

From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
Date: 30 May 2024 16:20:07

Application Reference No. : SMD/2023/0568

Site Address: Cellarhead Electricity Substation Rownall Road Wetley Rocks Staffordshire ST9 0BS

Comments by: Emma Bebbington

From:

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Submission: Objection

Comments: The location of this development is situated on greenbelt land and will see the destruction of natural habitat; and loss of trees, hedgerows, and wildflowers. The balance of prey and predator will be disrupted and wildlife lost altogether in some areas. If this method is deemed effective, which is questioned, then there are suitable alternatives within brownfield and industrial sites.

Currently, many applications are being submitted within this area, which singly has a significant negative impact but collectively would be devastating. Turning the natural beauty of the area into an industrial site

Due to the countryside location, during the construction, and ongoing the environmental impact of lighting, increased traffic, and noise will have a far-reaching impact not contained to the immediate area.

Access to and from the site is narrow in parts, routes for nearby school children will be put at risk, disruption to the farming community, and the potential to delay emergency vehicles.

There are widely known fire risks associated with BESS developments, increasing the strain on our emergency services who will struggle to get through these country roads in the number needed to deal with such BESS fires. The materials used will produce toxic fumes which will carry and affect a massive radius. In these potential instances, the impact on the people of this area, neighbouring farms, homes, wildlife, and woodlands could be significantly devastating and may well lead to loss of life.

The negative impact on the mental health of those living here, and those who visit the area for relaxation and wellbeing needs to be acknowledged. The loss of public rights of way and places to pause, reflect, and reset in awe of this beautiful area will be lost. The combined losses, and pushing people to drive further out to reach green spaces will cause an increased negative environmental impact.

In an attempt to save our planet through renewable energy, we must make wise decisions. A major part of that is protecting our countryside, which is a vital part of the ecosystem and health in life.

Allowing these devastating applications through only serves the developers by giving them easy options. The ongoing political discussions and innovation from our leading engineers will soon see a further shift in policy which utilises more suitable locations within brownfield and industrial areas. If we jump the gun now and allow

the destruction of our greenbelt, our farmland, and our woodlands then the damage is done, these areas are lost, and potentially for no good reason.

Further to my opinion I also highly value, and agree with the objection details made by Ian Podmore on the 09/01/2024

Thank you for your time.

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