

From: Marc Tischkowitz [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 August 2022 15:10
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Cc: [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 Professor Marc Tischkowitz [REDACTED]]
[REDACTED]].

The reason for my objection is as follows:

We have a climate emergency and I absolutely don't question the need for more renewable energy, but for our national security we also need to be self-sufficient in food production and using prime agricultural land for this purpose is like robbing Peter to pay Paul. Instead we should be focussing on off-shore wind and tidal. Our coastline is longer than India's and there is so much more we can be doing with it.

Statera have not demonstrated that the use of high quality agricultural land is necessary

- Eddie Hughes MP, a Minister at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government confirmed in June 2021 that there the statements made by Eric Pickles in 2015 are still applicable. Therefore, Uttlesford must consider whether the use of agricultural land has been shown to be necessary.
- 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.

Yours sincerely

Professor Marc Tischkowitz