**From:** Tom Armstrong-Mortlock ██████████████████████████
**Sent:** 20 August 2022 23:12
**To:** Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
**Cc:** planning@uttlesford.gov.uk
**Subject:** S62A/22/0006 Berden Hall Farm Ginns Road Berden

Your Ref.: s62A/22/006

Proposal: Development of a ground-mounted solar farm with a generation capacity of up to 49.99MW, together with associated infrastructure and landscaping

Location: Land at Berden Hall Farm Dewes Green Road Berden

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to object to the abovementioned proposed development.

Firstly, I object to the development because it will remove 70 hectares of high-quality agricultural land from food production. As a nation with a growing population it is already worring that we only currently grow 52% of the food we consume – given the risks from the climate crisis and international conflict such as the war in Ukraine we should be aiming to increase, not reduce, this percentage.

Second, I object because of the impact on a local amenity: the many footpaths which run beside, or on, the proposed site. If the development goes ahead, Footpath 25 will run between solar panels and fencing to the west and east, and Footpath 26 will run along fencing and solar panels on all its western side and some of its eastern side. These footpaths are peaceful, enjoy beautiful views, and are rich in birdlife and other wildlife. It would be devastating if they were ruined by a vast solar installation with its associated infrastructure of steel fencing and CCTV cameras.

Thirdly, I understand that we are in an energy crisis as well as an food crIsis however i don't believe that we should waste are farmable land when other options such as solar installation placed on commercial roofs, brownfield sites, new housing stock, retrofitted to existing housing as well as offshore wind are workable solutions. Also as the energy crisis is due to other countries' actions and influence i don't believe that allowing foreign investment in our enegry infastructure is wise.

Yours faithfully,

Tom Armstrong-Mortlock