Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley
Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy AHNE
Park Gwledig Loggerheads, Yr Wyddgrug, Sir Ddinbych CH7 5LH

Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB
Loggerheads Country Park, Nr. Mold, Denbighshire CH7 5LH

Ffon | Tel: 01352 810614 | **Ffacs | Fax:** 01352 810644
E-bost | E-mail: clwydianrangeanddeevalley@denbighshire.gov.uk
Gwefan: www.ahnebryniauclwydadyffryndyfrdwy.org.uk/
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Ref P/2025/0496
Dyddiad | Date: 3rd July 2025

Sharon Holman
Economy and Planning
Wrexham County Borough Council
Guildhall
Wrexham
LL11 1AY

Dear Sharon,

PROPOSAL: Installation of Solar Panels (Total number 30)

LOCATION: Hafod Farm, New Brighton, Minera, Wrexham

Thank you for consulting with the Joint Committee on this application. The following observations are submitted on behalf of the Joint Committee.

The proposal involves the erection of 30 ground mounted solar panels within an isolated area of land some distance from Hafod farmhouse and visible from public viewpoints. There is no information as to why this number is required. The application certification also states that none of the land is agricultural so it can only be assumed the solar panels are for domestic purposes. This number of panels appears excessive, approximately three times the number required to serve the entire electricity requirements of a dwelling.

The Industry recognises that approximately 10 to 13 panels are required for a 4 bed dwelling. Whilst the number of panels will depend upon a number of factors, e.g. size of dwelling, annual electricity consumption, efficiency of the panels etc, the extent of development in this instance appears excessive for the needs of the dwelling. A concern, given the sensitivity of the site and the national significance of the landscape.

It would effectively constitute a change of use to a small solar farm which are routinely resisted within the AONB. To allow this form of development would set a dangerous precedent as the protection and conservation of the landscape should take precedence in this location.

The Joint Committee would therefore strongly object to this proposal and the applicant should consider significantly reducing the number of panels and utilising the existing roof space available as a starting point. This could be supplemented by a small number of ground mounted panels within or immediately adjoining the existing buildings.

I would be grateful if you could take account of the committee's views when deciding this application.

Yours sincerely,

Dave Williams
AONB Planning Advisor
For the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB Joint Committee

