

Proposed Solar Farm
IPV Flexgen and Barr Family Enterprises
Smorrall Lane/Breach Oak Lane, Corley

SUBJECT: NEGATIVE IMPACT OF SOLAR FARMS

The following are some of the issues to consider regarding solar farms which will impact local residents and their lives, homes and health.

- The health impact is huge and is something to be seriously considered. Battery energy systems (substations) contain lithium batteries which can leak gases and have been known to ignite spontaneously, the batteries release Hydrogen Chloride into the atmosphere which can cause or exacerbate existing respiratory conditions. The impact on electromagnetic field is also of concern as is the glare reflecting from the panels which can cause skin issues like cancer, just like the sun as it mutates skin cells. Medical professionals are known to have written objections to solar farms being within a 1 mile radius of residential homes, the proposed Corley farm site will be metres away from homes in Breach Oak Lane.
- (<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2020/03/20/uks-biggest-solar-farm-poses-grave-risk-to-public-health/>)
- Freedom of information act has been applied for to see what the health implications have been so far for those living near solar farms. This can take a few weeks to receive a response.
- Habitat loss-we have a lot of wildlife along the lane and in the fields, including a pair of owls, nesting herons, Adders, Muntjacks, Hedgehogs, Newts and bats along with many other species. The wildlife flourishes in the trees and hedgerows especially during the hours of darkness. We are in a conservation area and trees above 75millimetres are protected. While we appreciate animals will still be able to graze amongst the panels what do we know about the impact on them grazing among these structures in the long term if they are farmed for human consumption and what impact will the construction have on the already resident wildlife.
- The residents that live along Breach Oak Lane moved to this rural greenbelt area for the peace and quiet of the lane, no street lighting to intrude into our homes during the hours of darkness and also we have the lovely views of the fields both at the front and rear of our properties. We are hugely concerned about light and noise pollution. We have already over recent years lived with the increase in traffic along the lane with the many failed attempts to erect and maintain the barrier to the southbound services as well as the expansion to the M6 lanes and loss of trees along the motorway which has increased traffic noise to our properties, also the extra lighting to the entrance of the southbound Corley Services which now penetrates into the back of the properties at night.

- The disruption while construction takes place is also of concern, increase in noise and traffic levels, the invitation states that access will be on Smorrell Lane but there is also access at the turn in Breach Oak Lane which has not been mentioned. Of huge concern is the large unit for Hydroponic Farming which is a 24/7 process so what will be the impact of this be, how tall will this unit be and how long ? Why is the building being erected opposite the house along Breach Oak Lane? And will it be the first of anymore units. (<https://www.thebalancesmb.com/what-you-should-know-about-vertical-farming-4144786>) Looking at the map provided this looks to be taking up the length of Breach Oak Lane from the first property up to the last bungalow before the semi detached houses begin. Lighting to the site, parking for employees? Maintenance issues for the site across the 24 hour period.
- In keeping with the companies sustainable systems will they be installing sustainable drainage systems (SUDS) along Breach Oak Lane and Smorrall Lane.
- Are green roofs going to be used on the Farming Unit?
- What is the expected life span of the system and when will they legally be obliged to decommission the site and what will this process involve.
- We have approached local estate agents who has confirmed a solar farm will impact the valuation of the properties up to 5% to 10%. This is a huge loss of value to the residents in Breach Oak Lane and those affected in Smorrall Lane who have paid premium prices to live in a rural setting. For example a property worth £300,00.00 would be devalued by £15,000.00 to £30,000.00. As well as impacting in the ability of being able to sell our homes in the future because of having a Solar Farm metres from our front doors.

This is not an exhaustive list by far and we are all for sustainable energy and protecting the planet but sites such as these should be planned and farmed away from residential areas and considering we have only been given 2 weeks notice these are the immediate concerns that come to mind. The local MP for North Warwickshire Craig Tracey will be attending.

We would urge the local community to attend the meeting on Saturday 22nd May at 10.30am at the proposed entrance to the site , junction of Smorrall Lane and Breach Oak Lane CV7 8AT.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and we hope to see you on the day.

