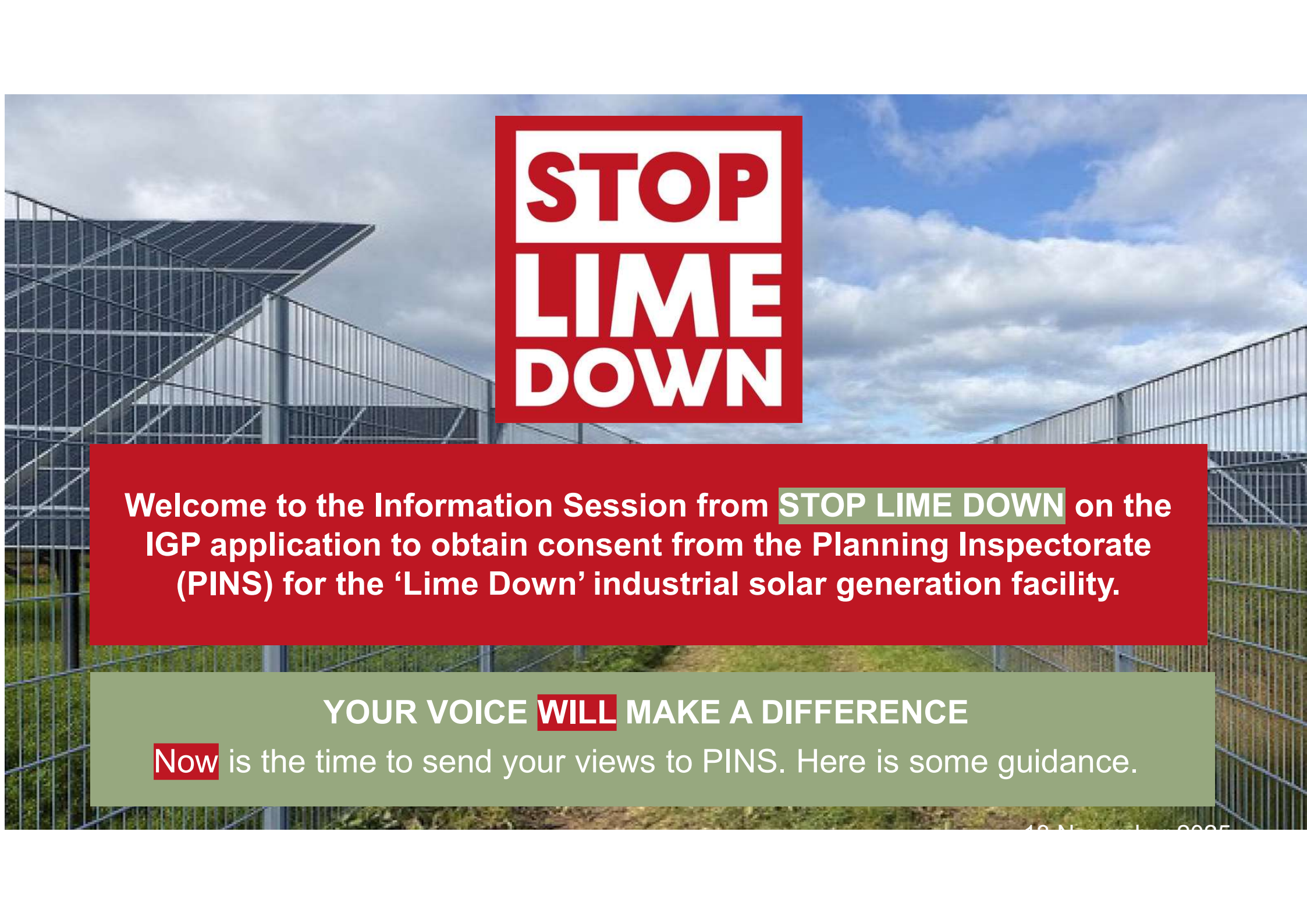




STOP LIME DOWN

Welcome to the Information Session from **STOP LIME DOWN on the IGP application to obtain consent from the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) for the ‘Lime Down’ industrial solar generation facility.**

YOUR VOICE **WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Now is the time to send your views to PINS. Here is some guidance.

Welcome



Introduction

Anna-Kate Fuller

Committed to safeguarding the countryside, Anna-Kate plays a key role in campaign outreach and volunteer coordination

Current Overview

Sir Mike Pitt

Former Chair and Chief Executive of the Planning Inspectorate, Sir Mike provides expert guidance on planning processes.

Details of IGP's Plans **Professor Richard Skeffington**

Environmental scientist with over 20 years' experience in the power industry, and a similar period as Professor of Geography and Environmental Science at the University of Reading.

Legal Overview

Dan Kozelko (*video*)

Planning Barrister for SLD

Your Q&As

Please place your question in the **Q&A function**

13 November 2025



Your Comments to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS)

Current Overview

Sir Mike Pitt

www.stoplimedown.com

November 2025

The Timeline

The Past : Pre-Application

Scoping report, PEIR, Statutory Consultation, Targeted Consultation

Application made to PINS on 19 September

PINS accepted IGP's application for examination on 17 October

Now: Pre-Examination

Registration – everyone who wishes to comment must register

Appointment of Examining Authority (ExA)

Preliminary meeting

The Future

Examination (6 months) - Submission of evidence to ExA

Recommendation (3 months) - ExA submits recommendation to SofS

Decision (3 months) - SofS publishes decision

Registration

You need to register with PINS to participate in the examination process.

You may already have registered for updates – **this is not the same thing.**

And, this is separate to the previous Consultations.

We are going to cover:

- Who can register?
- When to register?
- How to register?
- Relevant Representations - giving your point of view
- Your Interested Party reference number

Who Can Register? – **ANYONE CAN**

Anyone can register, including:

- Members of the public from the local area, **anywhere** in the UK or abroad
- Charities, local action groups and businesses

SLD is asking that, in addition to yourself, contact at least **ten** others.

Think of:

- All of your immediate and distant family, whatever their ages and wherever they live
- Friends and acquaintances
- Your address book
- Work and organisational colleagues

When to Register

NOW!

The deadline for registration is:

9 January 2026

NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THAT DATE

Very Important

Registration and 'Relevant Representations' are a **single process**

So, **before** you start registration, you need to think about **the issues that concern you** and maybe draft them out in writing.

Once you have submitted your registration form, **you will not be able to go back and add any more relevant representations.**

If you are registered, there will be a further opportunity to comment in **more details** at the Examination Stage (the '**Written Representations**' next year).

How to Register

1. Google “Planning Inspectorate Lime Down”, Or “limedown@planninginspectorate.gov.uk”
2. Click **Project information**
3. Click **Register to have your say**
4. Click **Start Now**

You will be given an **interested party reference number** which you must use for future submissions

5. Follow the simple instructions:

- Who are you registering for?
- Full name
- Are you 18 or over?
- Email address
- Postal address
- Phone number
- **What do you want to tell us?**
- Check your answers
- Declaration
- Submit

planning inspectorate lime down

google.com/search?q=planning+inspectorate+lime+down&sca_esv=3f626f5782a50780&xsrf=AE3TifMTpiF4l_2TvYUaEWTGnPBHcxWAw

Google

planning inspectorate lime down

Find a National Infrastructure Project

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk › ...

✓

Lime Down Solar Project - Project information

30 Oct 2025 — It is important to get involved at this stage to influence the application before the applicant sends it to the Planning Inspectorate. Find ...

Documents

Examination Library (PDF, 293KB). From The Planning ...

Documents | Lime Down Solar ...

Examination Library (PDF, 293KB). From The Planning ...

Lime Down Solar Project

Examination Library (PDF, 293KB). From The Planning ...

Dogfennau

6.2 Environmental Statement Volume 2, Figure 11-2 Lime ...

More results from planninginspectorate.gov.uk »

Lime Down Solar Park

https://www.limedownsolar.co.uk › development-process

✓

Development process

The Planning Inspectorate will carry out an examination of our application and then make a final recommendation to the Secretary of State on whether to grant ...

Stop Lime Down Solar Park

https://stoplimedown.com › updates

✓

PINS Open registration to have your say

The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) has now opened their system for you to register to have your say on Lime Down. However, don't panic!

national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010168

Planning Inspectorate

Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

Find a National Infrastructure Project

Beta

This is a beta service - your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it

Home

All projects

Detailed information

English | [Cymraeg](#)

Project information

Documents

[Register to have your say](#)

[Get updates](#)

[Section 51 advice](#)

Related guides

[The process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects \(NSIPs\)](#)

[Have your say about a national infrastructure project](#)

Lime Down Solar Project

Project information

Latest update - 30 October 2025

You can now [register to have your say](#). The registration deadline is 9 January 2026.

Guidance on the registration process is available on our website, [How to register to have your say and make a relevant representation](#)

[View all updates.](#)

About the project

Type of application: Generating Stations

Name of applicant: Lime Down Solar Park Limited

Lime Down Solar Project comprises inverters, transformers, a battery energy storage system, an online substation, site access, cable

Project stage

This project is at the **pre-examination** stage.

