

19/10/2025

Morgan and Morecambe offshore wind farm planning application reference number EN020028

The Planning Inspectorate,

I am a resident of Westby with Plumptons and Vice Chair of the Westby Parish Council. I have represented the residents of Westby at the Open Forum, 24th June and more recently,7th October, at the Consultation, both at The Village, Blackpool.

This planning application has the potential to completely disrupt the everyday life of Fylde residents, leaving a trail of destruction that will take many years to heal. The many arguments against this planning application have been well discussed and documented.

I have decided to look at one aspect of the damage the potential route is very likely to cause, Traffic and Transport. At the moment South Fylde is celebrating. With the opening of a new east/west link road, Lytham St Annes Way, it is now much easier to travel around this part of Fylde. There are five east/west routes, Preston New Road, Peel/Ballam Roads [the link from/to Lytham to the M55]. Lytham St Annes Way, Queensway and Clifton Drive [linking Fleetwood to Preston]. So, the South of Fylde is moving!!

I have learned that the cable route from Blackpool South Shore, will have to "cross" all these roads-being reassured that the cable will go under the roads and there should be little concern about disruption to traffic flow. [Open Forum June] Very few people in the room believed that to be true!!

As a resident of proposed, I decided to focus on the effect the proposed cable route will have on businesses and residents. I have canvassed the businesses on Ballam Road, Coppice Farm [West Moss Lane] and Peel Road. I used the information I collected when I spoke, each time, at the Open Forum and the Consultation. Everyone I spoke to was very concerned about the lack of information about the proposed route. A couple of maps and typed information is difficult to see and read if you are passing in a car. Very few people walk along the roads in Westby, too busy, no proper footpaths and narrow roads!! There has been nothing "through letterboxes" so most people I spoke to were in ignorance of the consequences of the cable route.

As I mention above, Ballam and Peel Roads are the link roads from Lytham to M55. They are very busy roads. It becomes more obvious that it will be impossible to "go under" Ballam Road without causing major disruption, if not the collapse of the road. Most of our local roads are moss roads with no "real" foundations.

The businesses I visited are small and family run. They all rely on good road communication, one of the reasons many had chosen Westby to set up their business, notably Coppice Farm, Ballam Road and Peel Hall Business Park, Peel Road. Now the lack of reassurances and information are causing great concerns and anxieties.

I did expect some contact with the businesses from Morgan and Morecambe after the June Open Forum when I listed all the businesses I had visited. One of the Inspectors asked for my list [forwarded a few days later]. But nothing. No details of how Ballam Road would be "crossed", no reassurances!

I find the whole process shoddy and amateurish. Morgan and Morecambe seem to have deliberately kept details "to themselves". Even on the "public" days they have shown there are areas that are still shrouded in mystery, no 3D drawing, or model, of a substation, hand drawn sketches on photos, no measurements or even a ruler used and, in particular, the map of Ballam Road, that was meant to reassure me, didn't even have the road named, nor any buildings, and distances, measurements, none at all!!

I have grave concerns about this planning application, as have every Westby resident or business owner I spoke to. I ask that this application is turned down. This is not NIMBYism it is true concern about livelihoods.

There is a second option, Hillhouse, Stanah, an Enterprise Zone, closer to the sea, with infrastructure and qualified work force. This route would be cheaper and much less disruptive and has the support of the local councillors and, no doubt, work force, looking forward to future employment. Please give this second route serious consideration.

Thank you for reading this letter and for your consideration of my views.

Yours faithfully.

Mrs Susan Ashton

Registration number