

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to register my strong objection to the proposed Morgan & Morecambe offshore wind farm cable route and associated substations planned to pass through the Fylde area.

While I support the transition to renewable energy, the proposed onshore cable corridor through the Fylde is unnecessary, environmentally damaging, and disruptive when a more appropriate and less harmful alternative route via Fleetwood already exists.

1. Availability of a Viable Alternative Route

The developers have publicly acknowledged that a cable landfall and connection option via Fleetwood was considered earlier in the planning process. This route remains a feasible and less intrusive alternative that would significantly reduce the impact on agricultural land, residential areas, and the rural character of the Fylde.

It is therefore unjustifiable to pursue the Fylde route when a more direct and lower-impact solution exists to the north.

2. Environmental and Landscape Impact

The Fylde is an area of high agricultural value and rural character. The proposed cable corridor and substation development would:

Disrupt productive farmland for years, causing long-term soil degradation and drainage problems.

Scar the open countryside and diminish the rural landscape that defines the Fylde's identity.

Pose risks to local biodiversity and wildlife habitats, including hedgerows, waterways, and protected species.

3. Community and Infrastructure Disruption

Construction would bring significant disruption to local communities, with heavy vehicle movements, road closures, and noise pollution affecting residents and small businesses. The proximity of the proposed route to villages such as [insert local villages if relevant — e.g., Singleton, Kirkham, or Staining] makes this particularly concerning.

4. Lack of Proportionate Justification

Given that a Fleetwood route is available and technically achievable, there is no adequate justification for selecting a more damaging path through the Fylde. National Policy Statements require that developers demonstrate that alternatives with lesser environmental and community impact have been properly considered and ruled out, which appears not to be the case here.

5. Request for Reassessment

I therefore urge the Planning Inspectorate and the project developers to:

Reassess the Fleetwood alternative route as the preferred option,

Undertake a full comparative environmental and social impact analysis, and

Suspend progression of the Fylde route until that reassessment is complete.

Conclusion

The Fylde route is unnecessary, harmful, and inconsistent with the principles of sustainable development. The Fleetwood alternative provides a more logical, less invasive, and environmentally responsible solution.

Building the substations at the Hillhouse Enterprise Zone would solve a multitude of issues, including bird strike and could be completed at a much lower cost. A local planning meeting yesterday with Ofgem alerted them to the fact that the project would take 11 years. To which they were highly concerned as the projects were supposed to run together and be completed by 2030. It appears it isn't just the public who have been lied to by M&M. The whole process is flawed and must be thrown out by the EA, this is the only viable decision.

I respectfully request that my objection be recorded and fully considered as part of the consultation and decision-making process.

Yours faithfully,

Alan Thorpe

Member of Fylde Says No!