

**From:** katharine reynolds [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** 29 August 2022 17:37  
**To:** Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Lackrill@uttlesford.gov.uk  
**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 Katharine Reynolds  
[REDACTED]

**The reason for my objection is as follows:**

The size of the development simply too big and out of proportion with the surrounding area and villages:

- 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 area covered by solar panels is even larger than the area which was contemplated at the time of the application to Uttlesford District Council for a Screening Opinion.
- The land identified by Statera as the site for Berden Hall solar Farm extends to 177 acres of productive farm land.
- The visual impact of such a huge solar farm would fundamentally change the character of the area.
- The scheme will not contribute to the energy needs of local residents.

**I am keen walker – I don't want to walk through a solar farm**

- There are multiple local Public Rights of Ways within and immediately adjacent to the site.
- I often walk along footpath 25 which runs along the top of the site from Park Green to Crabb's Green and eventually connects with Ginns Road. This path forms part of a popular walk published by the 100 Parishes organisation  
[REDACTED] f If the solar farm is built, the path will run between solar panels and fencing to the west and the east.
- I often walk from the top of the site (near Park Green Common) along footpath 26. This path follows the hill all the way down to the track that runs parallel to Ginns Road (and to the South of Berden Hall). If the solar farm is developed it will mean walking this path with a fence and solar panels on all of its western side and some of its eastern side. The solar farm will be visible from this footpath at all times of year.

- 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 planting adjacent to the existing battery plant adjacent to the Substation at Stocking Pelham demonstrates that hedges do not provide adequate screening.
- The corridors proposed between solar panels will prevent me from seeing the countryside and enjoying the countryside as I currently experience it.

**• The Noise associated with the development has not been fully considered and is not acceptable**

- Statera claim that the noise generated from the development will be minimal. However, the inverters will be noisy and will add to the noise from the substation and the current battery plant. This will be even worse if the Crabb's Green battery is built.
- When there are periods of exceptionally hot weather, it is necessary to install temporary cooling equipment to prevent overheating of inverters. This is extremely noisy. Statera make no mention of this equipment.

**There has been no meaningful consultation with local residents**

- The only consultation with residents has been in the form of an "exhibition" held for a single afternoon in March. The MAJORITY of residents who will be affected by the development were not invited to the exhibition. A review of the mailing list used by Statera demonstrates that only 71 properties in Stocking and Berden were contacted (of which 22 were in Stocking Pelham and just 49 were in Berden). Stocking Pelham has approximately 70 properties and Berden has very close to 200.
- Statera claim that they have made changes in response to feedback from residents. This is nonsense. The overwhelming feedback was that the development should not go ahead. This has been ignored.

Yours sincerely  
Katharine Reynolds