
From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
Sent: 16 May 2025 16:42
To: Planning Comments (SMDC)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access

Categories:

Application Reference No. : DOC/2025/0028 Site Address: Land East of Cellarhead Substation Rownall Road Wetley Rocks Staffordshire Comments by: Mr Ian Podmore Private freehold resident

From:

Rownall Ridge, formerly Rownall Hall
Rownall Rd
Rownall Wetley Rocks
Stoke on Trent
Staffs
DT9 0BT

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments: The positioning of this huge active continuously operating drainage attenuation pond is critically important given that this site has no provision for the encatchment and containment of any possible polluted toxic acid spillage and has the unique need to expel the very large amounts of daily accumulated rainwater from this huge 6ft excavated battery operating basin. By exception this site also carries the continuing high risk arising from its still non compliance with the 2023 Fire & Safety regulation. It's most worrying still that no attempt in this NMA application has been made to close this enormous safety risk which dangerously exposes the nearest residents to the real risk of life threatening catastrophic explosion, toxic gas clouds and serious firewater contamination.

The objective should be to place this essential continuously draining sump furthest away from neighbouring domestic properties as shown in the original approved site layout, not as now proposed within 10ft of the public highway and the closest residential boundary at Rownall Ridge shown still on site maps as Rownall Hall.

This new layout places this continuous running drainage facility at much greater risk to all now proposed to be in front, instead of behind all of the protective earth bunding and existing mature obscuring tree line as previously approved, between the two upper and lower eastern fields. To locate such a large water collection pond in the triangular field immediately alongside Rownall Road and occupying most of it in a low lying area already prone to winter flooding is not only dangerous but also senseless. In the event of any emergency, this location would now put Fire and Rescue vehicles beyond any possible access from the single entry and exit access road.

Originally this site was declared and voted upon, as a 400MW battery storage facility it's now described on the Ameresco website as 624MW, almost a 60% increase but mischievously declared in this application as just 600MW. As the size of the overall community risk to local residents is pro-rata to the maximum amount of electricity stored on site, and not its transfer capability, its is essential to identify the maximum storage amount and limit it. So is it 400MW, 600MW or 624MW or infact very much more???

A 50% plus increase in battery capacity is not only significant and material but it requires a proportional increase in inverter transformer capacity likely to deliver a much greater level of continual residential 24/7 noise. No noise modelling exercises have ever been carried out at this site which in these circumstances again, as it's so very near embedded residences, must surely be undertaken and compliance verified before reaching any decision on this application.

The buildings highlighted on the bottom right corner of this revised site plan NMA/2024/0027 also shown on page 63 of your planning officers report, marked PUMP is not the attenuation pond pump location, it is in fact my house, Rownall Ridge and my surrounding outbuildings within my 3 acre property demonstrating just how close my home is to this highly intrusive potentially very dangerous operating equipment on this site being just 40 metres from the nearest operating battery bank.

I ask Councillors for the very first time to consider my extremely vulnerable position and exercise their duty of care and protect my safety and rural living standards that would be so completely destroyed should this application be permitted to slip through under the guise of another non material amendment.

Thank you" Ian Podmore Rownall Ridge. ST9

Do you really need to print out this Email? Be green - keep it on the screen.

This email is intended for the addressee(s) only and may contain sensitive, privileged or confidential information that could be protectively marked. If you are not the addressee please do not use the information in any way. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender immediately and delete it from your system. Thank you.

The Council may be required to disclose this email or any responses to it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The way in which we handle personal information is set out in our privacy notice and is available at <https://www.staffs Moorlands.gov.uk/YourData>
