

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 09 August 2022 08:57  
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Berden Hall Farm (Pelham Solar)

Dear Planning Team,

Application number on S62A/22/0006 (and UTT/22/2046/PINS)

My husband and I live in [REDACTED] at the following address:

Mr and Mrs I McConnell  
[REDACTED]

We are writing to strongly object to the application to construct a 177 acre solar farm and infrastructure comprising ground mounted solar arrays together with (among other things) battery storage, inverter cabins, a substation, fencing on land at Bergen Hall Farm.

The reasons for my objection are as follows:

In accordance with Uttlesford's Policy ENV15 that states there should not adversely impact on i) the character of sensitive landscapes ii) nature conservation interests or iii) residential and recreational interests.

Our objection includes an objection on all three grounds of Uttlesford's ENV15 policy:

1. Loss of biodiversity and landscape - this is an area where there are historic and listed houses and buildings. The construction of a large solar farm is against the principle outlines in the first criteria of the policy ENV15. Also we frequently see hares all year round and deer and owls and badgers. The land is sloping and even with the use of landscaping and fencing the large solar farm would have a major visual impact on the local area. Also the use of herbicides, cutting down hedgerows and trees which will shade solar panels will contribute to the loss of biodiversity and adversely impact nature conservation interests.

We are keen walkers and use the network of local footpaths in the area and the solar farm would contribute to the loss of residential and recreational amenities.

2. Loss of prime farmland when 80% of UK food is imported. Keeping prime farmland in use for food production is of national strategic importance. We should not be giving such farmland over to industrial activities. There are better places to install solar panels such as roofs and closed landfill sites and above paved areas such as car parks.

Yours sincerely  
Mr and Mrs RIW McConnell