

From: Sarah Wright

Sent: 09 February 2023 09:25

To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk> Subject: 62A/22/0006
Berden Hall Solar Farm, Ginns Road, Berden CM23 1AY

Dear Planning Inspector,

I am writing in **addition** to my previous objection in September 2022.

Firstly I request the right to speak at any hearing / consultation on this application.

Statera's Environmental Statement falls short of proper reassurance that the Skylarks, a Red List Species living on the proposed site, will be safe. We are fast losing species, rigorous and proper protection must be absolutely assured.

The impact on rural views and landscape will be such that the many Public Rights of Way running through the proposed site will no longer be of their essential rural nature. Statera have not properly demonstrated that the impact will be properly mitigated. They failed to comply with planning conditions previously with the current Lithium-ion battery installation, not providing the hedging that was agreed. We cannot be sure that Statera will comply with any conditions imposed by planning.

Essex Police have stated that GMS installations are a "crime magnet". Statera's proposal of deer fencing is unlikely to offer the kind of protection to their investment that an insurer would require. How can we be sure that Statera will not change the fencing specification after application, further industrialising what is currently beautiful rural countryside.

I do not believe that our growing population can afford to lose Best and Most Versatile land for food production to inefficient ground mounted solar installations, especially when there are better alternatives. The UK Warehouse Association have lobbied the government requesting retro fitting the many thousands of hectares of south facing industrial roofing that exist. New and lighter technology that is much cheaper than it used to be makes this a very real and sensible alternative. Intelligently we can have solar energy and keep our precious BMV resource. Some developers remove top soil, this will destroy any possibility of returning the land to food production.

This application is in the wrong place, it offers nothing to local residents. It will detrimentally impact our environment, our diverse wildlife and permanently damage some of the most productive farmland in the UK. Statera have not essentially proven that they have sought a better site. The proximity to a GRID is not a reason to allow planning permission for a solar installation.

We need renewable energy, we need food more. Intelligently we can have both. At this time of great change and insecurity we need to make the very best decisions for our future. This application offers far more negative impacts than it does positive attributes.

Best regards

Sarah Wright