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**From:** planningcomments@staffsmoorlands.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 05 October 2025 09:44  
**To:** Planning Comments (SMDC)  
**Subject:** Comment Received from Public Access

**Categories:**

Application Reference No. : SMD/2025/0354 Site Address: Land off Leek Road Werrington Staffordshire ST9 0DQ  
Comments by: Vicki Dale

**From:**

Dilrene  
Leek Road  
Werrington  
Stoke on Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST9 0DQ

**Phone:**

**Email:**

**Submission:** Objection

**Comments:** I live across from Shirley's Transport RIX Filling Station. Lovingly and with hard work and lots of hard earned money made our home just how we liked it. Our garden is very peaceful just how we like it with great views which is why we bought our home. The stain on our outlook and countryside is soul destroying and whilst you don't recognise or care about the sleepless nights and worry you are about to inflict on our peaceful beautiful area, it does have consequences to our living standards and health. Living across from the RIX filling station has its negatives with flood lights at night and Lorrie's in and out and the smell of fumes in our drains and continuous traffic outside on the A520 which is very busy because of the cellarhead traffic lights and nearby school. This is going to make living here unbearable if this planning goes ahead and you are also decreasing the value of our homes.

## NOISE CONCERNS

I am concerned about the noise that will be generated from the batteries which has a constant Buzzing noise. Which is inappropriate in a residential area. This will affect our quality of life. This contrary to NPPF paragraph 174(e) which seeks to prevent new development from contributing to unacceptable levels of noise pollution and relevant to Local Plan Policies on protecting residential amenity. We already have noise from Shirleys transport and Filling Station day and night.

## OVER INTENSIFICATION

The number of similar applications approved in a small area represents over intensification. This results in a scale of development that is inappropriate for the rural setting, conflicting with NPPF paragraph 130 which requires development to be sympathetic to local character.

## FLOODLIGHTING AND LIGHT POLLUTION

We already have floodlights on all night across the road from us from the RIX Filling Station/Shirleys Transport and neighbours have asked for them to be dimmed because the lights are intrusive to sleeping. Facilities of this nature

typically require floodlights for security. This is wholly unsuitable within a residential area, would cause more disturbance during night time hours and would disrupt local wildlife. This conflicts with NPPF paragraph 185 (c) which requires planning decisions to limit the impact of light pollution on Health, living conditions and biodiversity.

## UNSUITABLE HOURS OF OPERATION

Continuous operation is not compatible with a residential setting, where quiet and amenity are expected during evenings and night. We already have Lorries coming and going and constant daily use of filling station so to add more is wrong on so many levels. This fails to comply with local planning policies on protecting residential amenity and NPPF paragraph 185 which seeks to mitigate adverse impacts from noise and activity.

## Security Risks

Energy storage facilities of this type could present a terrorist target. In today's volatile climate in this country and the world is highly probable. Also near to a filling station which has more petrol at the rear for Lorries to refill makes this an even worse fear. Their proximity to residential areas raises unacceptable concerns for public safety contrary to the NPPF objective of creating safe places (paragraph 97)

## MONITORING AND SAFETY CONCERNS

These sites are typically monitored remotely, with no on-site staff presence. This creates concerns about emergency response, resident safety and reassurance. This runs contrary to the NPPF requirement to create safe and healthy communities (paragraph 92)

## IMPACT ON THE COUNTRYSIDE

The development represents an inappropriate form of urbanisation in the open countryside. It will require extensive concrete hard standing, permanently harming the rural character of the landscape. This is contrary to NPPF paragraph 174(b) which seeks to protect and enhance valued landscapes, and relevant Local Plan Policies on Countryside Protection.

During the House of Commons debate in June stated the lack of adequate safety regs for large scale battery stores. MPs from across the multiple parties pleaded for URGENT safety regs to be enforced.

Nothing has changed.

Climate change is with us whether you agree or not and just a 20 degrees increase can have an effect on the batteries to overheat and set fire and the fire brigade do not know what to do if this was to occur.

In conclusion at what point will these applications cease.

Yours sincerely

Vick Dale

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