

First of all we would like to endorse everything in the written representations made by Block East Pye Solar and the Shotesham Action Group, to the Planning Inspectorate, with regard to the industrialisation of a large part of rural South Norfolk.

Community Schools

We are concerned at the apparent lack of interest which East Pye Solar has expressed in the local communities and their lives. They have failed to realise or consider the potential for disruption to local schools in choosing the transport routes to the proposed sites, not only those routes relating directly to the areas chosen for the installation of solar panels but also the heavy plant needed for the cable runs etc using HGV and AIL vehicles, both cable drum or transformer vehicles, which will pass directly next to the following schools :

Woodton Primary School,

Stoke Holy Cross Primary School,

Framingham Earl High School,

Brooke VC CE Primary School,

Saxlingham Nethergate CE VC Primary School

All of these schools have access problems, not only at the beginning and end of the normal school day with many children walking to school and crossing the already busy access roads but also with parking problems for parents, on these narrow roads which are not suitable for HGVs let alone AIL vehicles. Schools also have many occasions when parents are invited in to share various functions at different times of the day, causing further congestion which would make access for EPS traffic nigh on impossible.

Children walking on footpaths, verges and in some instances on the roads, as well as young cyclists, would inevitably be vulnerable to the general increase in traffic that these sites will require. Nothing of this has been addressed by EPS.

We are not familiar with the area further south than Hempnall and there may also be schools in the other areas covered by the EPS application which have also not be considered by EPS.

Damaging transport routes.

Living as we do at one end of Market Lane in Shotesham we would also like to point out that the destruction of the further part of the lane with the felling of ancient and magnificent oaks beside Market Lane Farm and other hedgerow oaks beside Market Lane has not been shown on any of the very inadequate maps of the proposed sites at 8a and 8b. This lane is a single track with grass growing down the centre and would be completely destroyed by even one HGV attempting to turn the corner near Market Lane Farm. We and our family and neighbours regularly, usually daily, walk this road and our grandchildren cycle up to see friends at Lathe Green at the weekends. Similarly many village people in all the villages around regularly walk the lanes and footpaths near their homes and have every right to walk those lanes by custom, and planting a few untended hedgerow whips will no way mitigate the loss of that long held amenity.

It is completely inappropriate to consider these lanes a suitable approach for HGVs or AILs demonstrating yet again that the application put forward by EPS is based largely on desk bound ideas which bear little relation to the land or community use of the area involved.

Noise

There has already been much made of the noise and disturbance of the construction phase of the proposed plan however we have not seen any reference to the grumbling grating, noise that either tipping or turning solar panels will make as they are moved by electric motors to follow the sun. Living as we do (together with our daughter, son-in-law and two grandsons, at one end of Market Lane in Shotesham, we regularly hear the sound of the bullocks owned by the Rounding brothers, Michael and Colin, beyond the far end of Market Lane and we therefore dread the noise that a field full of solar panels much closer to us,

moving through the day will make, and will be particularly noticeable throughout the summer months when we have our doors and windows open and which it is proposed to continue for the next 60 years!