

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 wish to object to the application to construct a solar farm comprising ground mounted solar panels together with inverter cabins, a substation, fencing and CCTV cameras on land at Ginn's Road, Berden on the grounds that this development will result in the unnecessary loss of agricultural land.

Staterra have confirmed that the majority of the site for the proposed development is high quality (Grade 2 and 3a) farming land. National planning guidance indicates that development should not be allowed on high quality land of this sort. Similarly, the Building Research Establishment Planning Guidance for the Development of Large Scale Ground Mounted Solar PV Systems specifically states that "the best quality land should be used for agricultural purposes".

The Government recognises the importance of reserving the best land for growing food and it is not acceptable for local planning authorities to allow this land to be taken out of food production for the purpose of providing energy. It is wasteful and unnecessary when many other non-productive opportunities (such as putting solar on roofs and carparks) exist for solar energy operations.

Staterra should site their developments in other areas of the country where land is less productive. Better still, concentrate on brownfield sites.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature area]

25/8
25/8

Print Name

Date

[Redacted address area]

Address

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