By email to: section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The Planning Inspectorate,

Major Casework Team,

Room 3J Kite Wing,

Temple Quay House,

2 The Square,

Bristol,

BS1 6PN

Dear Sir/Madam

Objection to Pelham Spring Solar Farm
Application No. S62A/2022/0011: Land East of Pelham substation, Maggots End, Manuden

I am writing to object to the application made by Low Carbon to construct a solar farm comprising ground mounted solar arrays together with battery storage, inverter cabins, a substation, fencing and CCTV cameras on land near between Maggots End Road Manuden CM23 1BJ and Brick House End in Berden on the grounds that the visual impact of this development cannot be satisfactorily mitigated

The land to the East of Brick House End (in front of Battles Wood) slopes upwards towards the woods. The drawings of the panels submitted show that they will be 3.2 metres high. It will be impossible to screen the development such that it is hidden from view. Low Carbon's claim that "the proposed development could be effectively integrated and assimilated into the surrounding landscape" is ridiculous

The pictures submitted as part of the planning application were taken when there were still leaves on hedges and trees. These plants are deciduous – they will not provide effective screening in winter.

The RHS says that it will take between 20 and 50 years for hawthorn hedges to achieve their full height – this is more than half of the life of the solar farm. It is unrealistic to expect hedgerows to thrive where low quality plants are planted and then left. Young plants need to be watered in case of prolonged dry spells and/or heat waves, especially during the first years after planting.

Yours

22nd Feb 2023

Liz Sweetman,

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Print Name *Date*

[redacted]

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Address

cc Planning Department, Uttlesford District Council, Council Offices, London Road, Saffron Walden, CB11 4ER ([redacted]