

**From:** Melanie Adams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 04 February 2023 14:43  
**To:** Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Objection to Solar Farm on Land East of Pelham Substation, Maggots End Manuden, Application number: S62A/2022/0011

I am writing to object to the application to construct a solar farm comprising ground mounted solar arrays together with (among other things) battery storage, inverter cabins, a substation, fencing and CCTV cameras on land near Pelham Substation Maggots End Road Manuden CM23 1BJ.

My name is Brenda Broadbent and I live at [REDACTED]

I am concerned about the impact of the development on the rich variety of wildlife on the site. The site that has been earmarked for development is rich in ecology. Page 36 of the Ecological Impact Assessment concludes that it is possible that Greater crested newts are present on the site, given that their presence has been detected in five ponds in close proximity to the site. A number of red listed bird species that have also been noted as present on the site; these include skylarks, yellow hammers, yellow wagtails, linnets and song thrushes. A study carried out in 2016 estimated that utility-scale solar farms in the USA killed nearly 140,000 birds annually. One yearly theory suggests that birds mistake the glare from solar panels for the surface of a lake and swoop in for a landing, with deadly results. The Ecological Impact Assessment notes that hares are seen on the site but concludes that they are unlikely to be affected! How can this be true when their habitat is being ruined and the site is being surrounded by a two metre high perimeter fence. I frequently see Roe deer wandering across the site because they shelter in Battles Wood. These beautiful creatures will be lost. We have lived with these beautiful animals near our home for over forty-five years and the deliberate destruction of their habitat fills me with more sadness than I can put into words.

A further objection I have to the planned development is that the local roads (on which we live!) are not suitable for such large construction vehicles that will be needed to bring this awful development into being. Uttlesford Policy ENV15 states that development will only be permitted in locations where the local road network is capable of handling any additional traffic generated by the proposal. Low Carbon estimate that there will be a total of 922 vehicle movements during construction. This includes a total of around 749 deliveries by 15.4 metre articulated vehicles and of 59 deliveries by 10-metre-long rigid HGVs. The substation measuring up to five metres long and three metres wide will be delivered to the site by a 15.4 metre articulated vehicle. The road between Manuden and Clavering is a small country road. It is barely wide enough to accommodate two regular cars. Cars currently need to stop in order to allow tractors to pass. It is completely unsuitable for articulated lorries or large HGVs. In addition, the access point off the road is simply not suitable for vehicles of this size. All vehicles will pass directly in front of the primary school in Clavering, putting the safety of primary school children at risk. Another of the access routes will also pass directly in front of a secondary school (Joyce Franklin Academy) and I am concerned about the safety of the secondary school children. In addition, lorries cannot possibly get under the low bridge in Newport! Following construction, permanent access to the site will be along the protected lane in which I live. This is not wide enough for two cars! There are few passing places and many blind bends. The positioning of this site is a disaster in terms of access and will put us all at risk should this shocking development go ahead.

We are all desperately hoping that you withdraw your application. Please, please reconsider this horrifying proposal.

Yours sincerely,  
Brenda Broadbent