If you want to comment on this proposed project, you can now [register to have your say](#) Registration closes on 9 January 2026 at 23:59.

Register to have your say

Typical Relevant Representations

It is really important you write in your own words
It has to be individual to you to be counted.

“I have several reasons to object to this development.

1. Firstly, it will forever change the longstanding tranquil, rural nature of the very large proposed site, virtually surrounding some of the villages in the area to the detriment of both those who live there and others who live in the vicinity and enjoy the whole countryside in the area for walking and cycling - a very important local amenity and one of the reasons for living in the countryside.”
2. At present there are many walks and public footpaths that can be enjoyed across the proposed site, but there would be zero enjoyment or mental health benefits from walking along narrow corridors between high dark solar panels and security fencing with no views or wildlife or biodiversity left to enjoy, thus local amenity would be significantly negatively impacted.”

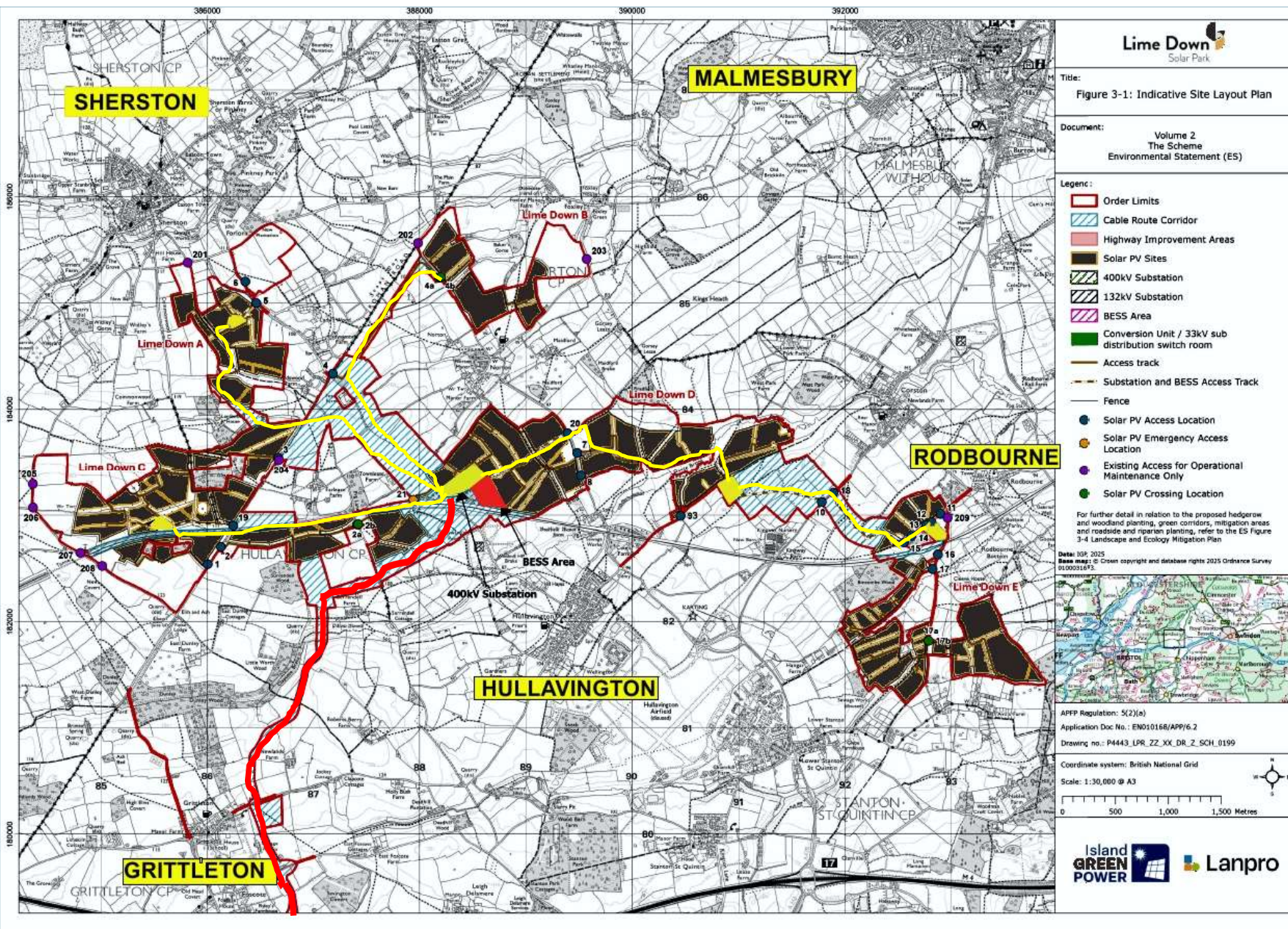


The IGP Application Details Submitted to PINS in September 2025

Details of IGPs Plans Professor Richard Skeffington

www.stoplimedown.com

November 2025



Lime Down

October 2025

Legend:
Panels (black)

Major substations
(yellow)

BESS (Red)

Cable routes
(blue diagonal)

400kV

132kV

Size of the Scheme

No change in size:

748 hectares = 1848 acres (excluding cable routes)

Scheme Envelope: 46 square km = 18 square miles

Some fields on the west side have had panels removed.

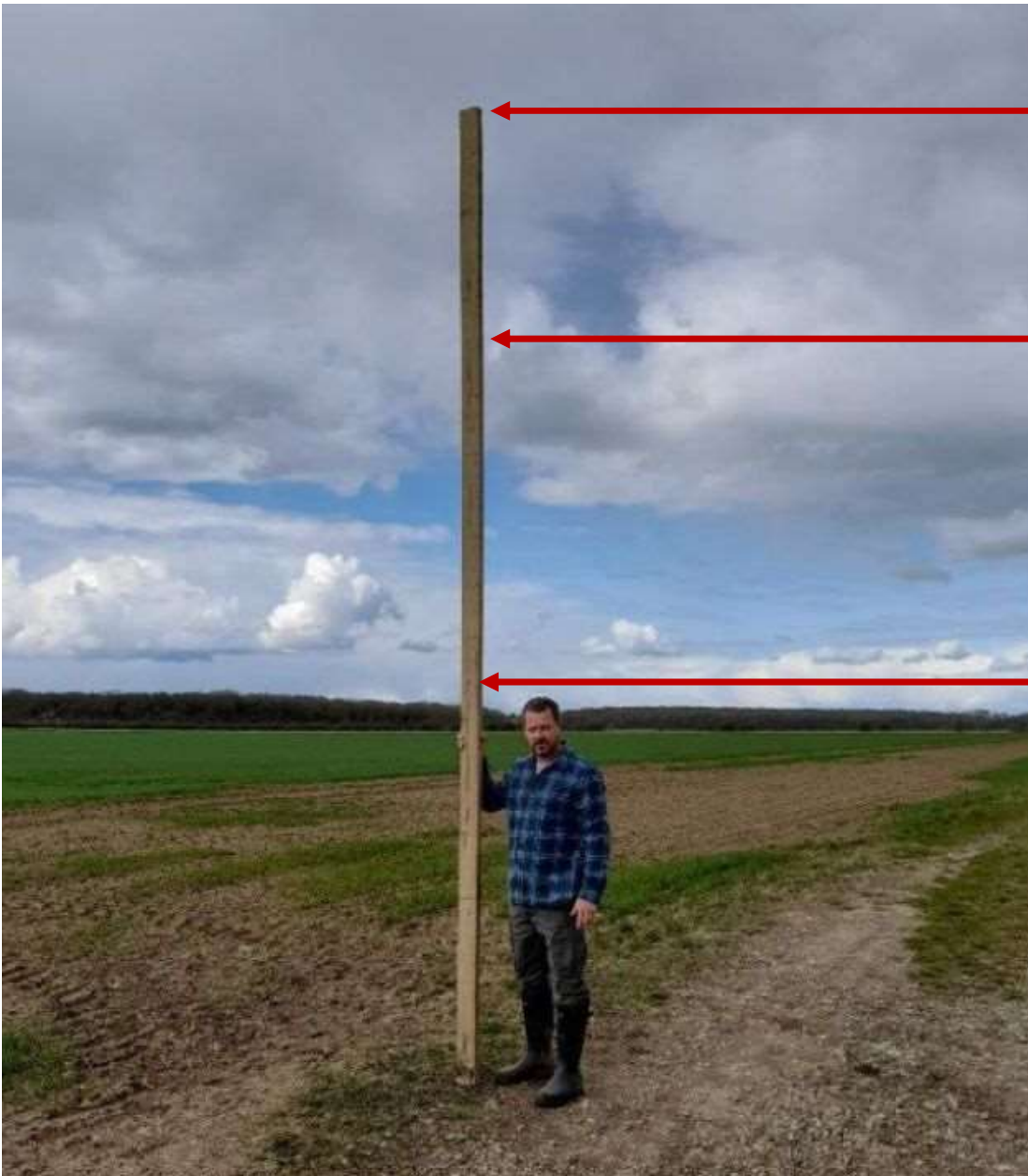
About

650,000 solar panels

Solar Panels- Much Bigger than Normal Schemes



Photo: Lime Down PEIR



Tracking Panels 4.5m

Lime Down Static Panels 3.5m
Used when tracking panels ruled out

Typical solar panel height c.2.0m

THEY ARE LARGE AND INTRUSIVE

Substations

132 kV substations – 4 of these



Each 2.2 acres

7 m (23 feet) high

400 kV Substation

10.5 acres

13 m (43 feet) high



More Infrastructure: Conversion Units

15 m x 5.0 m x 3.5 m high.

