

From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
Date: 07 December 2024 14:49:25

Application Reference No. : SMD/2024/0055

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

Comments by: Gaynor Brock

From:

19

Moorside road

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Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments:

I am writing to formally object to the planning application for the proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) on Rownall Road. While I recognize the importance of renewable energy and supporting infrastructure, I believe this specific proposal is unsuitable for the following reasons:

1. Safety Concerns

BESS installations, particularly those using lithium-ion technology, have been associated with significant fire and explosion risks. These incidents can have severe consequences for nearby residents and the local environment. I am particularly concerned about whether local emergency services are adequately equipped to handle such risks, as battery fires are complex and difficult to extinguish.

2. Environmental Impact

The proposed site is in a rural area, which may host diverse wildlife and ecosystems. The development and operation of a BESS facility could disrupt these habitats, through land clearance, noise, or potential contamination from battery materials in the event of leaks or accidents.

3. Noise Pollution

The cooling systems and inverters required for the operation of a BESS can generate continuous noise, which will significantly impact the peace and quiet currently enjoyed by residents of this rural area. This issue is especially concerning if operations run 24 hours a day.

4. Visual and Landscape Impact

The installation of a BESS facility, along with associated infrastructure, would detract from the natural beauty of the area. This site is unsuitable for such an industrial development, which will disrupt the rural character of Rownall Road and potentially reduce property values.

5. Traffic and Infrastructure Strain

The construction and maintenance of this facility will likely result in increased traffic, including heavy goods vehicles, on Rownall Road. This road is not designed to handle such activity, creating risks to road safety and significant inconvenience for residents.

6. Lack of Local Benefit

The proposed BESS facility appears to provide minimal benefit to the local community. It serves primarily as a commercial venture and does not directly contribute to local energy needs or community development.

7. Alternative Locations

I believe there may be more suitable locations for this facility, such as industrial zones or areas further away from residential communities and rural landscapes.

In light of these concerns, I urge the council to reject this planning application. The risks and impacts associated with this development far outweigh any potential benefits, and it is clear that the proposed site is inappropriate for a project of this nature.

Thank you for considering my objection.

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