

As residents of Heol Troeon Bach, Llanedi, we are writing to you in respect of the proposed Brynrhyd Solar Farm development between Llanedi and Tycroes. We object to the proposals by Brynrhyd Solar Farm Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Island Green Power Ltd, to build a 160-acre solar farm on good quality agricultural land in the village of Llanedi.

There is already an existing 70 acre solar farm (Clawdd Ddu Solar Farm) on the land between Tycroes and Llanedi. Permission has recently been granted for a second 55 acre solar farm adjacent to the Clawdd Ddu solar farm (Tycroes Solar Farm, DNS/ 3227364). The Brynrhyd Solar Farm would be the third solar farm on adjoining land in the area. It would be more than twice the size of the previously mentioned solar farms and cumulatively the three solar farms would result in 287 acres of adjoining land being turned into one massive solar farm. We believe that the cumulative effect of a third solar farm near two others would have a significant detrimental effect on the villages of Llanedi and Garnswllt on its residents and on the environment. Viewed from Garnswllt, the main vista would be of a massive block of solar panels with the subsequent solar glare.

From a personal perspective, if this proposed solar farm development went ahead, we would be badly affected. The beautiful unspoilt views of the countryside we have enjoyed for the past 34 years would be lost to a mass of metal and glass. **See attached photos.** Even with mitigation measures proposed by the development company our outlook would still be ruined. Most worrying there is already evidence that proximity to the existing solar farm has a negative impact on the future saleability and value of properties.

This proposed development would be using good quality agricultural land that is currently used for milk and beef production by local farmers. It would turn beautiful unspoilt countryside into a mass of glaring glass and into an industrial site for the next 40 years. There is no shortage of former industrial land in East Carmarthenshire and there are already good examples where solar panels have been located on land not suitable for agriculture and housing, for example the former Cynheidre colliery site.

Contrary to the claims made by the developers, building a 160-acre solar farm will not enhance biodiversity in the area. There are many species including butterflies, bats, curlews and red kites which have their natural habitats destroyed by this scheme. We need to look after our natural resources and eco systems so that plants, animals and humans can flourish and survive. Short term decisions can have significant long term knock-on effects on the environment as a whole and for generations to come.

It is clear from the proposals that the main beneficiaries of this scheme would be Island Green Power, a multinational developer of solar farms and the main landowners, namely Sir John Michael Dillwyn-Venables-Llewelyn of Llysdinam, Newbridge-On-Wye and David

Richard Mount of Camberley, Surrey. Venables-Llewelyn is also director to the two major estates that own land locally, namely Penllegaer Investments Ltd and Parcmawr Investments Ltd. If this scheme were to be accepted, it would not be surprising to find further applications made at locations in the vicinity by this company. It is true that local farmers, Brian Richards, the tenant farmer of Brynrhyd, and Gareth Jenkins of neighbouring Petrehardd, have added some land that they both own, but the main beneficiaries would be the shareholders of Island Green Power and absentee landlords.

Finally, there is the negative impact that this scheme will have on leisure activities and tourism in the area. Residents of Llanedi and surrounding areas enjoy the peace and quiet of the countryside and walk the public footpaths and roads around the village. During and since lockdown there has been a significant increase in the number of people walking and cycling along Heol Troeon Bach, enjoying the beautiful peaceful countryside. If this development goes ahead this would be lost to many generations of families. It's ironic that in the past local farmers have not been allowed to build a house on their own land for their retirement, yet its deemed appropriate to blight that same land with 1000's of solar panels.

Whilst wholly supportive of renewable energy generation, we believe that the Brynrhyd Solar Farm scheme is far too big for the area, especially considering the existence of Clawdd Ddu Solar Farm and the planned Tycroes Solar Farm. This is not an appropriate location for a solar farm and the negative effect on land use, the environment, food production and local residents far outweigh the benefits that would be derived from its electricity generation.

We are very upset about and firmly oppose this development and would be most grateful for whatever support you can provide in objecting to this proposed development.

Yours Sincerely

Tracey Davies