Good afternoon PINS Planning Inspectorate,

I wish to strongly object to the above Planning Application that is being proposed by Statera. A copy of my letter of objection is below and was sent to the members of the Uttlesford District Council Planning Committee earlier today.

Yours Faithfully, Barry Sullivan



Subject: AGENDA ITEM 6 - PLANNING MEETING 31.8.22 - Planning Application S62A/22/0006 (UTT/22/2046/PINS) LAND AT BERDEN HALL FARM, DEWES GREEN ROAD, BERDEN.

Good Morning Members of the Uttlesford District Council Planning Committee.

Please let me introduce myself. My name is Barry Sullivan and I have been a Berden resident for the past 39 years. Below I will try to outline a few of my own observations about the report submitted to the Planning Committee by the Case Officer, Laurence Ackrill, and provide you with my perspective, not only on this application but the totality of what is being considered for the areas surrounding Berden, Stocking Pelham, and the adjacent residents of this area.

At the Planning Meeting to be held this coming Wednesday, August 31st you will be considering under Agenda Item 6 the above application for a Solar Panel facility to be built on land to the west of Berden, so directly opposite Gawlers and Benskins Close in the village. The 70+ hectare facility consists of over 100,000 solar panels, ten 2.3-metre-high inverter units – think a shipping container size - all surrounded by a 2.5-metre-high perimeter fence. That feels like a significant industrial facility to me, being proposed to be placed a short distance from existing residential properties. Yet the report seems to treat this application in isolation and makes little cross-reference to the fact that there have been several other applications, for not only solar facilities but potentially dangerous battery storage facilities that, when all are taken as a whole, have the potential for surrounding Berden and the adjacent homes with potentially high-risk factory type industrial facilities. Surely there must be consideration given in a much fuller overall Impact Assessment that looks at the totality of the planning applications that are coming to UDC or direct to the PINS Planning Inspectorate? There are or have been proposals for solar facilities at East End Furneux Pelham and Crabb's Green Farm in Stocking Pelham. Who is taking account of the bigger picture here? In that regard we residents need your help please.

One specific in the report which didn't ring quite right to me relates to adequacy of access roads for construction traffic and the number of vehicle movements expected over the six-month construction period. It says the roads are adequate. My observation is that the entry and exit route west and south from the construction site back through Stocking Pelham and Albury down to the A120 at Little Hadham, which is partially a single-track road through The Wash, is unlikely to be suitable to the 650 HGV movements indicated in the report. That suggests to me that this additional HGV traffic is all going through Berden. I'd also observe that I feel that the 650, or a stated average of 2.2 per day, somewhat understates what would really be required to bring 100,000 solar panels, 10 inverter unit, 3400 metres of 2.5m high fencing, cabling, hard landscaping materials and the like. Even at the stated level of 650 HGV movements it feels massively intrusive – as in noise levels, pollution, dust and the like, yet I cannot see you can do all that construction with an average of 2.2 HGV's a day anyway, which would just add to an already bleak outlook from this proposal.

The report comments that the development in not invasive. This facility will be in place for 40 years – that's two generations in my money, nearly as long as I've lived in Berden and that most definitely feels invasive. It is surrounded by 8 feet high security fencing, all 70+ hectares, that feels invasive. It takes away public footpaths that I have been able to walk on for the past 39 years. Isn't that invasive? When you consider all the other applications being made in the local area, isn't that invasive?

I really do feel as a Berden resident of many years, that somewhere along the way somebody needs to be looking after the rurally based residents who are facing the prospect of living in the middle of an industrial estate. I chose to live here with my late wife and young family, away from all the hustle and bustle that a town has. I traded off the benefits they bring to live in the countryside. This planning proposal feels like it is all being taken away from me and the other residents here.

For the avoidance of doubt I wish to register with you my objection to the granting of this application and to ask if there is some way that there could be a more holistic "Master" /Impact Assessment taken of the entirety of the many and various applications being proposed and/or considered for our area.

Yours Faithfully, Barry Sullivan