

From: Simon Sporborg [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 August 2022 08:40
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Berden Hall Farm (Pelham Solar)

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

I am writing to object to the proposal by Statera to construct a solar farm on 177 acres of land at Berden Hall Farm.

My name is Simon Sporborg
[REDACTED]

The reason for my objection is as follows:

We all believe in investing in green energy. That said I am completely against solar development on farmland. Putting solar on new builds, industrial and brownfield sites is fine despite not being that effective given it is dark for 40% of the year and the technology is not that good. Putting solar on farmland is utter madness as we need to secure our food production rather than buying it in from overseas which is expensive and bad for our carbon footprint. I am against solar on farmland anywhere but particularly in this beautiful part of the country.

More importantly it is against government policy as they understand that prime farmland should not be wasted on this. The Government clearly states *"Where high-quality agricultural land is involved, this would need to be justified by the most compelling evidence. We have been clear that the need for renewable energy does not automatically override environmental protections and the planning concerns of local communities, and that the views of local communities should be listened to"*. This is prime agricultural land.