



The Planning Inspectorate
Major Casework Team
Room 3J Kite Wing
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Bristol
BS1 6PN

Dear Planning Inspector,

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

My name is Freya Rathmill, my fiancé's family live in Berden, and I would like to explain my reasons for objecting to the proposed solar farm referenced above.

I am 20 years old and currently studying for a medical sciences degree at the University of Manchester. I am passionate about the countryside, nature and the environment. My ambition one day is to follow a career in developing eco-friendly affordable housing. I am pro-renewable energy, but only when it is the right kind in the right place.

I have read a lot of the objection letters already on PINS's website relating to the proposals and I have noticed that there is very little about the impact the solar farm will have on wildlife. I have walked the footpaths in these fields on many occasions and seen all kinds of creatures and farmland birds, from bats in the trees next to Berden Hall, tawny owls, green woodpeckers, hares, deer and badgers. I have also seen marbled white butterflies and blue butterflies, and large numbers of speckled woods, brimstones, peacocks, red admirals, small skippers and ringlets.

I realise that butterflies may do well if the solar farm is built, but they are already present in good numbers thanks to wide field margins, whereas the deer, badgers and other fauna will be impacted badly by the development. In addition, I have seen skylarks in these fields all summer long, and I am certain that they will not survive the installation of 100,000 solar panels. The developers themselves admit their nesting sites will be destroyed.

In all the discussions of productive farmland, renewable energy and footpaths, few people are sticking up for the wildlife that was here long before humans settled the land. My generation will not forgive those currently in power if they further destroy the habitats of these cherished animals and birds.

Yours faithfully,

Freya Rathmill