

From: Amanda Denny [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 September 2023 08:25
To: Jenman, Rebecca <Rebecca.Jenman@herefordshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Application Ref. P231390/F

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Ms Rebecca Jenman
Herefordshire Council,
Planning Department
Plough Lane,
Hereford
HR4 0LE

27th September 2023

Dear Ms Jenman

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Installation of Energy Storage System Substation and Associated Works. Land to the South of Peterstow Gas Compressor Station, Hentland, Herefordshire.
Application Ref. P231390/F

We have seen the objections to the application by the CPRE and wholly endorse them. We also comment briefly on the response to third party comments by the applicant as follows. The two fundamental objections to this proposal are landscape impact and ecology, both of which have been considered by the council's relevant officers and both of whom raise substantial objections. There is no getting away from the fact that in terms of visual impact the proposal is wholly out of keeping with the agricultural and sylvan setting of this location, a characteristic that numerous policies at all levels seek to protect.

The applicant suggests that the adjacent 'built form' militates in favour of the application. We take the contrary view. That 'built form' is itself wholly inappropriate and jarring in this location, a characteristic to which the proposal would add, thereby exacerbating the ill effects of what is already an intrusive and out of character industrial complex. The applicant continues to fail to address the LVIA conclusion that the proposal will have a 'major' adverse impact, the full text of which we set out in paragraph 31 of our objections submitted on the 9th June 2023.

We have made our objections on ecological grounds quite clear. The applicant's ecological report in the Executive Summary states that the site is suitable habitat for a number of protected species that have not yet been identified. Initial preliminary

surveys are out of date. Paragraphs 43 to 47 of our objections submitted on the 9th June 2023 clearly set out policy and practice requirements that should be adopted in this instance and which have not been followed. As we have previously said, the council is not in a position to be able to grant planning permission to the proposal on these grounds alone. The council will know that from the beginning of November there will be a statutory requirement to achieve a net gain in biodiversity when carrying out development; that is making sure that the habitat for wildlife is in a better state than it was before development. The paucity of information on ecology gives no indication that this requirement can be achieved.

Finally, there is still no indication that the applicant has considered other locations for a more policy compliant 'point of connection'.

We maintain the view that the suggested reasons for refusal set out in our submission of the 3rd July 2023 can be readily substantiated and trust the council will refuse planning permission to this wholly inappropriate planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Amanda Denny
Hendre Cottage
Glewstone
Ross on Wye
HR9 6AX