166 scattered round the site

In terms of volume,
7 times bigger than
a shipping container

Also an unknown number
of switch rooms
which are the same size.



Cable Route

Construction compounds at Surrendell, Grittleton, Yatton Keynell (near golf driving range), Chippenham, Corsham and Whitley.

Also laydown areas where access roads reach the cable.
These are 80 x 80m.



Construction of the Cable to Melksham

A major operation – not just a person with a JCB.

There will be three 400,000 volt cables, a fibre optic cable, and a low-voltage control cable.



Image for illustrative purposes only.

Cable Construction

Photo: National Grid



This one is close to completion

There will be three 400,000 volt cables, a fibre optic cable, and a low-voltage control cable.

On-Site Cables

In trenches
by access
tracks

A lot of soil
disturbance!



Issues

A word cloud of various issues related to a project. The most prominent terms are 'Industrialisation' and 'The Cotswolds', both in large blue font. Other significant terms include 'Quality of Life' in large blue font, '4.5m solar panels' in large red font, 'Landscape & visual impact' in large green font, 'The FOSse Way' in large green font, 'Flood risk' in large blue font, 'Major accidents & disasters' in large red font, 'Ground condition & contamination' in large pink font, 'Footpaths & Bridleways' in large blue font, '60 years' in large teal font, 'Cumulative effects' in large teal font, 'Glint & glare' in large orange font, 'Human health' in large green font, 'Tourism & recreation' in large green font, 'Narrow country lanes' in large teal font, 'Major accidents & disasters' in large red font, 'cycling' in large blue font, 'Food before profit' in large orange font, 'Air quality' in large orange font, 'Loss of hedgerows and trees' in large green font, 'AONB' in large pink font, 'The local economy' in large pink font, 'Proximity to the nine villages' in large green font, 'Mental Wellbeing' in large pink font, 'Inverters' in large pink font, 'Listed Buildings' in large red font, 'Cultural heritage' in large teal font, 'Road safety' in large pink font, 'Fire risk & poisonous gases' in large red font, 'Road congestion' in large pink font, 'Batteries' in large red font, 'Substations' in large pink font, '20km long cable' in large green font, 'Noise of Piling' in large orange font, 'Heavy lorries & abnormal loads' in large pink font, 'Noise & vibration' in large green font, '7m Transformers' in large orange font, 'Alternative sites to Lime Down' in large green font, 'The Cotswolds' in large blue font, 'Industrialisation' in large blue font, 'Quality of Life' in large blue font, 'The FOSse Way' in large green font, 'Flood risk' in large blue font, 'Major accidents & disasters' in large red font, 'Ground condition & contamination' in large pink font, 'Footpaths & Bridleways' in large blue font, '60 years' in large teal font, 'Cumulative effects' in large teal font, 'Glint & glare' in large orange font, 'Human health' in large green font, 'Tourism & recreation' in large green font, 'Narrow country lanes' in large teal font, 'Major accidents & disasters' in large red font, 'cycling' in large blue font, 'Food before profit' in large orange font, 'Air quality' in large orange font, 'Loss of hedgerows and trees' in large green font, 'AONB' in large pink font, 'The local economy' in large pink font, 'Proximity to the nine villages' in large green font, 'Mental Wellbeing' in large pink font, 'Inverters' in large pink font, 'Listed Buildings' in large red font, 'Cultural heritage' in large teal font, 'Road safety' in large pink font, 'Fire risk & poisonous gases' in large red font, 'Road congestion' in large pink font, 'Batteries' in large red font, 'Substations' in large pink font, '20km long cable' in large green font, 'Noise of Piling' in large orange font, 'Heavy lorries & abnormal loads' in large pink font, 'Noise & vibration' in large green font, '7m Transformers' in large orange font, 'Alternative sites to Lime Down' in large green font.

Ground condition & contamination
Footpaths & Bridleways
60 years
Human health
Cumulative effects
Glint & glare
4.5m solar panels
Tourism & recreation
Landscape & visual impact
Narrow country lanes
Major accidents & disasters
cycling
Flood risk
The FOSse Way
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20km long cable
Noise of Piling
Heavy lorries & abnormal loads
Noise & vibration
7m Transformers
Alternative sites to Lime Down

Concerns about the Landscape

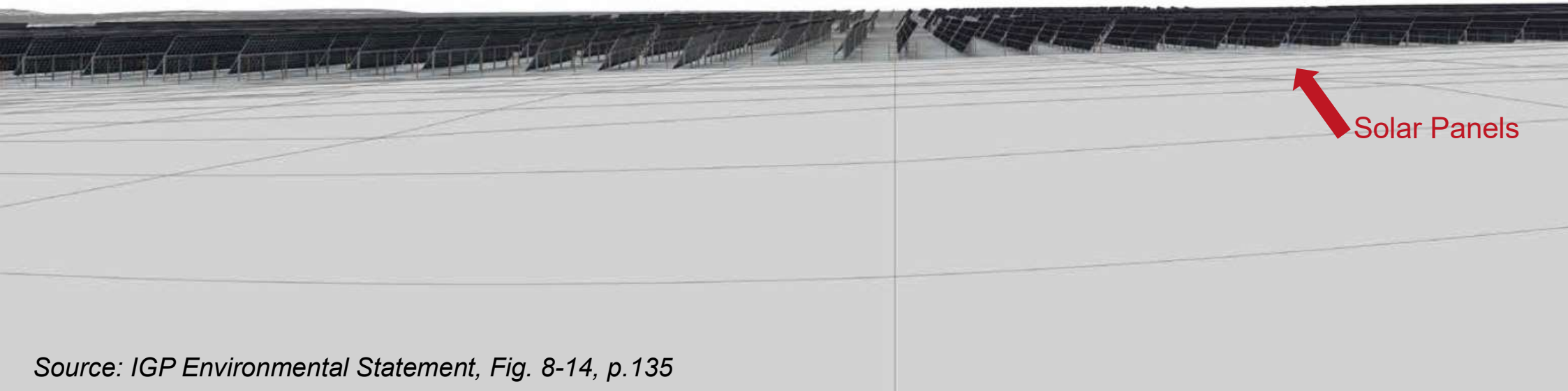
There will be significant, harmful visual impacts on the views from footpaths and homes.



Photomontage of the Panels

Unfortunately, most of the photomontages meant to show what the scheme looks like are like this.

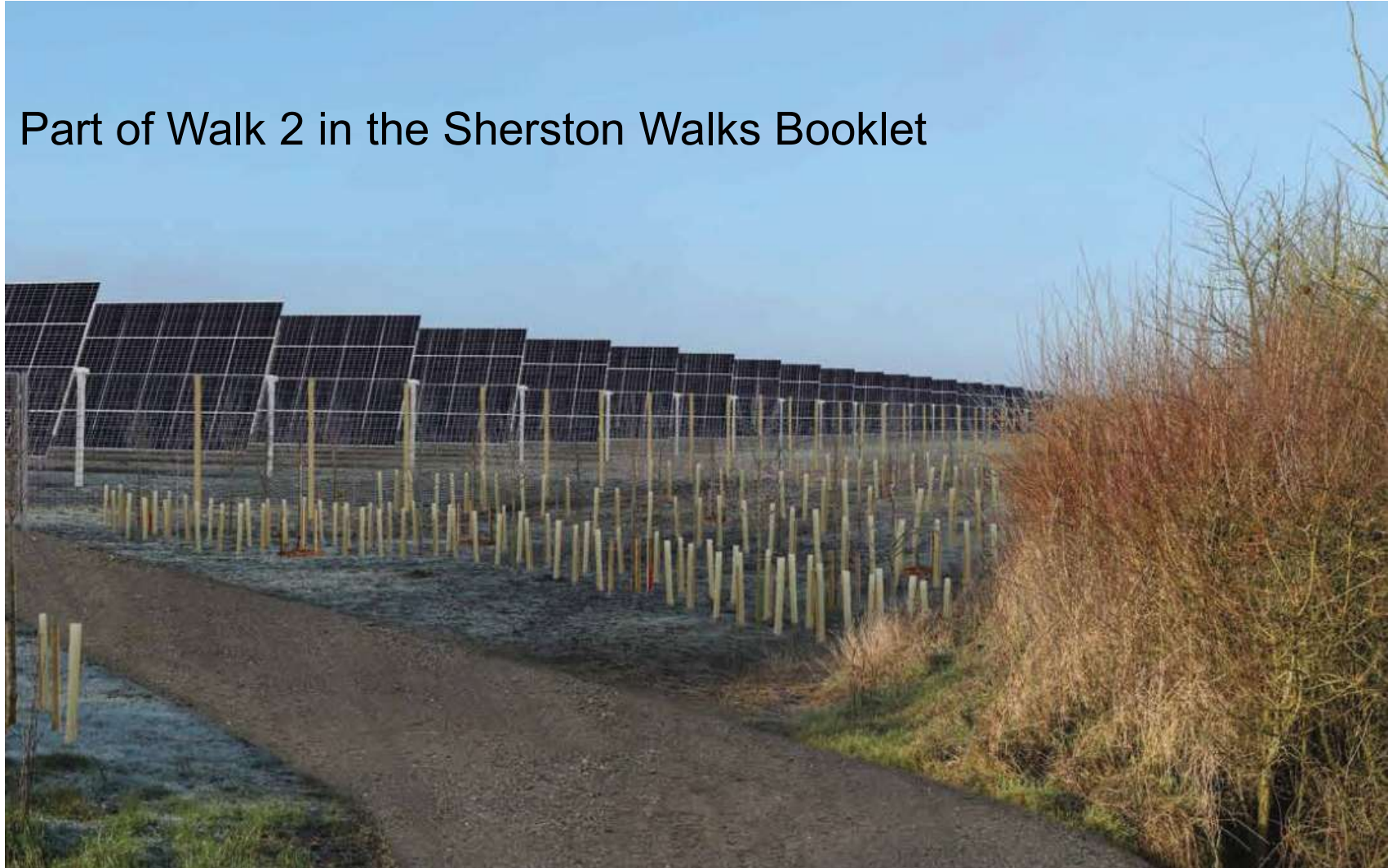
From Maidford Clump near Norton, looking towards Hullavington.



