

From:
To:
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
Date: 03 May 2024 13:22:39

Application Reference No. : SMD/2024/0055

Site Address: LAND SOUTH OF CELLARHEAD SUBSTATION AND WEST OF Rownall Road Wetley Rocks Staffordshire

Comments by: Ian Podmore Private Rownall Freehold resident

From:

Rownall Ridge formerly Rownall Hall
Rownall Road
Rownall Wetley Rocks
Stoke on Trent
Staffs
ST9 0BT

Submission: Objection

Comments:

WITHOUT PREJUDICE

BESS Battery Storage Application SMD/2024/0055

Supply Chain Declarations of Chinese Solar Panels and Lithium-Iron Storage Batteries.

Lithium carbonate project starts operation in Xinjiang, to boost output of NEV batteries

China's Xinjiang region is emerging as a significant lithium producer following \$2 billion of investments into lithium mines and refineries. Lithium supply from Xinjiang could almost double to 65,000 LCE by 2028 from around 24,000 tonnes LCE in 2024, according to Benchmark's Lithium Forecast. 31 May 2023

The use of forced labour in the solar panel and Lithium-Iron battery industry, particularly among the Uyghur population in China, has been a growing concern. Reports have now linked several solar companies with factories in Xinjiang to forced labour practices, particularly for workers from the Uyghur minority.

To this end the US have already and the EU are now introducing legislation to prohibit imports from Xinjiang province, a very significant producer of Solar Panels and associated lithium-Iron storage batteries which has resulted in forced labour product exports being smuggled into Europe via third party countries such as Turkey in an attempt to hide their real origin. Canada and Thailand are also countries of note.

It is clear, a very large significant illicit fraudulent trade has developed in the western world fuelled by the present insatiable demand to develop 'sustainable energy' and the UK is now becoming a major target country to dump these products now banned in many other countries.

In these circumstances, having regard for our own local MP's significant contribution against modern slavery, it is likely that Dame Karen Bradley will be taking a close interest in this aspect of disclosures relating to this particular application and the other co-joined inter-connected 6 separate sustainable energy applications at Rownall and Bagnall which, in all probability might maximally incorporate Chinese manufactured sustainable energy components?

SMDC Councillors' attention is drawn to the link below of the recent address in the House of Commons on this subject. It is hoped that the Council will now insist that these applicants provide warranted additional supply chain information verifying before any Planning Committee hearing that the source of all components is completely legitimate.

Sincerely,

Ian Podmore 3 May 2024

Spokesman for the Save Rownall & Bagnall GREEN BELT Action Group

Rownall Ridge

Rownall

Wetley Rocks

ST9 0BT

<https://www.parliamentlive.tv/Event/Index/aa989f5d-f5b3-4165-bf6d-dd6d3d7eb1a4> Listen in at 19.13.

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