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Sent: 1 Apr 2022 20:56:17 +0100

To: PlanningAndGrowth Email

Subject: 22/00319/FUL - Land To The West Of Wood Lane And Stocking Lane Kingston Estate Gotham Nottinghamshire NG11 0LF

Importance: Normal

Hi Andrew

Please see objection below from Sutton Bonington Parish council in relation to the planning application 22/00319/FUL - Installation of renewable energy generating solar farm comprising ground-mounted photovoltaic solar arrays, together with substation, inverter stations, security measures, site access, internal access tracks and other ancillary infrastructure, including landscaping and biodiversity enhancements.

I have tried to add these to the planning portal but it asks for my address and if I add my home address that will not show as comments from the parish council. Is it therefore possible for these to be added to portal on our behalf?

Regards,
Helen

Sutton Bonington Parish Council forcibly Object to these proposals in what is one of the areas most beautiful spots. The fact it is in Green Belt further enforces our Objection.

In the Green Belt - Rushcliffe Borough Council's policy states that justification should therefore be provided to show very special circumstances which outweigh the harm to the openness of the green belt and its purpose.

The NPPF (National Planning Policy) states that schemes within a Green Belt will have to show "very special circumstances" if projects are to proceed. Such "very special circumstances" will not exist unless the potential harm to the Green Belt by reason of inappropriateness, and any other harm resulting from the proposal, is clearly out-weighed by other considerations. In this case other harm comprises of adverse effects on landscape and ecology.

The site is also within a Biodiversity Opportunity Focal Area, as identified within the Rushcliffe Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping Report. This area is a unique area of elevated wooded hills and grassland habitat.

The Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 2 specifically identifies this area of woodland and grassland as predominant habitats that should be "protected, restored, expanded and enhanced".

The Part 2 e of Local Plan Policy 16 also requires landscape character to be protected, conserved and enhanced in line with the Greater Nottingham Landscape Character Assessment. This site is picked out in the assessment as “strong character which is in good condition and therefore should be conserved” The introduction of solar panels therefore changes the landscape character, especially in this elevated location which is enjoyed by many walkers, horse riders, bird watchers, and cyclists

The site is adjacent to and crossed by very popular rights of way including the Midshires Way - part of the 230 mile National path. The character and visual amenity of these paths would be significantly changed. These are some of the most important paths in the south Nottingham area particularly providing access to the countryside for leisure and recreation for the villagers in the area and beyond

The application site and surrounding woodland is home to a huge variety of wildlife. In particular, [REDACTED] deer, hares, buzzards, Red Kite, English Partridge and other important species. Their habitats will be greatly disturbed by the scheme.