

Dear Planning inspectors,

Further to my oral submission at OFH1, I would like to expand on that same subject of health and well being in relation to the proximity of site 3 to my home in [REDACTED], and before I continue, to make a formal request of a visit by yourself to the curtilage of my garden.

The primary subject of my written representation relates to the soundscape of [REDACTED] and my fears that EPS will install noisy tracker panels close to my home.

I have wanted to include video's of the part of my garden which is closest to the eastern part of plot 3 abutting spring lane on one side, but as video's are not allowed in this submission I will send them as an email and hope this get to you, plot 3 runs very close to the curtilage of the eastern edge of my garden in which I spend most of my time except for deep winter reading, entertaining, and enjoying the rare, rare joy of living in a part of the world that is almost uniquely quiet, these video's give you an accurate sound recording of the usual background noise I have experienced in my garden for the past 10 years, please take a few moments to listen to these videos, I would ask you to turn the volume up to full or to listen to these videos with your headphones on lest you think I have muted them.

I believe EPS may have taken their own sound recordings of [REDACTED] which may even have lasted a few days, however this may not give an accurate record due to farmer activity, or may have been distorted by the military jets which occasionally fly overhead at a low altitude creating the mother of all noise.

EPS have stated that they want to use a combination of static and tracker panels, but have not said where they want to install them, but I believe they have said that the noise impact of tracker panels would be negligible at the least, and from the research I have done on tracker panel motors and their component moving parts I dare say this is an accurate assessment based on an industrial, urban or suburban soundscape, but [REDACTED] is neither of those things, on a still day I can hear the conversations of walkers on the footpath which flanks the very fields EPS intend to put their panels, it is completely quiet most of the time except for the sound of wildlife, uninterrupted by car traffic or aircraft noise, which in such a small and congested country as we live in is a rare, rare and precious thing indeed.

My research includes video's of tracker panel motors and their moving parts, I would have liked to include a link to those video's but you have told us links aren't allowed, so I would please urge you to look on You tube and google 'solar tracker panel motors' where there are a variety of motors at work and please compare the noise of this with my own video's.

I don't know what kind of motors EPS are planning on installing or where, but I hope you will appreciate my alarm of what might be coming down the pipeline, especially as EPS have not clarified what they intend to do, what they intend to put where, and the DCO deadline is only 6 months away.

On viewing these you tube videos it is easy to conclude that the noise from a single motor is negligible when heard from a medium distance away, however, this noise will be multiplied by hundreds if not thousands of panel motors activated by the position of the sun throughout the morning, afternoon and evening, and will continue throughout the day for 16-17 hours when at high summer the sun rises at 4.30 a.m, and sets at 9.30 pm, in what would be an intrusive and intermittent high pitched humming or whine that would not only ruin my enjoyment of my garden and home, but would in the end drive me crazy and sink me into a [REDACTED], caused by being trapped in a home I may not be able to sell because of this, we moved to this house specifically for it's peaceful countryside setting because I found the intrusive noise of aircraft in our previous home unbearable.

I asked chat GPT to describe the noise of a tracker panel, here's what it said.

Typical noise levels:

- Small geared DC/stepper motor: ~30–45 dB at 1 m while operating
- Linear actuator: ~40–55 dB at 1 m
- Larger geared motors: ~50–65 dB at 1 m, depending heavily on gearing and load
- At rest: essentially silent unless the controller periodically moves the tracker

For perspective, 30 dB is around a quiet bedroom, 40 dB is a quiet office, and 50–60 dB is normal conversation/background noise.

The biggest factor is usually the gearbox and mechanical movement, rather than the motor itself. A cheap geared motor can produce a noticeable whine or clicking even when its actual power consumption is small.

This description is based on one tracker panel, and at it's worst, it represents a background noise equal to thousands of conversations occurring simultaneously, bearing in mind what I have previously said about clearly hearing a single conversation held at the same distance of the proposed development on a still day.

My request for a site visit to my home is for you to assess the proximity of my garden to the eastern boundary of plot 3, and regardless of whether these panels are tracker or stationary I believe this is far too close to my home and to the footpath used by local residents and visitors alike, likewise the southern boundary of plot 3, whilst it has been moved back from the southern boundary of my home, it directly abuts the house on workhouse lane, and if tracker panels are used there my neighbours will suffer the same if not a worse fate than me.

Finally, I think plot 3 should be removed from the scheme altogether, not only for the health and well being of residents, but also for those who have no voice, the wildlife in spring wood, especially the barbastelle bats who have maternity roosts there and make their way across these fields and into our house if we leave the doors open on a summer evening, also the great crested newts and owls living on our property, and the deer that wonder from the wood, across the farmland on plot 3 to head off down to the stream that crosses Steppings lane.