Source: IGP Environmental Statement, Fig. 8-14, p.135

Photomontage Commonwood Lane, Sherston

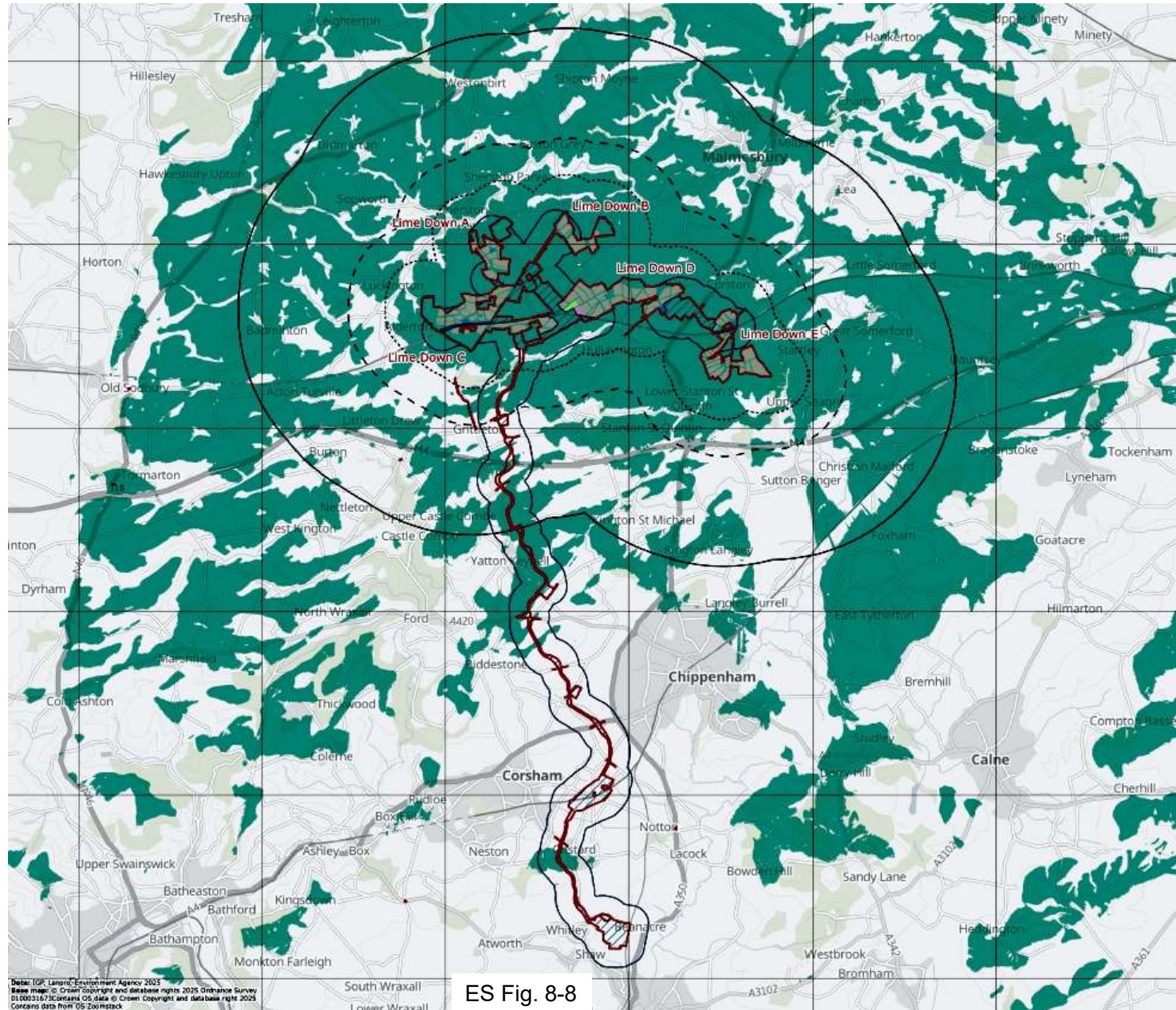
Part of Walk 2 in the Sherston Walks Booklet



Landscape: Visibility from Outside

The Scheme will be visible from higher ground for a long distance, including the Cotswold National Landscape (*was ANOB*)

This is the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)



Viewpoint 27

A dull day
June 2025



Late July 2024 →



Ecology and Biodiversity

73% of skylark habitat destroyed

1.4 km of hedges grubbed up

Fragmentation by fences

Sediment in streams



Protected species affected (bats, dormice, eels...)

Disturbance during construction, noise, soil damage, lights...

Important habitats ignored

Mitigation and BNG



Arable land is not an ecological desert

Too fertile to be easily converted to species-rich grassland

Heavy reliance on tree planting

Needs money and workforce.
No sign of any commitment.

BNG benefits can go elsewhere

Agricultural Land

IGP
commissioned
consultants to
assess the
quality of the
agricultural land
(ALC).

Grade 2	Very good quality	4%
Grade 3a	Good quality	29%
Grade 3b	Moderate quality	34%
Grade 4	Poor quality	33%

33% is “Best and Most Versatile” (BMV) land,
where there is a presumption against development.

On the Cable Route:		
Grade 2	Very good quality	5%
Grade 3a	Good quality	70%

75% BMV land on the Cable Route. Loss here is temporary
as it should be possible to restore to 3a if done competently.



Grade 4 Land by Fosse Farm

Probably downgraded because of poor drainage

The UK is the World's third largest food importer –
we import 46% of our food.

Lime Down will permanently remove 240 ha (590 acres)
of our best agricultural land from food production.

