

BRYNRHYD SOLAR FARM

We are writing to express our objection to the application made by Island Green Power for the construction of a 160 acre Solar Farm on quality land at Brynrhyd Farm, Llanedi.

There is already a solar farm in the vicinity of the village (Clawdd Ddu Solar Farm) and planning permission has been granted for another (Tycroes Solar Farm). Brynrhyd Farm if approved would be the third in the area resulting in a total of 295 acres of adjoining agricultural land being covered in black solar panels. Whilst we understand the requirement for renewable energy it is beyond understanding that well managed, good quality land which currently supports the rearing of beef, sheep and dairy should even be considered as suitable. Surely there are brown sites available in Carmarthenshire which are more suitable.

Brynrhyd Farm which will provide the majority of the land for the scheme is tenanted and not owned by anyone resident in Wales. We understand that one of the two owners is also a director of two estates which own other land in the area. We are concerned that if the current application is successful there is a danger that further applications will follow.

We believe that the construction of a solar farm at Brynrhyd and adjoining farm Pentre Hardd would have a detrimental effect on the village of Llanedi. Panels would cover the highest point in the village at Pentre Hardd and would be visible at every entry point into the village via the B4279 (Ebenezer Road). The panels would be clearly visible from many properties our own (Forge Villa) included. Contrary to the application the panels will be visible from **all** front windows of our house as well as from the conservatory. Several properties in Heol Troean Bach would be virtually surrounded by panels. There is already evidence that proximity to Clawdd Ddu Solar Farm has a negative effect on the value and saleability of property due in part to the noise produced. The proposed Brynrhyd scheme is larger and will produce more noise.

Llanedi is increasingly becoming a tourist destination catered for by a caravan site, holiday cottages and a variety of private and pub provided b&b accommodation. Those offering these facilities would be almost certainly adversely effected for who would want to explore or visit countryside which is covered in solar panels. The B4279 (Ebenezer Road) is a busy road with hardly any pavements. As a result locals and tourists use the few lanes in the area for walking, cycling and horse riding. Their availability is a godsend in protecting mental well being and health during the current pandemic. Should the application be given the go ahead the main lane (Heol Troean Bach) will in parts be covered in black panels on both sides.

We are fortunate that the Llanedi area supports a variety of wild life eg amongst others bats, butterflies, badgers, buzzards, red kites etc. Their habitats could be destroyed by this scheme, particularly due to the lack of attention and time spent on surveys carried out by Pegasus. Badgers, foxes et having been following tracks over our land at Forge Villa to Brynrhyd and Pentre Hardd for decades Security fencing and lights around the perimeter of the site could prevent this.

As already stated the B4279 (Ebenezer Road) is a busy road much of which is without pavements. If construction is approved the amount of traffic will increase – both heavy construction and vehicles used by some 70 construction staff. We have concerns about the additional pollution and speed of traffic will effect the children in the school.

In conclusion we believe that the combination of the proposed Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Clawdd Ddu and Tycroes Solar Farms is too large for such a small village and request that the current application be refused.

Maureen & Damian Keliher

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