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**From:** planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 16 January 2024 12:40  
**To:** Planning Comments (SMDC)  
**Subject:** Comment Received from Public Access

Application Reference No. : SMD/2023/0523 Site Address: Land At Rownall Farm Rownall Road Wetley Rocks  
Staffordshire ST9 0BT Comments by: Mrs S Beardmore

From:

Old Far Rownall Farm  
Thorney Edge Road  
Bagnall  
Stoke On Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST9 9LD

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments: Firstly, I would like to say that we are one of the closest farms to this application and neither ourselves or our neighbours have been informed of this application and are not on the consultation list which is not acceptable!

We would strongly object to this "solar farm" industrialisation of the "green belt" area and the apparent "greed stampede" of the the other related battery storage applications that seem to be added on a daily basis!

The slope and size of the site and its location will be seen from miles around and will cause harm to the landscape and area. The harm would persist for 40 years and then what? Currently there is no "waste management" policy in place to dispose of these harmful "dead" solar panels when they become un-efficient which is actually around 15/20 years, so why grant the site for 40 years! Are we not creating a huge problem for the next generation and will this weigh heavy on the mind of SMDC as a legacy for our children!

This is inappropriate development in a Green Belt area in terms of local and national policy.

The effect of the development on the openness of the Green Belt and the purpose of the land within it.

The effect of the development of the landscape character of the area.

These fields are high quality farmland and have been used to grow wheat in the past, we have photographic evidence of the combine harvester gathering in the crops. The bird report is of little use due to the fact that it was carried out in the middle of winter when there are no nesting birds. This area has a high wildlife population, including Deer, Foxes, Pheasants, Grouse, Red Kite and also rare White Barn Owls. In the summer months Curlews can be heard in the these fields. Where will these animals and birds hunt for food when an "industrial" fence is erected and what will happen to the wild birds when they fly into these panels.

This really will be a life changing and environmentally disaster for the area.

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