

From: Colin Simpson [REDACTED]

Sent: 16 August 2022 15:01

To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Subject: Your ref : S6A/22/006 Berdon Hall Farm, Ginns Road. Berden.

I am writing to you to object to the proposed construction of a solar farm on 177 acres of high grade farmland re: the above reference. The reasons for my objection is as follows:

Firstly I do not live in this area but I have close family who do and I have been visiting and walking the land in this area for nearly 20 years. I really do think it is irresponsible to consider building a solar farm covering 177 acres on this high grade (2-3a) land. Yes we do have an energy crisis and something has to be done about this but today we also have a food crisis. In all the years I have been visiting this area this land has been used largely for growing cereal crops. There are several options for the generation of electricity but there are no other options for growing food. We now have a problem with the supply of grain caused by several reasons outside our control and we need to have security of food supply. We can't eat electricity regardless of how green it is considered to be.

Solar is also very inefficient and in the UK solar panels only provide around 11% or 12% efficiency on average, we do not live in Australia or Saudi Arabia after all. Yes we have had two months of fine and sunny weather but in this country it doesn't last for long. Therefore to destroy the food production potential of this land for an inefficient generation system is absurd and irrational.

Also the environmental impact of this proposal on the local residents would be extreme . In effect what is currently a pleasant rural environment would become in essence industrial and is totally unacceptable. The proposed site is largely on rising ground and therefore visual screening would not work and solar farms should be placed on level ground for this reason.

Also the local roads are far too narrow to allow easy movement of the required construction traffic. Many of the local villagers have to commute to work and I can foresee that this would cause considerable disruption. On my frequent journeys to this area I pass several solar and wind farms and these are all located alongside major roads (in my case the A11) and this is not the case here.

This proposal is ill conceived and should not be carried out.

Colin Simpson.
[REDACTED]