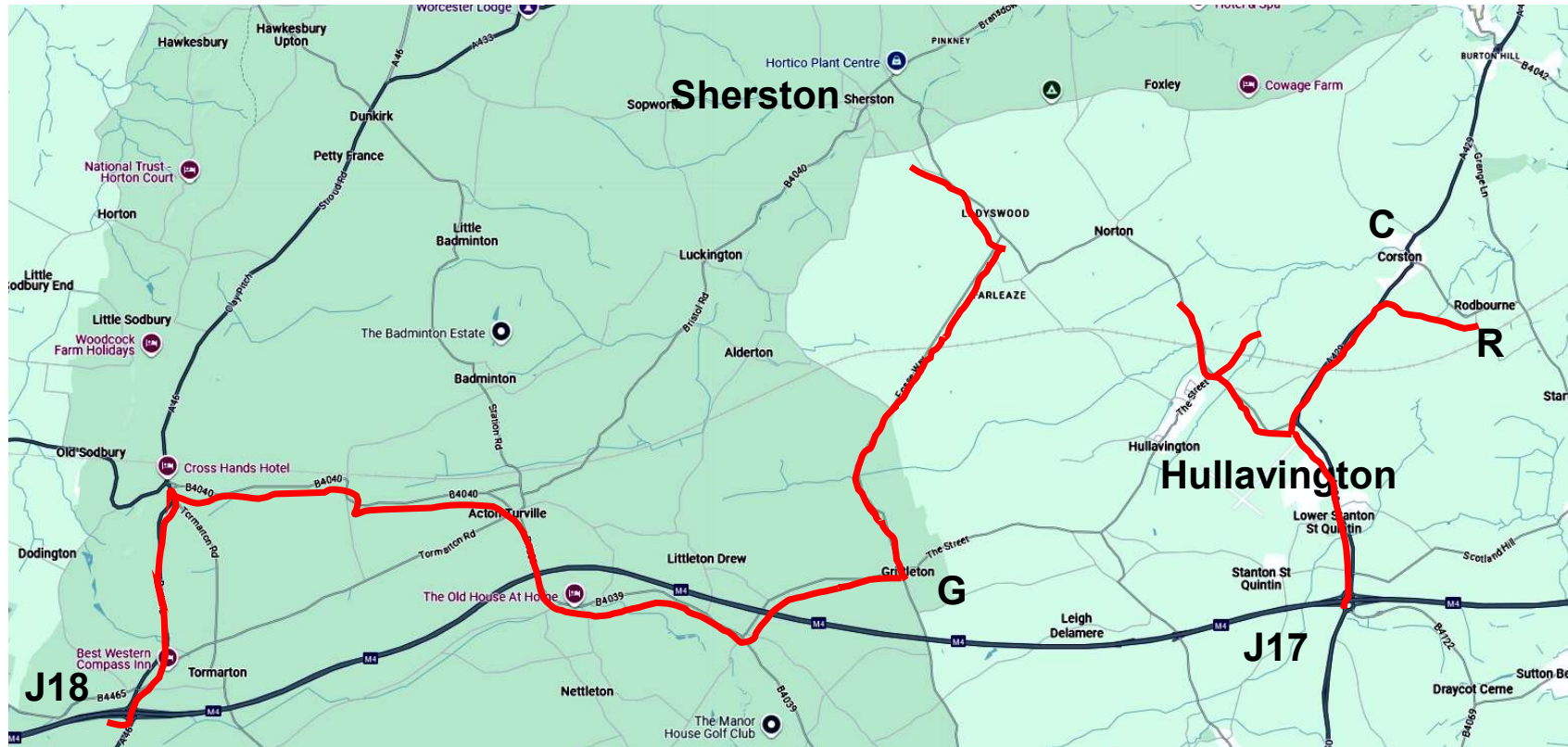
Transport and Public Rights of Way

Pictures from the only mega solar scheme constructed so far – Cleeve Hill



Traffic and Transport

Total HGV movements: **26,086**. Excluding cable route



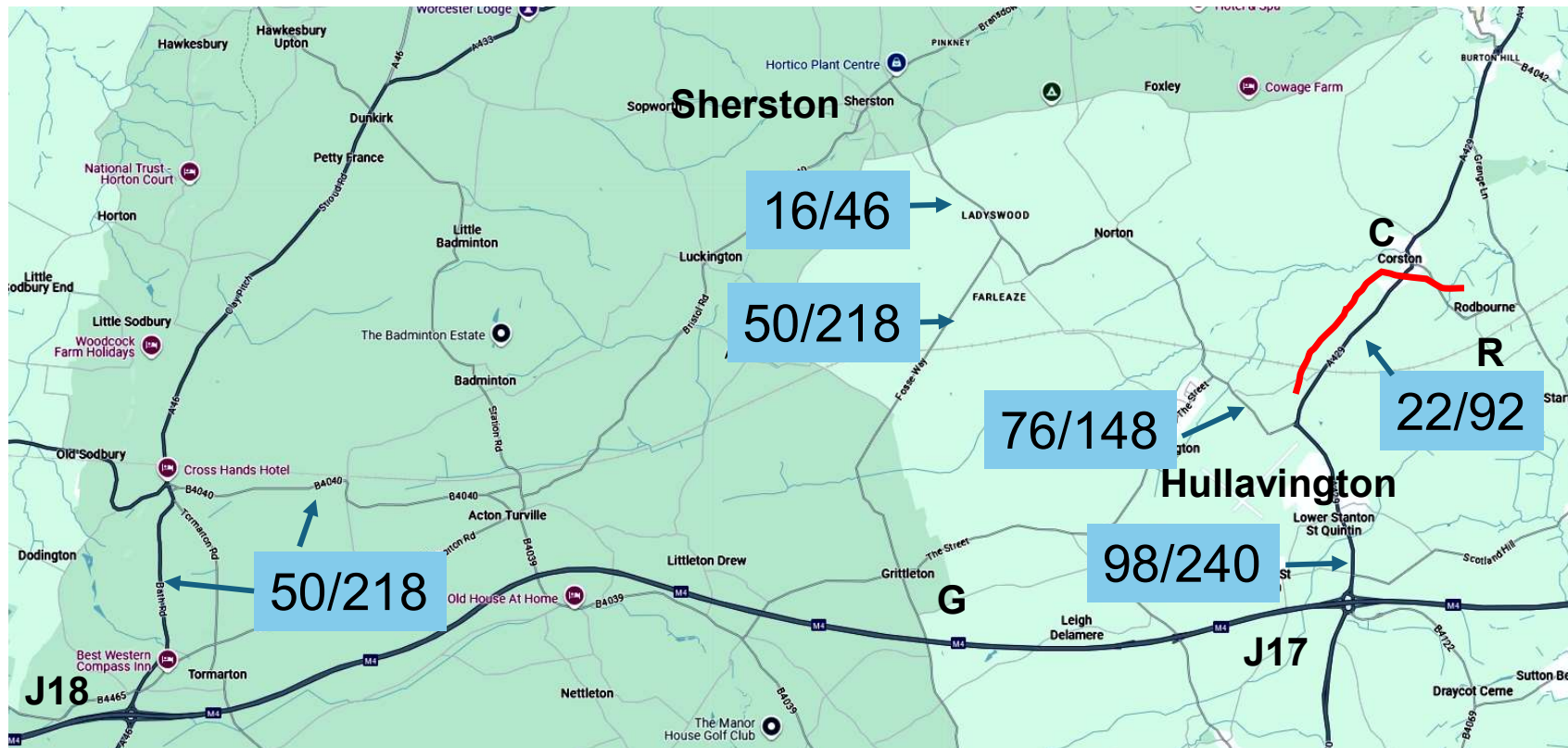
Peak HGV movements: **148** per day.
Excluding cable route

Our transport consultant thinks
these are underestimates

Traffic and Transport – On Individual Roads

Daily movements

HGVs/Cars



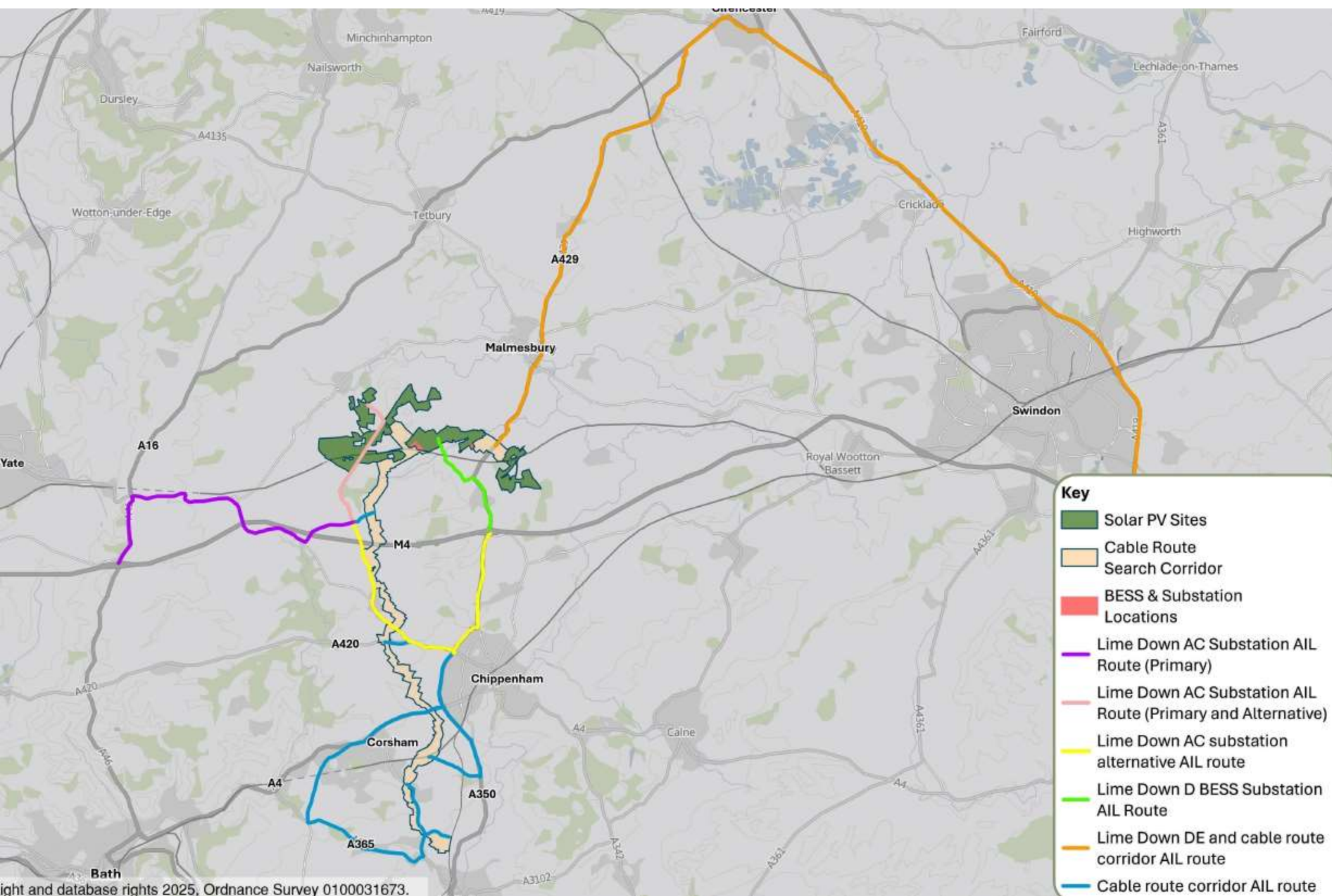
About 600 workers on site.

Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AILs)



Image for illustrative purposes only.

AIL Routes



Public Rights of Way

Spittleborough Solar Farm, Royal Wootton Bassett



Footpath after construction



Walkers,
Horseriders
Cyclists

Loss of amenity

Temporary Closure
during construction

Noise and Vibration: **No Longer a Quiet Rural Area**

Construction Noise

Piledriving



Large panels require deep piles – up to 4m Substations etc require even deeper piles.

May be over a million piledriving operations.

Horizontal Direct Drilling

And the usual construction noise from HGVs, heavy machinery, etc

Image for illustrative purposes only.

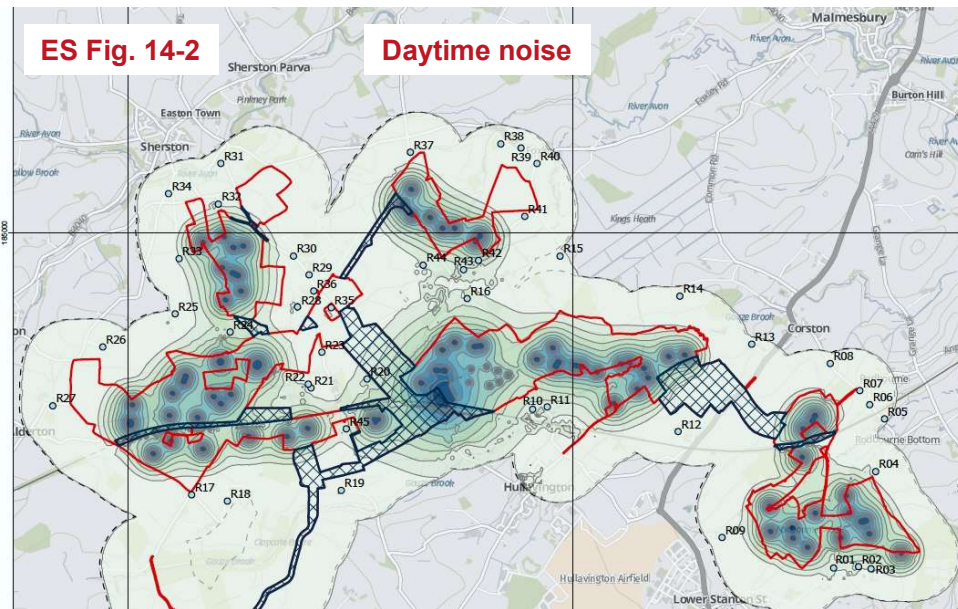
Noise and Vibration: **Continuous Operation**

Transformers hum, but inverters and combination units have noisy cooling fans

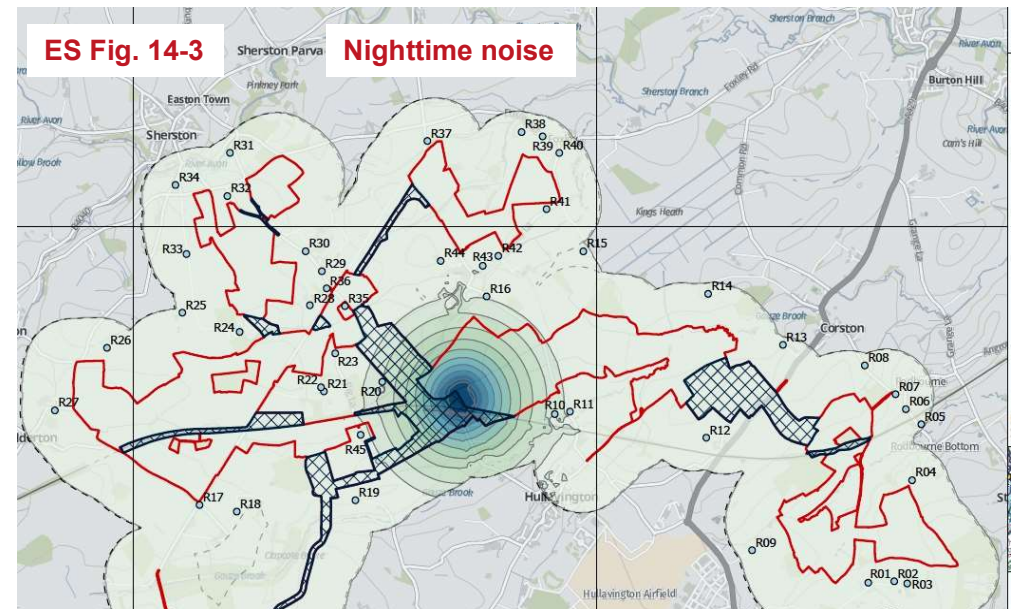
Noise recorded from existing inverter cabins at Hullavington Solar Farm

The battery (BESS) will be particularly noisy.

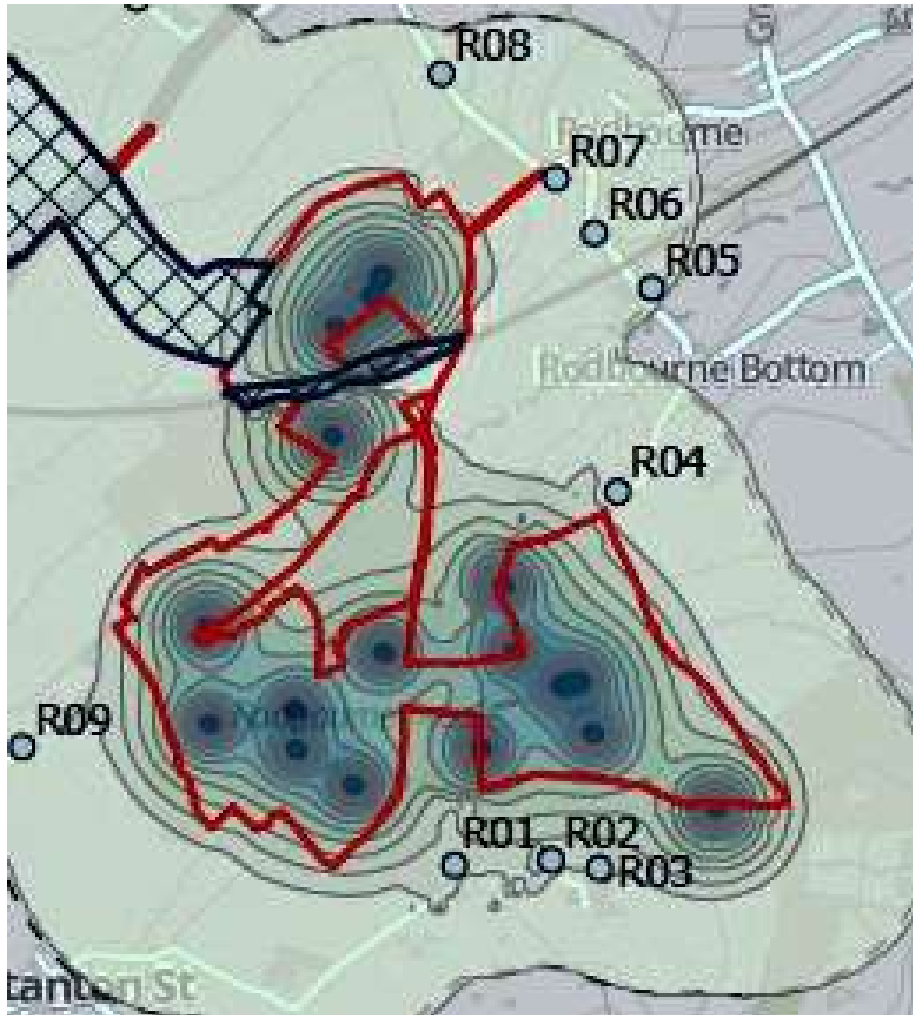
Predicted noise contours during day



Predicted noise contours at night



Operational Noise in Rodbourne



RED means above the Lowest Observable Effect level

R01	E	Haresfield Farm
R02	E	41 Avil's Lane
R03	E	43 Avil's Lane
R04	E	Cleve End Children's Home
R05	E	Bottom Farm
R06	E	Pound Hill Cottage
R07	E	Pound Farm Cottage
R08	E	Plough House
R09	E	Hanger Farm

Socio-Economic: **Effects and Tourism**

Green Jobs?

Number of people employed on site after construction is finished = 0

15 full-time equivalent jobs will be created, probably maintenance crews shared with other sites

At least 20 job losses in agriculture.

