

Planning Department,
East Herts District Council,
Wallfields,
Peggs Lane,
Hertford,
SG14 8EQ

(FAO Fiona Dunning)

Dear Madam

OBJECTION to Crabb's Lane BESS

Application numbers 3/22/0806/FUL (East Herts) and UTF/22/1203/FUL (Uttlesford)

I am writing to object to the application by Renewable Connections for permission to build and operate a Battery Energy Storage System at land off Crabb's Lane Stocking Pelham because I am concerned about the safety of the proposed BESS.

A fire at a BESS in Merseyside in September 2020 took 59 hours to extinguish. Debris from the fire was blasted up to 75ft away. Imagine the consequences if there was a fire at the existing BESS – the Crabb's Lane BESS would very likely catch on fire as well!

It is clear from the report prepared by the Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service (MFRS) that the key mitigation measure used in dealing with this incident was the nearby access to mains water and water hydrants. However, even this was insufficient. The report says that "As near-by hydrant fed water supplies were inadequate to meet the needs of the ongoing firefighting, a High Volume Pump (HVP) was requested via National Resilience Fire Control for the purposes of augmenting water supplies.

As far as I am aware, there are no fire hydrants on the site. I am told that 1,900 litres of water per minute would need to be available for a minimum of 2 hours to deal with a fire. I understand that there is under half of this available in the Pelhams.

BESS should not be constructed without a full understanding of the risks and adequate measures in place to address those risks.

Yours,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Signature] 06/08/22

Print Name

Date

[Redacted Block]

cc Planning Department, Uttlesford District Council, Council Offices, London Road,

[Redacted Block]