



Alan Stoyell

Objection to Pelham Spring Solar Farm - application numbers UTT/21/3356/FUL and 3/21/2781/FUL (East Herts)

1 message

Alan Stoyell
To: planning@uttlesford.gov.uk
Cc: planning@eastherts.gov.uk

26 November 2021 at 14:35

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 Alan Stoyell, and I live at -

The reasons for my objection are as follows:

1)

The size of the development simply too big!

- Uttlesford's Policy ENV15 says that small scale renewable energy development schemes to meet local needs will be supported providing it can be demonstrated that they do not adversely affect i) The character of sensitive landscapes; ii) Nature conservation interests; or iii) Residential and recreational amenity
- This is not a "small scale" scheme.
- The land identified by Low Carbon as the site for Pelham Spring solar Farm extends to 196 acres. This important fact is not mentioned in the Planning Statement.
- If approved, this would be the biggest solar farm in Uttlesford by some margin and one of the biggest in Essex.
- The visual impact of such a huge solar farm would fundamentally change the character of the area.

I cycle along East End Lane – my enjoyment of the countryside will be ruined

- I often cycle along the single track lane between Manuden and Furneux Pelham (East End Lane).
- I understand that this is listed as a Protected Lane (UTTLANE152). In its 2012 assessment of East End Lane, Uttlesford scores the lane at 15. Importantly, the score in relation to Aesthetic value is "2" which reflects the fact that the lane has a variety of aesthetic features or forms/alignment and / or a significant view
- The views along this lane will be hugely negatively impacted by the construction of huge numbers of solar panels and the associated infrastructure.
- The lane is not heavily trafficked and cycling along it is a peaceful and solitary experience in the middle of the countryside.

Use of arable land for energy -

We all understand the need for developments to increase supply of 'green' energy but equally there is a need to maintain good arable land to support 'green' food supply with use of fewer pesticides and chemicals. The east of England is one of the prime agricultural areas of the country so to have such large areas of the land being consumed in this way is surely counterproductive.

As a final comment, the relative power outputs of solar v wind is conclusively in favour of wind and albeit the infrastructure needs of off-shore wind are greater, these are long term investments and cost spread will

considerably reduce that disadvantage. In addition the carbon dioxide emissions of producing these two 'green' alternatives also supports the use of wind v solar.

Yours sincerely
Alan Stoyell