

Mr. Ben Heywood
Head of Development Services
High Peak Borough Council
Town Hall
Buxton
SK17 6EL

8th June 2023

Dear Sir

Application No. HPK/2023/0193
Construction and Installation of Energy Storage System at Gow Hole, Marsh Lane, New Mills.

We object to the above application for the following reasons:-

1. Planning policies and location

- (a) The proposals do not meet the requirements of Local Plan Policies EQ2 & EQ3, and do not meet the criteria for NPPF - Green Belt.
- (b) The proposed ESS would be neither a renewable energy or low carbon facility, and it's operation would result indirectly in increased CO2 emissions. The planning statement says that surplus electricity will be purchased from New Mills power station (where do they get their power from?) to provide for a load centre in times of winter needs. At the Novus presentation, we were told that the load centre is Altrincham. Are there no suitable sites in that area? The report for NREL states that the ESS should be located near a load centre and not in a rural area.

2. Lack of information

The applicant provides no details of energy storage capacity, type and life of batteries, weight surcharge on to the land and railway embankment, hours of operation, annual hours, thermal runaway assessment, and noise levels (and why 70m. of acoustic fencing is omitted along the Marsh Lane frontage). The lack of a fire/thermal runaway assessment, and the control of toxic emissions, is the greatest worry.

3. Safety

The thermal runaway from this type of ESS (ref. fire in Liverpool September 2020) is a major concern to National Rail/ ASPRO (north eastern boundary), Derbyshire Highways (south western boundary) and the Derbyshire Fire Service who would be first responders in the case of an accident. They have admitted that they would not know how to deal with the ESS problem and that there are no national guidelines.

4. Nature

- (a) During construction, all mature trees along the north-east boundary railway embankment would be lost (ref. existing and proposed sections B-B on RPS drg.12456-0006-03).
- (b) The outcome of a fire/thermal runaway would be catastrophic to wildlife, trees, shrubs and pastureland.

We consider that this application should be refused.

Yours sincerely

Richard & Judith Hubble