

From: Paul O'Neill [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 February 2023 16:43
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Objection to Solar Farm on Land East of Pelham substation, Maggotsend, Manuden – S62A/2022/0011

Dear Sir/Madam

As a regular visitor to the affected area, I am writing to object to the revised application to construct a solar farm on land near Pelham Substation, Maggotsend Road, CM23 1BJ.

The reasons for my objection are as follows:

There is a need to make food production in the UK more sustainable with less reliance on imported food with the associated negative impact of its carbon footprint. For this reason alone, solar farms should not be built on high quality agricultural land. Such land should be used for food production, wherever possible. The proposed solar farm is adjacent to an ancient woodland and, if constructed, would cut off the wildlife corridor between Battles Wood and Pump Springs, two areas that are vital for the maintenance of local biodiversity.

The road infrastructure around Pelham Springs is totally inappropriate for heavy lorries to be bringing solar panels into the site.

The proposed battery storage units to support the site also raise health and safety issues which have not been fully researched.

The solar farm will be unsightly and surrounded by high fencing and CCTV cameras. It is of no benefit to the local community and the value of neighbouring properties will be negatively impacted. Some of these buildings are listed and of historical significance.

The siting of the solar farm will negatively impact at least five regularly used public footpaths.

Yours faithfully

Paul O'Neill

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