
From:
Sent: 27 March 2024 21:31
To: Planning Comments (SMDC)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access

Categories:

Application Reference No. : SMD/2024/0055 Site Address: LAND SOUTH OF CELLARHEAD SUBSTATION AND WEST OF Rownall Road Wetley Rocks Staffordshire Comments by: Georgina Smith

From:

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Submission: Objection

Comments:

I am objecting to this application on the following grounds:

The site is located in the Green Belt. The National Planning Policy Framework identifies 5 purposes of Green Belt; one of these being: to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment; How much more concentration of industrial facilities in Rownall does there need to be? The proposal would store energy, but would not generate any energy; it is not a renewable energy scheme. In fact, the proposal would be a consumer of energy as the result of the ̈round-trip̈ heat losses incurred during charging and discharging of the batteries. It would appear from the way that the proposal would operate that the facility would be used for energy trading, that is importing energy from the local distribution network when the price of electricity is low and discharging it to the network when the price of electricity is high.

The visual impact of the huge spawl of the proposed site will be seen by many. There are residential dwellings and commercial businesses operating on the bordering land to this proposal. It will be visible from many local footpaths that have been in place for many years. The plans include diverting these public foot paths and rights of way which have not yet been granted by the County Council. 248 battery containers, 62 transformers, 124 inverter units, a substation and acoustic screen would be an alien feature clearly visible on the landscape.

The noise generated by the sheer volume of battery units is not acceptable to the surrounding businesses and residential dwellings. Having lived at Round Meadows Farm myself for 7 years, I am very aware of how noise travels and reflects off the buildings. The acoustic design specification lacks clarity in regard to the cumulative impact that 248 batteries would have as opposed to provides a figure for 1 battery unit.

The proposal would pose an unacceptable risk to the local community and to the environment. There is a significant risk of a fire or explosion which could lead to the emission of toxic clouds of vapour and toxic liquids into the environment. It would also pose a significant risk to first responders and to fire-fighters. I note there has been no

Fire Service risk assessment. The risk to the health and safety of local communities posed by the proposal is, according to the National Planning Policy Framework, a material planning issue.

The proposal would contain many hazardous substances and a fire could generate and release more toxic and hazardous substances.

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