

The Planning Inspectorate,
Major Casework Team,
Room 3J Kite Wing,
Temple Quay House,
2 The Square,
Bristol,
BS1 6PN

Dear Sir/Madam

OBJECTION to Berden Hall Solar Farm
Section 62A Planning Application: S62A/22/0006 and UTT/22/2046/PINS (Uttlesford)

I am writing to object to the application to construct a solar farm comprising ground mounted solar arrays plus inverter cabins, a substation, fencing and CCTV cameras on land near Ginns Road Berden because solar panels belong on the roofs of buildings – we should not sacrifice productive land for an industrial development.

The Planning Guidance issued by the Government in relation to renewable energy says that developers should focus large scale solar farms on previously developed and non-agricultural land which it is not of high environmental value.

The former Department of Energy and Climate Change estimated that there were 250,000 hectares of south facing commercial roof-space in the UK. Why use precious high grade farmland? There is no evidence that Statera has considered the use of rooftops (for example, those at Stansted airport). Clearly, Stansted is not worried about issues of glint and glare because they have applied for planning permission to build their own solar farm. New technologies mean that pencil thin roof top panels are now available so arguments that the roofs were not built to withstand these sorts of loads are no longer credible.

Both Uttlesford and East Herts should make a major contribution to carbon reduction by introducing policies requiring new developments to have solar panels on their roofs, heat pumps or district heating systems.

Yours

[Redacted Name]

Print Name

..... 17.8.22

Date

[Redacted Address]

Address

cc Laurence Ackrill, Planning Department, Uttlesford District Council, Council Offices,
London Road, Saffron Walden, CB11 4ER