

Alistair Gibbons,

4 September 2022

The Planning Inspectorate
Major Casework Team
Room 3J Kite Wing
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

cc Laurence Ackrill
Planning Department
Uttlesford District Council
Council Offices
London Road
Saffron Walden
CB11 4ER

Objection to Berden Hall Solar Farm Section 62A Planning Application: S62A/22/0006 and UTT/22/2046/PINS (Uttlesford)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to object to the application to install a solar installation on 177 acres of farmland outside the village of Berden. My fiancée's family live in Berden and I know the area very well from my visits to stay there.

I fully support investment in new renewable sources of energy, but I am very concerned about the use of productive farmland for these developments. The continually developing situation in Ukraine, as well as the closing of most international shipping routes during the Covid pandemic highlight how we cannot always be dependent on international food sources to feed ourselves.

Additionally, I feel that developing on land such as this- traditional British farmland and countryside- could potentially give ammunition to people who wrongly oppose development of renewable energy sources, by giving them an example of a rural village "paved over" as it were.

I hope an amical agreement can be reached, and if this development doesn't happen the funding is nonetheless used in other renewable energy projects (e.g. offshore wind).

Yours sincerely,
Alistair Gibbons