

Comments for Planning Application S/079/01078/22

Application Summary

Application Number: S/079/01078/22

Address: LAND ADJACENT SOTBY WOODS, STURTON ROAD, HATTON

Proposal: Planning Permission - Installation of a temporary ground mounted 49.9MW solar farm with associated infrastructure, construction of vehicular accesses, CCTV cameras on 2.5m high poles a 15m high communications tower and security fencing to a maximum height of 2.2m.

Case Officer: Jane Baker

Customer Details

Name: Mr Phil Hughes

Address: Place Directorate, Lincolnshire County Council, Lancaster House, 36 Orchard Street, Lincoln LN1 1XX

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Consultation

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: LCC strongly objects to the proposed solar farm for the following reasons:

Visual intrusion - The developer's Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) has identified 5 receptor sites (viewpoint) at risk of medium negative visual impact plus one site having a high negative impact. This assessment demonstrates the jarring industrialisation of this unspoilt part of the countryside by the proposed solar farm.

Agricultural land - All arable land, of whatever classification produces food, whether to support the animal food chain or our own and that we should protect it for its own sake. Natural England's Agricultural Land Classification Map shows the site to be comprised largely of Grade 2 "Very Good" quality land which will be lost to agricultural production for at least 40 years. This is contrary to NPPF para. 174 (b) which recognises the benefits of maintaining the best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land. This could have a serious impact on food security and the local rural economy. No indication has been provided of a search for more suitable and sustainable sites.