A number of tenant farmers will lose their livelihoods

Probable job losses in agricultural services

Tourism-dependent businesses (e.g. cafes, pubs) will be seriously affected, especially during construction, as cyclists and walkers keep away from the area.

If you come into those categories – **tell the Planning Inspectorate in your 'RR'**

The area will take a substantial economic hit

Construction Jobs?

Maybe- but mostly from outside. 620 workers on site

Where are they going to stay?

What about pressure on local services?



Image for illustrative purposes only.

Flooding

Remember Storm Bert, 24 November 2024?

A reminder of how vulnerable the area is to flooding

Flooding extended downstream to Chippenham, Melksham and Bradford on Avon.



But IGP's flooding assessment is concerned *only* with protecting their assets from floodwater

Important to tell PINS you are concerned about flooding!

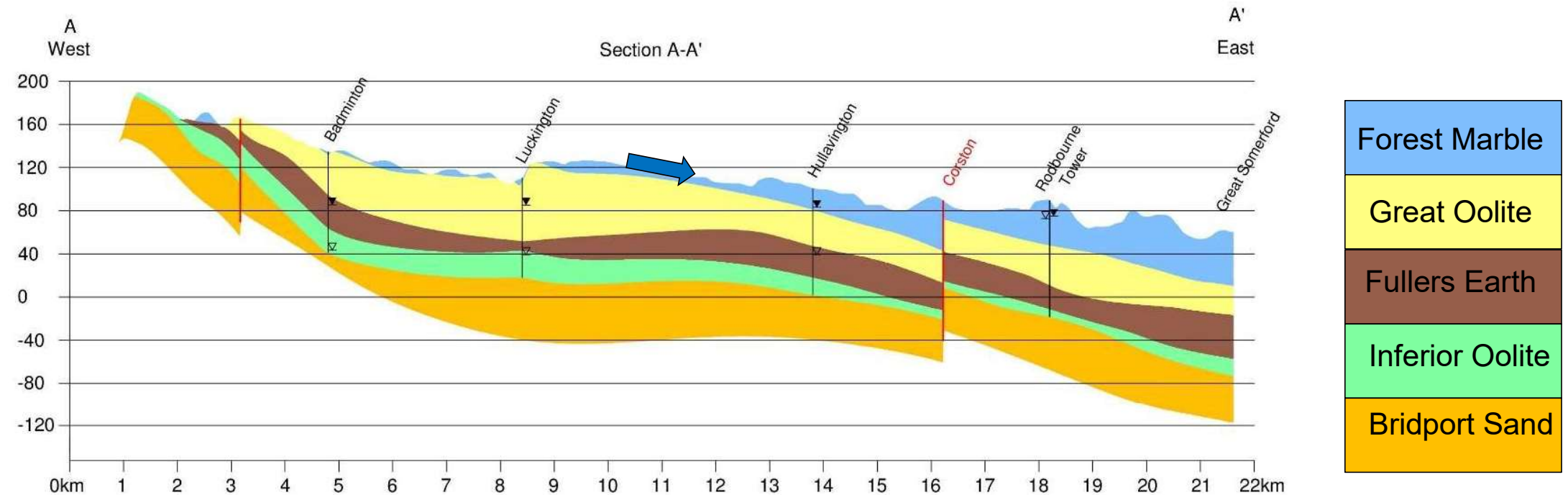
Storm Bert Video

Threats to Groundwater and Water Supplies

We are in a Source Protection Zone, meant to protect groundwater quality.

Protects drinking water and rivers

If you have a private water supply, you should tell the Planning Inspectorate



The Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

In about 270 Containers close to Hullavington

Picture ES Plate 3-9



BESS fires



Not really fires,
but runaway
chemical reactions.

Rare, but potentially
devastating.

Inadequate
regulatory regime

Smoke and flames are seen from Castroville as a fire at the Vistra battery storage plant burns in Moss Landing, Calif., on Thursday, Jan. 16, 2025. (Doug Duran/Bay Area News Group)

Cirencester BESS fire March 2025



If you are interested in batteries, there is an open Zoom lecture at 6.30pm on 26 November, from Marcus Jones, lithium battery expert.

To participate, look for the link on Stop Lime Down Website

Cultural Heritage

118 archaeological
assets on site

“Major damage” to
23 likely.

