

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

RECEIVED
31 AUG 2022
MAJOR CASEWORK

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I am writing to object to the application to construct a solar farm comprising ground mounted solar arrays together with inverter cabins, a substation, fencing and CCTV cameras on land to the South of Ginns Road, Berden because of the huge amount of local opposition to this scheme – which Statera have ignored.

The Planning Guidance on Renewables and Statera Energy refers to a speech made by Greg Barker (then Minister for Energy and Climate Change) to the solar PV industry at the Large Scale Solar Conference. In that speech Mr Barker encouraged solar development. However, he also made the following comments:

"not at any cost... not in any place... not if it rides roughshod over the views of local communities.

As we take solar to the next level, we must be thoughtful, sensitive to public opinion, and mindful of the wider environmental and visual impacts".

BRE also issue "Community engagement good practice guidance for solar farms" in which they state that;

"It is very important to act on feedback gathered from stakeholder meetings and events and to follow up on engagement work. Some of the ways in which feedback can be addressed might include: ... not going ahead with the project"

Statera's only attempt at community engagement was to hold a public meeting in March. The overwhelming feedback from that meeting was unqualified opposition to the proposed scheme. How can Statera now claim that they have "listened to the views expressed by the local community"? This development has no local support and should not go ahead.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted signature]

21st August 2022

[Redacted address]

London Road, Saffron Walden, CB11 4ER