

From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
Date: 09 December 2024 18:36:08

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
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Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments:

LATE REPRESENTATION

﻿This application should be immediately refused on the grounds of 'gross misrepresentation' relating to a belief of a wholly incorrect declaration of the battery storage capacity and because no attempt to verify the maximum capacity is made in the Planning Authorities recommendation.

The Battery Storage Safety Management Plan does give a clue to this belief. It states each of the 248 shipping container sized battery containers has 80 batteries with a capacity of 3727.36 KWH. Multiplying by 248 we arrive at 925,358.28 KWH or 924 MWH. This alone suggests that the maximum battery capacity is likely to significantly exceed the declared 400MW, possibly by as much as 4 times?!

This conclusion is further supported by a direct pro-rata comparison with the same landowner's 1st approved BESS application SMD/2022/0444 which also declared a 400MW capacity utilising just 96 battery containers. That makes this battery bank of containers over two and a half times the size of that already approved BESS and now attempting via an 'alleged' Non Material Amendment NMA/2024/0027 to increase the approved capacity by a further 56% to 624MW!

The number of batteries used in these highly invasive plants, their ratings and the overall maximum storage capacity has of course an enormous bearing on the extent of risk exposure forced upon the very near residential community. It is therefore the most important issue which should not be discounted particularly in the continuing absence of the Planning Authority's willingness to carry out an accumulative impact assessment involving the 7 associated major battery storage sites here in prospect!

Furthermore, extreme concern has been voiced by residents living along Rownall Road that the unit 8 warehouse presently an integral part of Wayfields Industrial Park, now forms part of this BESS application falling inside its curtilage. This must be considered potentially a very dangerous and an unnecessary additional risk having regard to the commercial offices employing a full time workforce just yards away in the same compound.

Sent on behalf of the Rownall and Bagnall Save the Green Belt Campaign

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