Tutbury residents have objected to plans for a diesel farm near their homes. They are pictured near the planned site.

Comments (3)
A mini **power** station run on **DIESEL** is to be set up to generate electricity if "green" power fails.

Families are angry about the plan for the “diesel **farm**” with 25 generators. They fear it will cause noise problems and pollution.

It has been proposed for a greenfield site near Tutbury, and residents’ objections are being backed by local councillors.

Planning consultants explained that the diesel farm, off Burton Road, will be an emergency back-up facility to generate electricity for the National Grid to prevent power blackouts as more renewable energy is used, which can be unreliable. Consultants were also keen to correct residents who thought diesel engines would be turned on for a maximum two per cent of the time, when they could run for longer.

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**IN OTHER NEWS:** 'Why Hippodrome and Assembly Rooms should NOT be knocked down' (http://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/derby-city-council-vows-to-save-doomed-city-school-lollipop-staff/story-29825737-detail/story.html)

Greg Finney, 53, of Burton Street, said that the residents found out about the planning application when in the pub.

He said: "It was a big surprise to everyone. It's going to sound like 50 to 100 buses. They could have put it in in the middle of nowhere. We are going to have constant background noise and the hum will be disturbing."

He also raised concerns that new houses being built in Burton Road will be affected by the diesel farm.

Another resident, Niki Watson, a dance teacher, said she was most concerned about the pollution which it will generate.

She said: "We moved from Burton to Tutbury for the country lifestyle. I don't want my children exposed to pollution from the diesel farm."
If approved, the diesel farm would be constructed on this land in Tutbury.

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Tutbury Parish Council has now submitted a list of objections to East Staffordshire Borough Council to fight the application. The letter said: "This development is in an elevated position and will have a visual impact from miles away. It is not evident why a green site has been chosen, rather than an industrial site."
"It will increase air pollution. This will contribute to the effects of climate change due to the emissions and goes against ESBC's commitment to reduce the effects of climate change in their Climate Change Strategy. The proposed site is within 1km of the nearby primary school. The children would be exposed to the pollution particulates and nitrogen oxide emissions."

IN OTHER NEWS: iPro stadium evacuated after emergency alert (http://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/graham-penny-auctions-evacuated/story-29825917-detail/story.html)

Planning consultant Alison Leeder explained that the diesel farm would only be used for two per cent of the time, the equivalent of 50 hours a year. It will also only be used for 55 minutes at a time and will have noise reducing generators. There will also be a three-metre soundproofing wall constructed around the generators.

She said: "These are designed as emergency back-up facilities which will serve the local area and to prevent blackouts. As a result of coal power stations being closed down and an increase in using renewable energy in electricity systems, blackouts are happening more and more.

"No-one has come up with a low-carbon solution which can be turned on at peak times so the diesel farm will be turned on when there is a need for it.

This diesel farm will only be switched on very rarely. A lot of people imagine HGVs in a field constantly running.

No-one wants an electricity structure near their house, but the diesel farm will be as far from properties as we can get it."

IN OTHER NEWS: Derby County's Moor Farm extension given final go-ahead (http://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/derby-county-s-moor-farm-extension-given-final-go-ahead/story-29825635-detail/story.html)