

Read at East Pye Solar - Planning Inspectorate meeting 15th September 2026

Thank you Mr Chairman,

Good afternoon, I am Dr Emma Harrold.

I am a resident of Stoke Holy Cross with a long-standing family connection of generations to this land and community, I strongly object to the East Pye Scheme and ask you to consider the accumulative impact and irreversible harm these would cause. We should pay attention to how the world has moved on since the original application. I understand the need for renewable energy but consider this could be expanded to rooftops without sacrificing productive farmland.

The village communities of South Norfolk live here and our life stories are intertwined to this landscape. I have issue that the proposed scheme would industrialise a landscape that is both agriculturally productive, a place of human habitation and historically significant—particularly the historic route of the Pye Road/A140 whose significance few know about, whose legacy of 2000 years, it's a Roman road, the proposal overlooks. It is a living history lesson for teachers and children. That the proposed scheme bisects the historic route of the Pye Road/A140 and is named after it, is in my view, inappropriate and disregards the area's legacy. It commercialises or misrepresents our heritage.

I have issue with the impact to this vast area, that is rich in history, has delicate natural habitats of streams, hedgerows and narrow lanes. It is valued for its tranquillity and heritage. The proposed scheme is unsuitable and would harm this attractive, rural area.

Environmental concerns are paramount. The loss and disruption of natural habitat by the proposed scheme would negatively impact local wildlife. There is no credible evidence that farmland, once converted for industrial use, can be restored to its original state. Chalk streams are globally rare, established ecosystems, formed in the Ice Age, 10,000 years ago. Sixty-two of Norfolk's counsellors demanded urgent action to protect these in 2025. Any alteration to surrounding land use risks degrading water quality, flow patterns, and the habitats that wildlife depend on.

A third issue, there is no credible evidence that with decommissioning, restoration can be achieved, which risks our food security.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the planning inspectorate to **realise the accumulative impact of** this proposal to reject it in favour of alternatives that protect South Norfolk's heritage, human habitation and productive countryside.

Thank you for your attention.

Dr Emma Harrold [REDACTED]

Transcript:

00:12:39:27 - 00:12:52:02 Thank you very much indeed. Thank you. Thank you. [REDACTED], thank you. Next to speak is Emma Harald. Ms. Harald, if you could put on your microphone please. And you have three minutes starting now. Thank you.

00:12:52:24 - 00:13:23:27 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good afternoon. I am Doctor. Emma Harrells. I live in Stoke Hurley Cross, an adjacent village to the proposed East Pie scheme. With a long standing family connection to this land of generations and to the community. I strongly object to east to the east pie scheme and ask you to kindly consider the accumulative impact and the irreversible harm this would cause. We should pay attention to how the world has moved on since the original application.

00:13:24:18 - 00:13:59:25 I understand the need for renewable energy, but we consider this would be expanded to rooftops without upheaval and sacrificing productive farmland. The village communities of South Norfolk live here, and our lives are intertwined with the landscape. I have issued that there's an impact on people with the distress, those who may lose their homes, those who may have to move and don't want to. I have issued that the proposed scheme would industrialize a landscape that is attractive, agriculturally productive, and historically significant.

00:14:00:24 - 00:14:15:01 Particularly, the historic route the pi of road, the a one forty, whose significance few know and whose legacy of a thousand years back to the Romans, the proposal overlooks. This is a living history lesson of Roman times.

00:14:16:20 - 00:14:47:09 But the proposed scheme bisects the historic route of the Pye Road, the a one forty, and is named after it, is in my view inappropriate and disregards the area's legacy. It commercializes or misrepresents our heritage. I have issued that the impact to the of the impact to the rich ecosystems of this area, its delicate natural

habitats of streams, hedgerows, woods, and narrow lanes, It is valued for its tranquility and heritage.

00:14:47:24 - 00:15:28:08 The proposed scheme is unsuitable and would harm this attractive rural area. Environmental concerns are paramount. The loss and disruption of natural habitats by proposed scheme would negatively impact on local wildlife. Chalk chalk streams are globally rare, established ecosystems born ten thousand years ago in the ice age. Sixty two of Norfolk's councilors demanded urgent action to protect shawke streams in twenty twenty five. Any alteration to surrounding land use risks degrading water quality, flow patterns, and the habitats that the wildlife depend on.

00:15:29:00 - 00:15:55:14 Third issue is that there is no credible evidence for the decommissioning of solar that can be achieved effectively, which risks our food security. I respectfully urge the planning inspectorate to realize the cumulative impact of this proposal to reject it in favor of better alternatives that protect South Norfolk's heritage, its human population and the countryside. Thank you for your attention.

00:15:56:01 - 00:16:00:27 Ms. Harald, perhaps Doctor. Harald, thank you very much indeed. Doctor. Harald,

00:16:02:15 - 00:16:13:17 you gave mention to my historic roots. I wonder whether you could provide some more details that you were alluding to in your submission by deadline one, Thank you very much indeed. Thank you.