

From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
Date: 05 February 2024 20:34:50

Application Reference No. : SMD/2023/0523

Site Address: Land At Rownall Farm Rownall Road Wetley Rocks Staffordshire ST9 0BT

Comments by: N Boulton

From:

Geneva Drive
Birches Head
Stoke on Trent

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments: I strongly OBJECT to the planning proposal.

The extremely large size of the proposed development is inappropriate being so close to residential properties in the rural Hamlet of Rownall. The proposal will significantly impact local residents and other people in the area of Werrington and Bagnall who enjoy this particular route along Rownall Road, Thorney Edge Road, Armshead Road for leisure purposes. It is a frequent route for cyclists, runners, and also walkers who also use the footpath located through this proposed site. I regularly walk this public footpath with my walking group. The visual impact of this large solar farm would fundamentally change the tranquil character that the area is so well known for.

Aren't Solar farms meant to be appropriately located on poor farming land or on brown field sites? Not in a hamlet of quality residential properties that will be greatly affected by this planning proposal!

Looking at the planning application, it is too overpowering for the greenbelt and special landscape area, so close to the roadside that it will be an eyesore for the whole area. There are also several listed buildings in this location. Staffs Moorlands is well known for its beautiful countryside and this proposal would have an adverse effect on the area.

Whilst understand the location is close to the power station, there have already been a number of battery sites approved in this area and so another 170 acres of greenbelt land to a solar farm will have an even bigger negative impact on SMDC who should be protecting the Green belt land as per the National and local planning policy.

I understand that a local counsellor who has been asked for comments on the list of people written to, is a relative of the landowner and therefore should NOT be able to comment on this application as it is a conflict of interest.

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