

Consultee Comments for Planning Application

20/01242/FULM

Application Summary

Application Number: 20/01242/FULM

Address: Land North Of Halloughton Southwell

Proposal: Construction of a solar farm and battery stations together with all associated works, equipment and necessary infrastructure.

Case Officer: Honor Whitfield

Consultee Details

Name: Dr James McGill

Address: Box Tree Farmhouse, Main Street, Norwell Newark On Trent, Nottinghamshire NG23 6JN

Email: Not Available

On Behalf Of: Ramblers Association

Comments

We wish to reiterate our OBJECTION to this development for two reasons.

1. LANDSCAPE DISTURBANCE. This large scheme will be visually intrusive. The following is a direct quote from the BRE Guidance on Large Scale Ground Mounted Solar PV Systems:

"Land selected should aim to avoid affecting the visual aspect of landscapes, maintain the natural beauty and should be predominantly FLAT...and not cause undue impact to NEARBY DOMESTIC PROPERTIES" (my capitals)

This is patently not the case here with involvement of a large swathe of picturesque undulating countryside close to the village of Halloughton.

Ramblers is in principle supportive of renewal energy schemes but, to quote directly from our policy statement:

"In planning...every effort should be made to minimise the impact on people 's ability to relax in the countryside, which is important for health and well-being"

Again, this is is not the case here. The northern section of the development, for example, is bordered on the N by Southwell Footpath 43 (length 0.9 miles) and on the W by Footpath 42 (0.8 miles). Similarly the southern section is bordered by Southwell Bridleway 74 (1.1 miles) which also crosses part of the site.

2. UNRECORDED RIGHT OF WAY: As mentioned in my comment of August 17, we have good grounds to believe that an unrecorded ROW crosses part of the site. The developers have accepted the existence of this ROW and have entered discussions with Stephen Parkhouse, one of my specialist colleagues in Notts Area Ramblers. It would seem injudicious to allow the development to proceed while this matter remains unsettled.