

From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
Date: 02 April 2022 11:29:57

Application Reference No. : SMD/2022/0076 Site Address: Land Off Bemersley Road Brown Edge
Staffordshire Comments by: Janet Churchill
From:

Whitfield Road
Ball Green
Stoke on Trent
Staffordshire
ST68AL

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments: To whom it may concern

I wish to raise an objection to planning application SMD/2022/0076 , the construction of a temporary battery storage facility.

I object to the proposed site's location on green belt land near to the village of Ball Green.

National Planning Policy Framework requires alternative sites to be considered for this kind of application and the applicant claims that there are no alternative sites . This is incorrect as there are several viable brownfield sites in close proximity including the old Chatterley Whitfield Colliery site which is directly adjacent to the sub station that this proposal would connect to .

In the applicants own documents it is clear that there is a brownfield site within 850 meters of their proposal , so therefore there is no reason for greenbelt land to be used to accommodate this application.

The proposed application area is home to a wide range of animals, flora and fauna and forms a natural corridor which incorporates the Cauldon Canal Feeder and the River Trent flowing through from Knypersley Reservoir. Lithium-ion battery storage sites are a known fire risk and can emit toxic fumes whilst ablaze , any incident would inevitably cause contamination to the canal feeder , river and surrounding areas.

The NPPF is clear that where the impact on a highway of a proposed development is demonstrably severe rejection is applicable.

Bemersley Road is a narrow , minor road with weight restrictions, traffic calming measures and several hazardous blind bends , several HGV's per day would have a severe impact . The proposed route of the HGV's would also pass next to our local park and play area.

Similar sites to these also require the HGV's to park up and request access to the site , there are no suitable areas for this and this would mean HGV's parked in the village .

The applicant has carried out a traffic assessment of the area , which I believe is flawed as Bemersley and many of the surrounding roads have been subject to road closures and temporary lights for many many months , therefore not giving a true reflection of the amount of traffic usually on these roads . I would suggest that this is repeated at a later stage after Western Power have completed their works and the surrounding roads are free of any roadworks .

To sum up in terms of green belt land being used for what is basically industrial usage there has been no special circumstances shown , especially when there are viable brownfield sites within meters .

Evidence of this is that a similar application has been submitted by a different company , the proposed site of this is on brownfield at Chatterley Whitfield directly adjacent to the sub station and 850 meters from the application you are now considering. This clearly indicates that this application fails the test around alternative

sites .

The construction of this site would have a detrimental effect to the residents in our small village and therefore I ask you to refuse this application.

Kind Regards

Janet Churchill

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