

**From:** [planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk](mailto:planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk)  
**To:** [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comment Received from Public Access  
**Date:** 10 December 2024 11:02:10

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Application Reference No. : SMD/2024/0055

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

Comments by: Adrian Shufflebotham

From:

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Railway cottages

Consall Forge

Wetley rocks

Staffordshire

ST9 0AJ

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments: I strongly object to this planning application. This seems to be a cynical application to avoid the infrastructure controls and planning issues associated with a gigawatt installation. This cannot be viewed in isolation and SMDC can no longer look at all these applications as separate projects. These projects which are now totalling somewhere in the region of 400 acres of development in the GREEN BELT, must be looked at on a cumulative basis. In total this area is now subjected to:

662 Battery Containers 40ft long shipping containers

141 Transformers

329 Inverters all humming away together along with all associated fan/cooling equipment.

There are no planning special circumstances to justify this level of development in, and encroachment of the greenbelt.

The noise from this combined development will be intrusive, constant & therefore represent a significant loss of amenity to the immediate neighbours and visually the wider community too as it will be visible from Keele to Mow cop to Ipstone edge.

It will have a significant ecological impact and represents a considerable safety concern.

Electrical fires in plants of this scale are notoriously difficult to control, highly toxic and take years to address the damage to the environment.

Given the scale (~400 acre ) of the development and relatively poor access roads for emergency services this seems to be a grave safety concern.

Construction and installation in an area served only by relatively narrow rural roads will present a significant hazard to other road users.

This is part of a development not far from a SSSI and is in a Special landscape area. Given the scale of this project it will have a considerable impact on both.

This development is also on agricultural land which has, in the past, been relatively productive. At a time when food security is an increasing issue, to suggest the land is not productive seems disingenuous at best.

I urge the council & its officers not to consider this application in isolation, but in the context of the other applications and the irrevocable damage this will do to the area.

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