

From: Kirsty [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 February 2023 19:27
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: Objection to the Solar farm on land east of Pelham Substation, Maggots End, Manuden - Application number: S62A/2022/0011

Dear Sirs,

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 Kirsty Gunn and I live at [REDACTED]

I have many reasons for objecting to this proposal, but I will mention a few of them below.

1. Building a solar farm on agricultural land is inappropriate.

We are continually being reminded of the need to reduce our carbon footprint to tackle climate change. Building a solar farm in the proposed position will not only destroy beautiful and fertile agricultural land, but will also reduce the food production, leading us to presumably import more from overseas. It appears to me that importing more food from abroad will increase, NOT decrease our carbon footprint, thus negating any benefit from the proposed development. This is entirely leaving aside that the panels for the development will be produced in China, using coal fired power stations and rare earth metals which are mined using child labour. Based on this information, these developments are neither green, nor ethical.

I am a keen runner and use the footpaths for exercise and recreation. This development would destroy the enjoyment and wellbeing for me and numerous other residents, impacting on our mental health at a time of financial and other strain, wherein mental health is a huge consideration for the country and the economy.

2. The local roads are entirely unsuitable for the vehicles which will be used to deliver the materials required.

Our local roads are entirely unsuited to HGVs and other construction traffic. The roads are already in a state of partial disrepair, and we flag potholes and weekly, without improving the overall quality noticeably. The condition will be negatively affected by such traffic and make them unsafe for all road users. The construction traffic will pass close to two schools (Clavering Primary School and Joyce Franklin Academy). As a teacher, I am concerned about the safety of children and families crossed broadband cannot feel comfortable and the increased traffic and corresponding increase in accident risk.

The changes to the proposed development make little or no change to the concerns residents have about this industrial site being constructed on farmland. All residents to whom I have spoken are entirely opposed to the scheme and we would like brownfield sites to be explored as alternatives.

There are NO material changes to the proposal and NOTHING which could make residents alter their opinion that this planning application should be rejected in its entirety as before.

For these, and many other reasons, I must therefore register very strong objections to every aspect of this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Kirsty Gunn