

# Object to Proposal

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## Comment:

As a local resident, I have objected to the plans before and will do so again. Looking at the so called new proposal I am stunned of the size of the installation. Previously, photo montages produced by The Lensbury (I believe so) which have been shown at past meetings, were said to be as not to scale and over-proportioned. Now look at the pictures prepared by Ham Hydro! The proposed building seems to be much bigger. I fail to see how a structure of this proportion could possibly not interfere with the natural flooding of the surrounding areas causing the water flood higher & further upstream which in turn could cause damage to local residential & commercial properties.

I am all for renewable energy, hydro power being one of them, but not this type and design. And not in a flood plain that has experienced some severe flooding just recently with so many residents and businesses affected. Any obstruction to the flow of water should be objected as it increases the risk of flooding. Apparently the Environment Agency has been consulted: look at the schemes of the EA they made the impacts of flooding worse in many areas (see Windsor and recent flood in SW). Do we really want this in this residential area? I would even go that far that I will hold the council liable to any future flood damage we will experience if this monstrosity will be built.

We do not need to be in the record books as being among the largest community-run river hydro scheme in Europe? (Zac Goldsmith). According to Zac, this pioneering scheme will generate local employment for how many people? 1 or 2? To me, there are too many unknown factors: let them try it somewhere else and if it proves to be foolproof come and we discuss it again.

Some ask to see the bigger picture regarding fossil fuel consumption and CO2 emissions: where is the bigger picture? Estimated energy generation for 500 to 600 homes compared to 10,000s in this residential area (less than 1%). At the same time there will be an increase of the flood risk for these homes with this obstruction to the flow of water.

And as most schemes have shown: estimates don't meet the reality: costs, noise levels and impacts on the environment are often underestimated while benefits are mostly overrated.

And then there is the fact that it will spoil a pretty part of the river enjoyed by many; it is noisy and makes very little power for the energy that will have been put into building it. Please don't let this go ahead!