Submission ID: 36358

Instead of the proposed sub-stations and associated cabling route there is a much cheaper, less damaging alternative that can connect to
Penwortham via Stanah, using an existing National Grid line, already 400KV capable, with cost savings estimated at £903m at current prices.
The alternative would use a designated brownfield site, and create jobs in one of the most deprived areas of Lancashire in future energy intensive, green hydrogen production, yet the applicants state they haven't considered this as they have never been made aware that it is a viable alternative by the National Grid. Whilst it may not have been a viable site at the outset of this project it very much is viable now due to various upgrades that have already taken place. Ignoring this fact and basing planning decisions about now out of date information is not an acceptable answer.
At a time when the country has intense financial challenges, a solution that allows the Government to achieve its green energy aims more quickly and more cheaply is the definition of common sense in action. There are also defence issues with the proposed site if the sub-stations being very close to BAE Systems so again, at a time of hightened tensions across Europe the alternative solution removed this issue.
There are also concerns related toextended construction periods and lack of benefits to local communities. Consultation efforts have been insufficient to date leading to stakeholder frustration.
Agricultural impacts include prolonged and permanent land loss and disruption. Beach access at St Anne’s faces likely closures without
mitigation plans. Air safety concerns remain unresolved due to poor engagement with BAE Systems. Emergency access for blue light vehicles during the construction period would create a danger to
residents.
The cumulative impacts of substations, cabling, and solar farms lack adequate assessment. Biodiversity concerns persist, with protected bird species inhabiting affected areas. Temporary land use remains unaccounted for in biodiversity net gain(BNG) calculations.
All of these issues are worsened by the refusal of the applicants
to consider any alignment of their works leading to a potential 10 year period of disruption.
Ultimately, the alternative route offers a more direct, cheaper, and
environmentally viable solution that has been ignored by applicants