

From: Ellie Wake [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 August 2022 15:03
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
[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 Ellie Wake
[REDACTED].

The reason for my objection is as follows:

- Uttlesford's Policy ENV15 says that small scale renewable energy development schemes to meet local needs will be supported providing it can be demonstrated that they do not adversely affect i) The character of sensitive landscapes; ii) Nature conservation interests; or iii) Residential and recreational amenity. This is not a "small scale" scheme. The land identified by Statera as the site for Berden Hall solar Farm extends to 177 acres of productive farm land.
- As a local resident I frequently walk along these footpaths which will now be surrounded by solar panels and border by fencing. I do not want to walk along a corridor! The corridors proposed between solar panels will prevent me from seeing the countryside and enjoying the countryside as I currently experience it. The planting adjacent to the existing battery plant adjacent to the Substation at Stocking Pelham demonstrates that hedges do not provide adequate screening.
- Uttlesford's Policy ENV5 also says that development of the best and most versatile agricultural land will only be permitted where opportunities have been assessed for accommodating development on previously developed sites or within existing development limits. Where development of agricultural land is required, developers should seek to use areas of poorer quality except where other sustainability considerations suggest otherwise. As the land identified for development is high-quality agricultural land its use must be justified by the most compelling evidence.
- The local roads are not suitable for such large construction vehicles. It's noted that the construction period will run for 6-months and an average of up to 50 construction workers are forecast to be on site during peak times.
- The Building Research Establishment announced in 2016 there were around half a million acres of rooftops facing in the right direction for solar panels. Why haven't these been considered? For example, why not place solar panels on the rooftops of the huge terminal buildings owned by Stansted airport? Clearly Stansted airport do not think that there is a problem with this because they have just applied for planning permission to put solar panels on their own land (see S62A/22/0000004)
- The Government does not support large scale solar development of this sort. In October 2021 (in the run up to COP 26), the Government published its Net Zero Strategy (Build Back Greener). This Strategy does NOT support the construction of industrial scale solar farms. It's focus on renewable energy is almost entirely on off-shore wind energy with a commitment to generate 40GW of energy

from offshore wind by 2030. This target was first set in 2020 in the Government's 10 point plan for a Green Industrial revolution which said that this quadrupling in offshore wind capacity would generate enough energy to power every home in the country.