

From: Gill HORN [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 September 2022 14:11
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 Gill Horn
[REDACTED]

The reason for my objection is as follows:

The thought of such a development alongside what already exists is upsetting beyond belief for myself and my neighbours in this idyllic part of the English countryside.

Spoiling the countryside alone is only a small part of the bigger picture of what would occur should this horrific application be accepted. Here are my main concerns: -

1. We are facing a world food crisis. Eighty-seven percent of life forms on this planet – microbes, worms, insects, birds, animals, human beings, plants, trees and every other vegetation on the planet is sustained by an average of thirty-nine inches of topsoil. This is in grave danger right now. In the last forty years, forty percent of the world's topsoil has been lost. The United Nations says we have soil left only for approximately eighty to hundred harvests, which means another forty-five to sixty years of agriculture. After that, we will not have the soil to produce food. You can imagine the suffering that we will unfold in the world. Every arable field within the United Kingdom requires to be kept that way and the farmers, as announced by Boris Johnson only on 13 June 2022 regarding the Government's new food strategy. To support and assist farmers to utilise their green space for food production. **Food Security for the UK has to be the number one priority.** We have rewilding strategies ongoing throughout the country to bring back quality land for food production. There can be no argument - this cannot be taken away from our farming community.
2. **What are the three things we need to do to prevent an ecological disaster? The three things are, 'Soil, Soil, and Soil.'**
3. Statera and other such companies should be encouraged to search elsewhere for brownfield sites on industrial barren land and on the industrial buildings themselves together with the thousands of miles of motorway roadside and unsightly areas. To destroy the ecosystem of a beautiful landscape for short term gain, and it will be as alternative far more eco-friendly alternatives will be introduced within a relatively short time frame, makes no sense. By then our beautiful fields containing such biodiversity will have been lost for ever.
4. The immense disturbance to the local life of the villagers should not be underestimated. With no footpaths and narrow lanes, they have no option but to walk, cycle, run and ride along the road. Lorries thundering through from the A120 right into the depth of the villages will create a huge risk to life of the local inhabitants as well as the pollution both of noise and air that will inevitably arise.

5. Choosing to locate such a site in Berden and Stocking Pelham's border is an easy option for Statera to keep their shareholders happy. The cost to them is far less to use land given up by farmers rather than to research and make use of brownfield land. The money in the shareholders' pockets should not be put ahead of the adverse effects as stated above of such an installation.

Once again, please consider the arguments raised and make the right decision for our villages, our county and also our country.