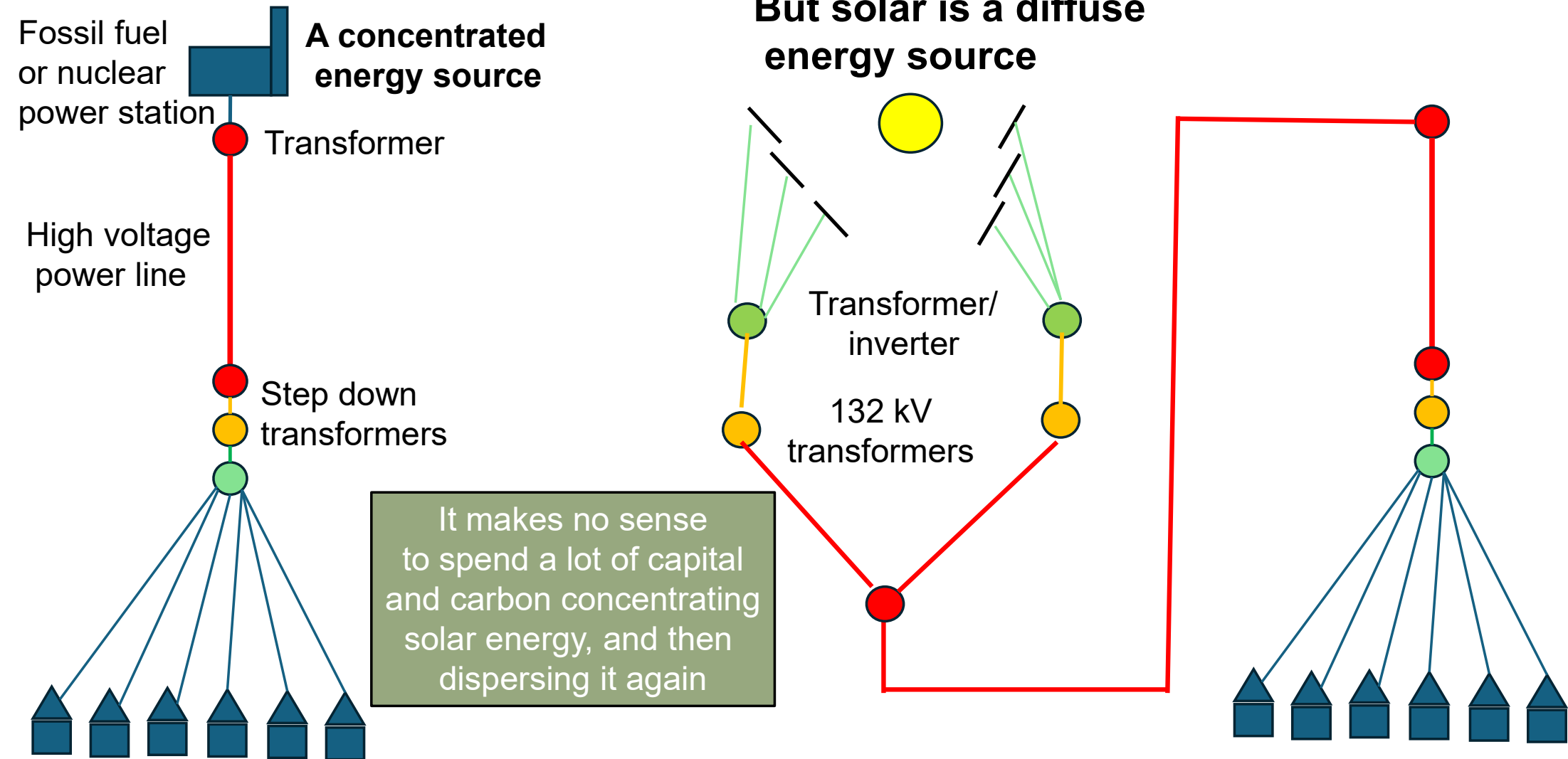
761 Listed buildings

Roman and
mediaeval roads

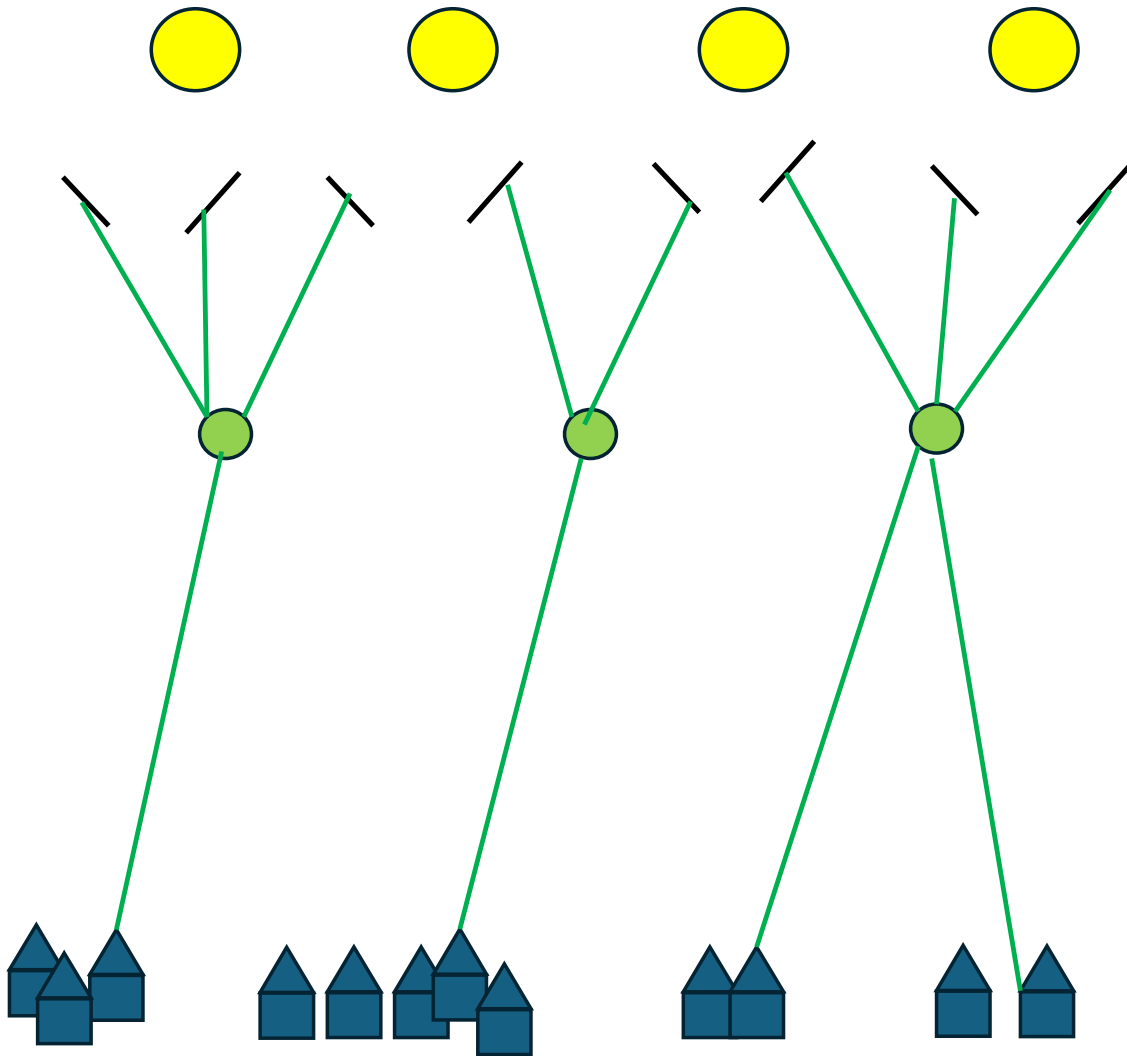


This is a Very Expensive Way to Use Solar

But solar is a diffuse energy source



Solar Energy is Best Used Locally



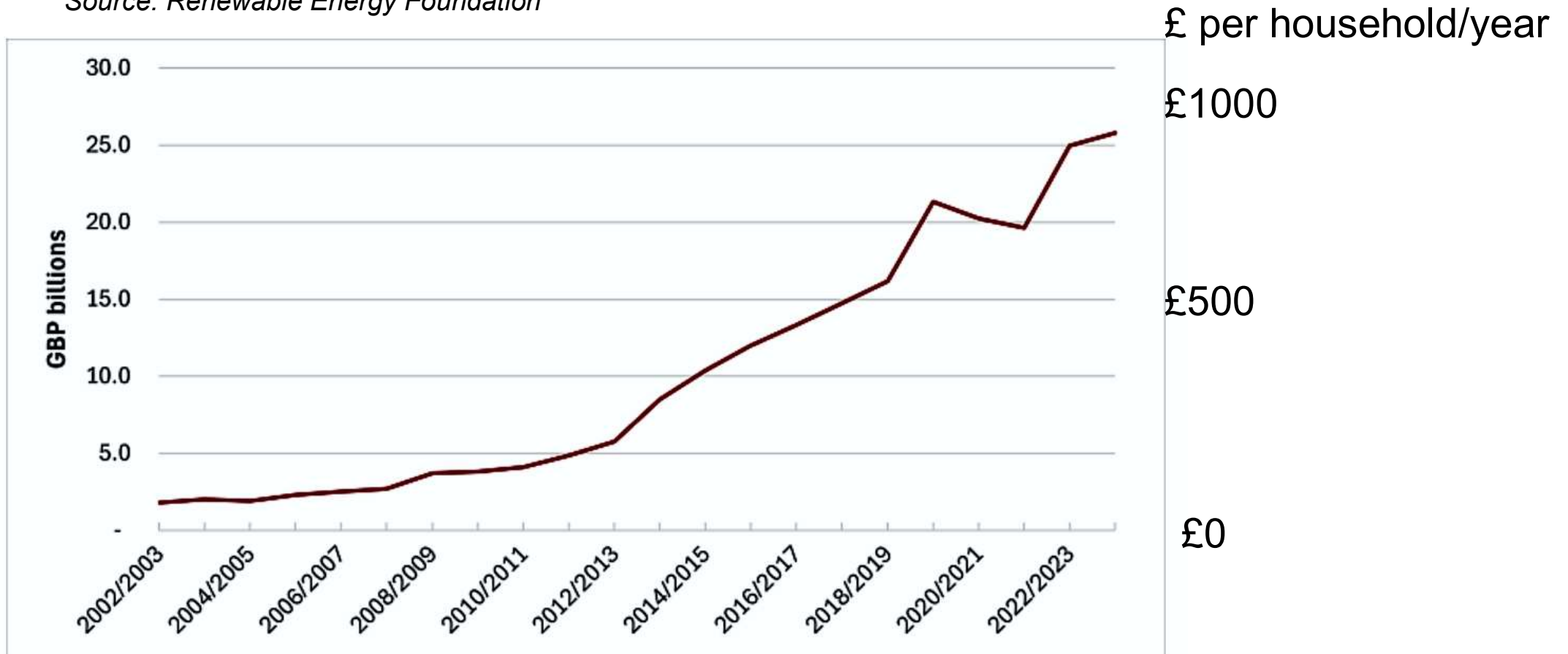
Small-scale schemes can feed into the distribution grid and the power can be used locally.

No huge transformers, no high voltage underground power lines or pylons, much lower carbon footprint.

- but no big income stream for the likes of Macquarie

Renewable Subsidies

Source: Renewable Energy Foundation



<https://www.ref.org.uk/ref-blog/390-uk-renewable-electricity-subsidy-totals-2002-to-the-present-day>



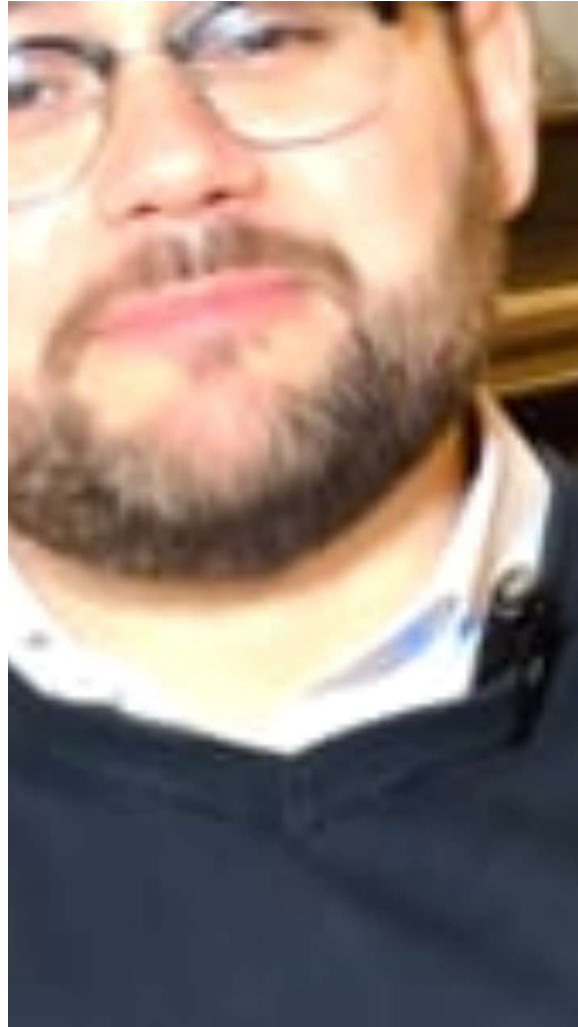
Registering AND Submitting Your Comments To The Planning Inspectorate (PINS)

Explanation video from SLD Planning Barrister

Dan Kozelko

www.stoplimedown.com

November 2025





NOW IS THE TIME TO HAVE YOUR SAY

www.stoplimedown.com

November 2025



**STOP
LIME
DOWN**

STOP THE INDUSTRIALISATION
OF THE COUNTRYSIDE

www.stoplimedown.com