

From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
Date: 09 May 2024 11:02:55

Application Reference No. : SMD/2024/0055

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

Comments by: Angela Cowie

From:

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Submission: Objection

Comments: I am not objecting to the need for solar farms/battery storage per se, just not on green belt and agricultural land. Am I to understand that there are no brownfield sites available in the county? Keeping each application under 50mw means they escape rules and scrutiny but accumulatively they will be vast and have detrimental impact on land, ecology and wildlife.. Will it eventually be designated a brownfield site? What are "the very special circumstances" that would allow these projects to continue? The proximity to the substation cannot be it as there are other sites around the country where this is not the case. Is there planning in place for the disposal of the hardware at the end of its life? If it goes to landfill there's the possibility of chemicals seeping into water courses. There is a high risk of fire from battery storage facilities.

The applicants say local residents have been consulted but I say we've been INFORMED.

There are apparently long delays/grid connection issues, how long before this would benefit the local community?

Tests have supposedly been carried out and, although below the acceptable threshold, there will still be audible noise (particularly at night) above what there is now.

How can it be acceptable that properties stand to be devalued with these facilities in close proximity while the applicants make large gains?

People choose to live in the countryside and accept that in a larger property there will be a higher council tax charge. Will there be a reduction due to these developments? On disclosure to insurance companies, is this going to inflate premiums?

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