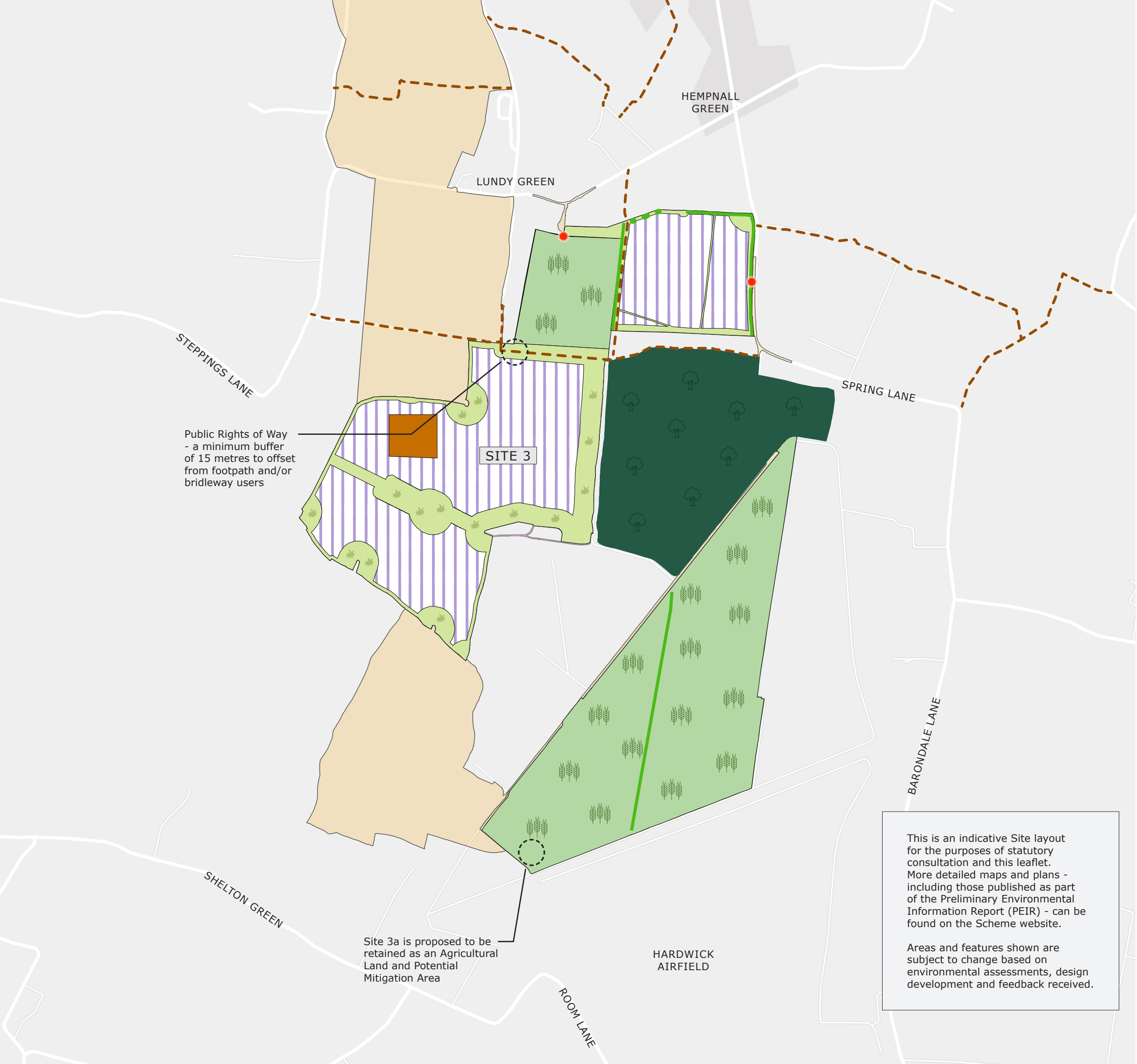
I respectfully request that my video's and the suggested Youtube videos are listened to carefully and assessed.

Yours sincerely

Gillian Marklew Allen

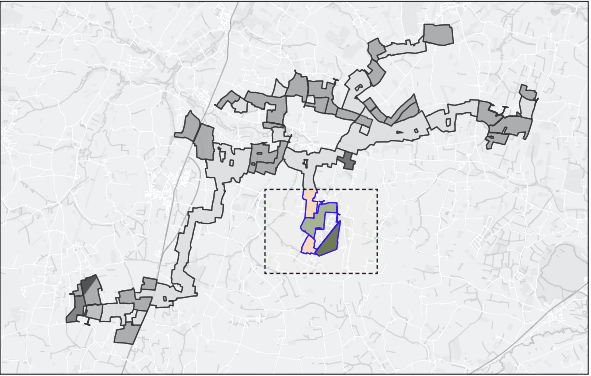
Section Map B

-  Scheme Site Boundary
-  Solar PV Sites
-  Cable Route Corridor
-  East Pye Solar 132kV Substation
-  New Hedgerow
-  Hedgerow Reinforcements
-  Proposed Access Points
-  Area for Potential Mitigation and Enhancement
-  Retained Agricultural Land and Potential Mitigation Area
-  Ancient Woodland
-  Public Right of Way (PRoW)



This is an indicative Site layout for the purposes of statutory consultation and this leaflet. More detailed maps and plans - including those published as part of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) - can be found on the Scheme website.

Areas and features shown are subject to change based on environmental assessments, design development and feedback received.





NIMBYs

