If you haven't submitted any feedback yet please feel free to use any or all of the points below and email it to both info@cottamsolar.co.uk and info@westburtonsolar.co.uk

Dear IGP,

As an action group opposing these vast solar proposals and representing the concerns from residents of some 30 civil parishes in the West Lindsey area of Lincolnshire, below is our feedback as part of the current consultation.

1. 9000 acres of solar arrays, batteries and electrical transformers all planned for the West Lindsey region and all within 7 miles of each other, making this the most solar farm intense area in Europe. Your company "Island Green Power" are proposing 5000 acres of this. The magnitude of which would cause total landscape domination in this area. This is not levelling up the nation?

2. The loss of 5000 acres of farmland at a time when food security is a real issue both nationally and globally.

This precious commodity should not be used for these land hungry and inefficient solar projects that would provide very little security to the UK's energy needs and starve the country of much needed productive farmland.

3. Many miles of cable trenching across the countryside, connecting the various sites together and to the Grid connection at the two former power stations 12 miles away and across the river Trent. This would cause unnecessary damage to more farmland and wildlife habitats.

There would be masses of heavy construction traffic on country lanes for 2 years, because many of the sites are nowhere near decent road links. This is a serious safety concern.

4. Impact on rural homes due to ill considered land grabs, with 4.5 metre high solar panels, vast battery storage containers, transformers and associated equipment including CCTV, being sited close to homes.

5. People made the choice to live in or be surrounded by the countryside.

If your proposals go ahead, then the mental health issues would be enormous for many. Their lives being impacted by 2 years of construction on a 5000 acre building site, a total landscape change and the oppression of the 15 foot high solar power plant looming over everywhere you look. This would be truly depressing.

6. The development fails the 2008 planning act. For example.

The solar panels are sited close to property and it would take 15 years until they are screened. This is not mitigation! The proposal would be half way through its life before it has anything to help conceal its immense industrial impact on the countryside.

The sheer scale of the development shows the applicant has not taken account of aesthetics, as the solar farm will have a devastating effect on the local scenery, habitat and quality of life of the residents.

7. The PEIR document does not take into account the cumulative effect of the other proposals in the area.

8. You have not conducted your community consultation in good faith. Your leaflets posted

to houses and displays at the public consultation do not mention many of the pertinent

facts, such as the height of the solar panels. Local residents would have to interrogate

the PEIR to find that the solar panels are planned to be up to 4.5m high, considerably taller than current local solar farms. Providing this PEIR document in a digital format does not make it easy to interrogate and then to charge £500 for a printed version is NOT inclusive consultation.

9. You have failed to provide the reasons why 40 years is required (this time span is not temporary) for the development or your anticipated power generation during the Winter months.

When questioned you hide behind the “Rochdale Envelope” and state that the final details would be decided at a later date.

10. You state that the local farming land is of low value.

The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs stated again to the House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee on the 29th June that Grade 3b land is best and most versatile. This is self evident due to the fields being full and the land being farmed for generations. No crop can ever bring the returns you are offering to farmers, this is the real reason why land owners are willing to participate in these schemes. It is all about money!

You obviously have time to address these issues and any others raised by residents.

We cannot allow you to ruin our countryside or indeed our Country with your vast second rate power plants.