

From: Josephine van Riemsdijk [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 February 2023 11:25
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>;
[REDACTED]
Subject: Application number on S62A/22/0006 (and UTT/22/2046/PINS)

Dear Sirs

Further to my initial response sent to you on 30th August 2022, I would like to add some additional comments which are subsequent to the Environmental Impact Assessment report from the applicant. All my comments add to my **OBJECTION** to this application for a solar farm that will connect the two separate villages of Berden and Stocking Pelham and run right up to the county line between Uttlesford and East Herts.

In the Environmental Impact Assessment - the applicant makes reference to the Berways meadow and its significance to Biodiversity and Ecology. I own the Berways meadow along with my husband and I would like to make it known that no-one has visited the Berways meadow to take into account any of the species or to look at this as a site of ecological importance (it forms part of our garden / outside area). Therefore, we must consider that the applicant will not have visited any of the sites they detail of being of importance and so how they are able to comment on the impact this application will have is to be taken with caution as it has clearly been a desktop study.

In the Environmental Impact Assessment it states that along the access road there is thick hedging along the road on both sides. This is not true. The side of the road closest to the proposed site has some low level brambles near the gates but as you go further up the road it becomes very open. The other side of the road has patchy hedging and the site will be clearly seen from Berways meadow and my property during the winter months when the leaf cover is not there.

The applicant has given no consideration to properties on the East Herts side of the county line. The only property that has been mentioned is Crabbs Green Farm. Dellows - sits at the end of the access road. This property has not even been mentioned in any reports - the people living at this address will be significantly affected by the solar farm should it be given permission as it will literally be at the end of their driveway. Berways will also be significantly affected by noise from the site when under construction and also when it is commissioned.

During September 2022 - Environmental Health did some low frequency noise testing at my property. The low and frequent hum coming from the Statera battery causes a great deal of nuisance to myself and several near neighbours. It can be particularly bad at night and on occasion wake us up! It sometimes makes you feel you are losing your mind! The low frequency readings range between 100 and 200 Hz. The invertors for the solar farm are not silent. They will add significant additional low frequency noise - which will make living at nearby properties unbearable. I attach the information sent to me by Herts EH to this email. Both Herts EH and Uttlesford EH have agreed to send subsequent reports to you detailing these findings. I would implore you to please reject this planning application on the basis that the noise will be unbearable for near neighbours. According to Finch Consulting the low

frequency noise range of 100 Hz to 200Hz is problematic. Please see this link for further info on this. It is also worth mentioning that the demographic for Stocking Pelham and Berden is primarily people in their middle age upwards!

[REDACTED]

[Low-Frequency Noise Disturbance | Finch Consulting](#)

This article discusses low-frequency noise, and how it has been recognised as an environmental noise problem, particularly to sensitive people in their homes.

[REDACTED]

To: Jo van Riemsdijk [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Our Ref: 22/00027/CN11 - Depiction of Results

Good Afternoon Jo,

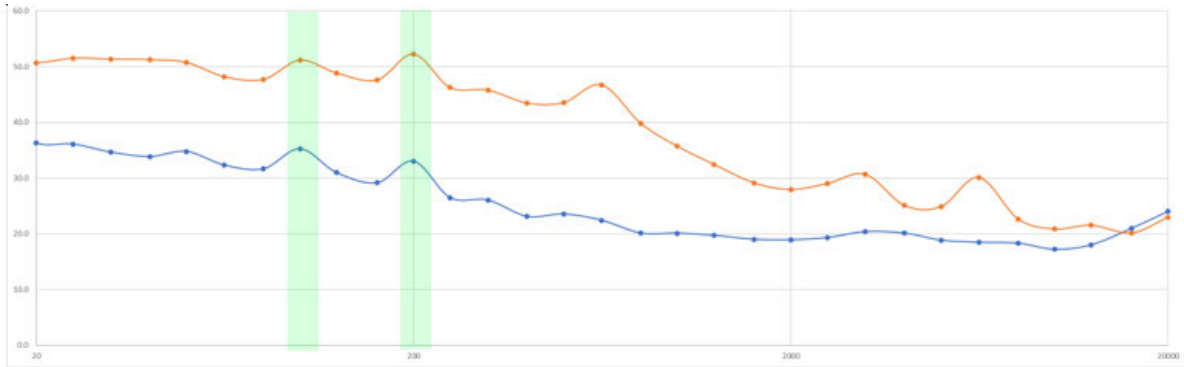
My apologies, I am unsure why but this was sat in my outbox.

I have attempted to present the data taken from both your property and near the battery storage site in the most helpful way possible. Below is a graph showing the average of the measurements taken – the blue line shows the average reading taken at your property and the orange shows that taken at the battery storage site. I do not wish to teach you to suck eggs, but want to make things as clear as possible in my explanation:

The horizontal axis shows the frequency (measured in Hz, also referred to as pitch) and the vertical axis shows the sound energy that exists in each frequency band, (measured in dB/decibels) represented by each dot on the graph. An example of reading this graph is that the recordings taken at your property had an average amount of sound energy of approximately 35dB within the 100Hz frequency band. This is not a recommendation that you have them do so, but should anyone from an acoustics background view this graph it may be helpful for them to know that it is displayed in 1/3 octaves.

I have highlighted in **GREEN** the 100Hz and 200Hz frequency bands which are those that are clearly identifiable both at the battery storage site and your property, this is what we believe is the audible component that you are experiencing at your property.

Please let me know if you have any further questions regarding this. I'm happy to discuss it either over the phone or by email, whichever you prefer.



Kind regards,



James Allen
 Senior Technical Officer
 (Environment) -
 Environmental Health
 East Herts District Council

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The fact that this solar farm would be in such a rural area gives me cause to worry about crime. There have been several well covered thefts from solar farms in the UK. The deer fencing proposed for this application will not prevent anyone with criminal intent to get access to the site. Marsh Commercial insurers have stated that there are a decreasing number of companies willing to insure sites and no-one will be allowed to just use deer fencing - even small domestic sites with a few ground mounted panels. There will be a requirement for 24/7 CCTV monitoring and also locked gates. I have a concern that they will be targeted with thefts and then will want to use much more industrial pallisade fencing. This should surely form part of their application as a worst case scenario? To use such intrusive fencing now or in the future will mean the area is a great deal more industrialised than the application currently suggests. This development would bring NO positives to our area at all, it would be detrimental to us in so many ways, particularly neighbours in East Herts. We have not been offered any village fund as Berden has been. Our way of life, our quality of life will be severely diminished if this application is approved.

The comments in this letter are additional comments to those made by me on 30th August 2022.

I would also very much like the opportunity to be able to speak at the hearing.

Kind regards

Jo van Riemsdijk