

I am a local St Anne's Cllr on FBC and SATC for Kilnhouse, I am also a Kilnhouse resident. I have followed this project closely since attending 1 introductory session for Cllrs, 2 consultations and 1 drop in session. I am a recent member of FBC Planning Committee and the recent representative for SATC on the TASC group.

My comments reflect this experience and this journey. I make my comments as a Kilnhouse resident keen to get the right outcome.

Initially I was prepared to defend this project to NIMBYISM, prepared to support it in the search for much needed new renewable energy sources. Let's face it we are going through a 'Climate crisis and an Energy crisis'.

However only once I travelled along this journey did I begin to realise what a flawed and environmentally destructive project this is.

I am not an engineer so I have asked questions of the M&M team and of others who object to the project. I have to say I have come to the conclusion that residents have been given inaccurate and confusing information, at best they have been mislead, at worst I believe they have been deliberately given false information.

Initially I was told this would and I quote

'Just be like normal utilities', I envisaged it a bit like putting in new electricity cables or drainage. But no we will have our beach closed, our golf course disrupted, our playing fields closed where so many of our children play, (I was partly responsible for a campaign to get a play area built here), and for how long 4 years, 8 years or more? They can't tell us, because this is not one plan, but 2 plans from 2 different organisations. Why? As for the size of the substations on quality agricultural land, these are preposterous. Why take this across 30 miles of an area, when there are much shorter routes. All this when we know alternatives don't appear to have been considered. Why? Alternatives which are cheaper, nearer and are industrial areas. There are so many other flaws which I know are in other reports from various bodies, so I don't want to repeat those, I want to let you know the verbal comments. Confused information given about drilling techniques, disruption to playing fields, traffic flow, beach closures, disruption to wildlife, biodiversity improvements etc.

I can't support this project in any way, I hope the Planning Inspectorate realise what has gone on throughout the process and realises the damage the project if passed could do to this area. It's not NIMBYISM it's reality. Please don't allow this to go ahead, please consider better, cheaper or not, more appropriate alternatives, which do not destroy so many aspects of peoples' and wildlife lives. I really don't know why alternatives have not been considered. I don't know why having been instructed by the National Grid to go to Penwortham alternative routes and methods were not fully considered. Based on this I believe this plan cannot be passed.