onto Gore lane dropping in on friends for a coffee on Frith Way Great Moulton.

The tranquility, the bird song and bird sightings as well as hares, deer (muntjac and red) and birds of prey, and the so very far reaching vistas in every direction which change in hue during the different times of day and different weathers, as well as the flourishing flora and abundant wildlife, is my "core" and for so many villagers alike.

Just this summer with the unprecedented heat I and wider village friends have set up wild life water stations from Wacton, Sallow Lane, across the plateau and other local footpaths and maintained these. I particularly have overcome the difficulty due to health issues of carrying heavy loads of water where I cannot drive as well as calling on friends in Great Moulton and surrounding villages to top up my water containers.

We have all been so very rewarded by seeing deer, pheasants, English and French partridges, hares and insects, particularly bees continue to flourish because of our daily combined village efforts.

I have 0.9 of an acre of land and have been very fortunate to witness the benefit of maintaining watering stations even on my own land. We currently have a deer and fawn born on our land, our new brood of barn owls, bats, 18 different aged young pheasants who have made us home plus numerous squirrels, rabbits and insects and wonderfully a couple of hedgehogs we released last autumn for the local rescue. Frighteningly these animals lifelines travel across the areas earmarked for destruction by this project.

At a time when many organizations, institutions and even our King are going all out to better and save the natural environment, how can these forever obliterating natural environment and prime farming land projects be passed?

There are so many obvious alternatives that are being disregarded and remain outside the law. Long Stratton is undergoing a massive house build program. However, mandatory solar roof panels are not law until 2027!

I am distraught beyond comprehension for mine, my friends, family and fellow residents and our following generation's mental wellbeing having reviewed EPS's net biodiversity claim of a 10% project total end gain, when they have so inadequately researched and documented (predominantly as a desk top exercise) the base line loss from the EPS project through to the total decimation of its existing 5500 acres of prolific natural environment, wildlife, flora and waterways especially its nationally important chalk aquifer.

EPS do not detail environment by environment nor species by species or insect by insect or microorganism by microorganism what the total "environmental" loss is they will create through the project from the outset. Let alone the loss of prime and needed farmland.

Each project must demonstrate a 10% biodiversity gain. Unsurprisingly no mention is made to the biodiversity loss during build, renewal or decommissioning in this calculation.

The 10% net gain claimed results from "generic desktop modeling", not long term, every season, data capturing out in the actual world.

On this basis there is effectively nothing to contest any project declaring a project gain of 10% biodiversity on paper when in reality these project proposals will decimate forever our rural landscapes and agriculture.

How they will in reality, not the desk top exercise, achieve this. There are no controls or monitoring by government of these projects.

My mental wellbeing and stress is beyond fear that not only will we as impacted villages of this 5500 acre East Pye Solar project in South Norfolk lose our intrinsic environment. It is beyond comprehension why this application has even been submitted by EPS when within its own literature it states "it accepts that prioritised schemes already meet our regional solar capacity target".

EPS also state that this location has been selected solely on the basis of commercial land agreements and lack of connection capacity at Norwich Main, not environment suitability.

The scale of his project does not reflect NPPF Paragraph 198, which requires development to be appropriate to its location and to fully consider the "likely effects (including cumulative effects)" on the natural environment and living conditions.

EPS (Island Green Power / Macquarie an Australian Company) make no secret that they intend to own all the farmland (c5500 acres) affected by the project by using the compulsory purchase powers which they are afforded as a NSIP.