

We wish to object to the proposed solar farm at Brynrhyd Llanedi on the following grounds:

1. It is not in keeping with the context or scale of the area. The scale of the proposal and the amount of continuous area covered by panels is far larger than can be set in context for the rural landscape. Due to the visibility of the proposed panels from roads and residences as far apart as Llanedi, Garnswllt and Llannon. We object on the grounds that this will irrevocably change the visual nature of the countryside from rural/ agriculture to light industrial and that will result in the loss of important public views across the hillside. The highest point in the area , Rhandir Aur (Golden Area) will be covered in a sea of black, shiny glass and will the first view that will be seen when entering the village from both the directions of Pontarddulais and Ammanford.
2. The proposed construction and subsequent management and maintenance plan submitted by the firm will have a negative impact on wildlife identified in the area including protected species, breeding birds and butterflies. Environmental stewardship will certainly be put at risk, adjacent marshland provides suitable nesting habitat for lapwings, and curlews - 3 seen and heard together on the 30th August at 18.15 and 3rd September at 13.10pm. Some of the land is a resting and feeding place for Greylag and Canada geese in transit to other areas and also attracts birds to visit from Penclacwydd Wildfowl and Wetlands Bynea. The presence of sphagnum moss on the marsh adjacent to the panels provides vital food for a number of birds, insects and a variety of vertebrates. The developer's suggestion that they will both retain the land for agricultural use by sheep grazing and also manage biodiversity is contradictory. The plan suggests and of loss of mature trees that might otherwise shade panels, removal of established and mature hedgerows and loss of re-wilded field edges that will reduce the biodiversity. I object on the grounds of loss of biodiversity, loss of biodiversity corridors for movement and loss of breeding and feeding habitat for migratory birds. Recent observations on recent frosty mornings have confirmed the existence of animal tracks traversing the proposed solar farm.
3. The ongoing noise - the constant sound of the panels which will be heard at night from our property and others, combined with constant road noise during construction will create a nuisance- I object on the grounds that this will constitute a nuisance and that is not in keeping with the area. Constant noise from the cooling fans used for inter connectivity cables due to possible overheating and inverter equipment. This noise will be in addition to existing fan noises experienced at night. Construction noise during working hours will detract from the relatively tranquil nature of the area.
4. I object on the basis that the highly visible solar farm will blight property prices and property development in the area, leading to potential abandonment or dereliction of potential good quality family homes. It is certain to devalue property especially fields which have the potential tourist attraction of becoming a wild tenting area. It is likely to devalue the rental value of adjacent fields.
5. I object on the basis that the land- use type from useful agriculture accommodation and grazing to what amounts to energy production/industrial will reduce the

- economic viability of all the agricultural land around it, reducing the ability to easily move stock from one site to the next and reducing the retail value of fields around it.
6. A lane namely Heol Troeon Bach is very well used by numerous cyclists, runners, joggers, walkers and horse riders on a daily basis. The lane is a vantage point to view the wonderful scenery of Dyffryn Llŵchwr - Loughor valley-through which runs the Heart of Wales railway line, against the backdrop of the hamlet of Garnswllt, Cefn Drum and Mynydd y Gwair. Carrying out these activities on the B4297 is not an option as it has no pavements or grass verges and carries very heavy and constant stream of traffic, without the addition of traffic from the proposed solar project. Daily exercise is essential to the wellbeing and mental health of us all, and as this lane is an ideal place to maintain and also to restore our wellbeing and any mental issues that arise it needs to be kept as it is, not blighted by solar panels on both sides of the road which will totally eradicate all green fields from the views which can be seen now. People from Llanedi at the one end and residents of Tycroes from the other end ensure that the lane is very well used.
 7. Wales is already facing a crisis of loss of useful green spaces and I object strongly to the use of greenfield site for this proposal when other brownfield sites in need of regeneration are more suitable and the use of solar represents a more sustainable use of land.
 8. I also object on the basis that the plans for access to the site utilise a lane that is in constant use for access to our land. The numbers of heavy vehicles using this lane will damage the hedgerows and make regular access to our field difficult. I also object on the basis that the proposed movement of vehicles past residential properties including my own, and a school, represent an additional danger to pedestrians along a road where no pavement exists.
 9. I object on the basis that this development is similar to, and larger than other rejected development in the county. There are already a number of solar farms in Carmarthenshire and the cumulative hectarage is far greater than is proportionate or reasonable.
 10. Finally I object on the basis that there has been no feasible plan identified to decommission the site and as such the land in Llanedi is potentially blighted once the solar farm falls out of use.

Eirwen and Raymund Thomas