

From: David Nicholls [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 August 2022 11:08
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 [David Nicholls]
[REDACTED]

The reason for my objection is as follows:

I have lived 300 metres from the entrance to this site for 50 years. For eleven years I worked for the then Ministry of Agriculture (ADAS) and for the rest of my career for forty years as a self-employed Agronomist and am very familiar with the soils. This land has been farmed at a very high standard in all the years I have known it and is Grade 2 and of the Hanslope series. Most of the site is classified as 'best and most versatile and is of high value for the production of arable crops.

In recent months it has been shown the importance of home production of food and with climate change also showing the difficulties there is no basis in which more land can be taken out of production. Only now are politicians beginning to show the importance on this aspect. The Chairman of the Environment Committee has said that 'solar farms could harm Britain's food security'. There are many areas of the world now suffering droughts, probably due to climate change and if so food production becomes even more important.

I would also like to stress that the construction of this site is very concerning with 20 lorries passing within 10 meters of my front door five days from 8.00am until 8.00pm each day and on Saturdays up until 13.00. Unbearable combined with other farm and industrial traffic and from Little Hadham, where it is shown that the lorries will come off the new bypass on a slip road that doesn't exist.

I am very concerned on the Industrial concentration on this very attractive area of countryside. With the expansion of Harlow North, Sawbridgeworth and Bishops Stortford almost joining the aforementioned towns, the possible solar farm at Albury and Little Hadham this area becomes totally over developed.

I am convinced that no planner or politician could possibly allow this disastrous project to take place. Please put the panels on houses and industrial buildings but please do not make a massive mistake in allowing this to happen.

This proposal is having a severely mental effect on all the people who live around this project, this is a major worry for the future.

David Nicholls