

**From:** Debbie Thomson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 February 2023 15:04  
**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 Deborah Thomson and I live at [REDACTED]

I have a number of concerns regarding this application but at the top of the list is that this is not appropriate use for productive farm land. At a time when we are being encouraged to make our diets richer in plant-based foods, this “best and most versatile” agricultural land should not be considered for siting solar panels. As we aim to grow more of our own food it is important to keep and nurture this farmland.

While the amount of prime agricultural land decreases the amount of industrial land will increase which is wholly inappropriate for an area rich in biodiversity, home to listed buildings and scheduled monuments. This does not seem compatible with Uttlesford’s policy S7 which says that the countryside will be protected for its own sake.

The area is home to a number of red listed bird species, hares and deer and I see that the Ecological Impact Assessment concludes that it is possible that greater crested newts are present on the site. The promise of enhancement measures to mitigate any potential loss of wildlife is absurd – it is good at the moment so let’s not destroy it.

I request that you take these objections into consideration.

Regards

Deborah Thomson