

**From:** Georgina Hofer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 August 2022 23:27  
**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: Georgina Hofer  
[REDACTED]

I object to this proposal because this prime agricultural land should not be used for such an inefficient process of creating energy. Government figures show Solar Panels are only 11% effective, and Statera are proposing to put them on prime agricultural land. This land will be irrecoverable for agricultural purposes after the suggested 40 years. This is surely not in line with government policy to protect this land? The unstable situation with war in Ukraine affecting our food imports, is cause to preserve our ability to produce our own food.

Uttlesford's Policy ENV5 says development of the best agricultural land will only be permitted where opportunities have been assessed for accommodating development on previously developed sites or within existing development limits, and that developers should seek to use areas of poorer quality. Statera had admitted (on their website) that they have not considered other locations. There is already a lot of solar farm development in Uttlesford's area so I cannot see why they should give up this precious land for more. They have already provided their share of sustainable energy solutions.

With the climate crisis we need to look after our world with a longer term view, and renewable energy is a must, but putting it on prime land for growing food is short sighted (and lazy). We need solar solutions in the right locations as well as to keep our ability to grow food domestically, not diminish it. Tens of thousands of houses are being built within a few miles of these solar farms, why not put the solar panels on those roofs?

I am also alarmed at the proposal to send 350 HGV's, up to 20 a day, coming and going from the site. That is 40 HGV journeys a day on a narrow road shared by caravans and horseboxes stored at Hixham, Janbor lorries, Pelham farm HGVs plus all the usual farm traffic, supermarket delivery vehicles, cars, domestic oil delivery etc. The application shows photos where the road is wide but not where it is single track and the passing places are too small for a HGV. How are the vehicles going to get past each other? See the photo attached. It will create a lot of delays – especially in Little Hadham where there are parked cars in the road. The map route in the proposal is wrong, and obviously poorly researched (!! ) as they cannot turn from the A120 bypass onto Albury Road but will have to go into Little Hadham and through the village from the traffic lights. Festival traffic recently made the road through Little Hadham impassable at times. A lot of pedestrians use Albury Road where we live to link to footpaths, as well as dog walkers and horse riders. The road will just become way too dangerous for them and all the cyclists too. Passing the pre school at Stocking Pelham is going to be extremely dangerous too, as mothers unload toddlers from cars on a narrow road on a bend.

Renewable energy is a must, but not at the expense of the ability to grow our own food. This proposal is simply in the wrong place and the wrong decision for ours and future generations to live with.



**Georgina Hofer**