

Planning and Infrastructure Bill

AMENDMENTS TO BE MOVED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

[Supplementary to the Second Marshalled List]

After Clause 28

BARONESS COFFEY

After Clause 28, insert the following new Clause—

“Permission for energy substations on higher quality agricultural land

No permission may be granted for the building or installation of provision for energy substations where development would involve building on agricultural land at grade 1, 2 or 3 without the explicit consent of the landowner.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to prevent high and good quality agricultural land being displaced for energy substations.

BARONESS COFFEY

After Clause 28, insert the following new Clause—

“Electricity infrastructure: consent

Consent may only be granted for any electricity infrastructure, including generation, transmission through interconnectors, and any associated infrastructure including substations, within a 50 square mile area where the cumulative capacity is less than 10% of the country’s total electricity capacity.”

After Clause 106

BARONESS HODGSON OF ABINGER

After Clause 106, insert the following new Clause —

“Land banking: prevention

- (1) Any developer or company seeking to buy or lease land from a landowner for the purpose of development must declare to the landowner whether they already hold planning permission for similar developments within ten miles of the land being purchased or leased.
- (2) If any such land declared under subsection (1) has been held for over one year without development commencing, any planning permission for the land to be purchased or leased under subsection (1) may not be approved.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to prevent “land banking” – the practice of purchasing undeveloped land and holding it for future development or resale, rather than immediately building on it.

BARONESS HODGSON OF ABINGER

After Clause 106, insert the following new Clause —

“Land purchasing: duty to declare other approaches to purchase or lease land

- (1) Any developer or company approaching a landowner to buy or lease land for the purpose of development must declare whether they are also approaching other owners of land in the vicinity to buy or lease land for the purpose of development.
- (2) The declaration required under subsection (1) must include whether the combined amount of land intended to be purchased or leased will be submitted for application as a nationally significant infrastructure project as set out in Part 3 of the Planning Act 2008.
- (3) In subsection (1), “in the vicinity” means any land immediately adjoining or within ten miles of the land intended to be leased or purchased.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to ensure that any landowner being approached is aware of whether it is just their land that is the subject of purchase/leasing or whether there are others being approached so that the total sum of the land obtained may result in application for designation as a nationally significant infrastructure project.

Clause 55

LORD RANDALL OF UXBRIDGE

Clause 55, page 92, line 6, leave out “overall” and insert “evidence-based”

LORD RANDALL OF UXBRIDGE

Clause 55, page 92, line 16, leave out “overall” and insert “evidence-based”

After Clause 59

LORD RANDALL OF UXBRIDGE

After Clause 59, insert the following new Clause –

“Baseline biodiversity survey of draft EDP area

- (1) When preparing a draft EDP, Natural England must undertake a baseline survey of the area to assess and measure the existing biodiversity in that area.
- (2) The Secretary of State must take the results of the survey under subsection (1) into account when assessing whether an EDP passes the overall improvement test under section 60(4).”

Clause 60

LORD RANDALL OF UXBRIDGE

Clause 60, page 96, line 2, leave out “overall” and insert “evidence-based”

LORD RANDALL OF UXBRIDGE

Clause 60, page 96, line 3, leave out “overall” and insert “evidence-based”

LORD RANDALL OF UXBRIDGE

Clause 60, page 96, line 4, leave out “are likely to be sufficient” and insert “have been scientifically proven”

LORD RANDALL OF UXBRIDGE

Clause 60, page 96, line 6, at end insert –

- “(4A) The Secretary of State must consult the bodies listed in section 59(1) to determine whether there is sufficient scientific evidence for an EDP to pass the evidence-based improvement test.”

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