

From: Joanna Woodcock [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 March 2023 09:55
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Pelham Spring Solar Farm App No S62A/2022/0011

Dear Sir/Madam,

Objection to Pelham Spring Solar Farm
App. No. S62A/2022/0011

We are writing to strongly object to the application by Low Carbon to construct a solar farm with battery storage, inverter cabins, a substation, fencing and CCTV cameras near to Battles Farm, Maunuden.

The reasons for our objection are as follows:

Construction and maintenance traffic. The lanes which would provide access for construction and maintenance traffic are not suitable for such heavy usage. They already suffer damage from farm traffic and other industrial vehicles. They are narrow and do not have pavements. Various points along the access routes would cause extreme difficulties for the large vehicles. The danger to other motorists, pedestrians and horses would be considerable.

This is a rural area of agricultural land and small communities, it is far from the brownfield land, contaminated or low grade farm land suggested by the British Research Establishment as most suitable sites for such development. The surrounding farmland is considered 'Best and Most Versatile', there are many historic sites which will be blighted. The biodiversity of the site together with our heritage cannot be restored after the relatively short life of the solar farm has elapsed, the land will remain industrialised for generations to come.

Safety. Battery storage comes with its own issues. Quite simply there is not a sufficient water supply to the area to deal with a fire at such an installation. The area affected if a fire was to occur would be vast.

This application cannot be looked at in isolation, it is part of a huge campaign to industrialise a large part of our villages. The companies involved are not eco-companies working for the good of the planet, they are London based money making companies who have no concerns for rural life or the protection of arable land, which is becoming more and more precious with the current situations around the world.

Given the enormous impact on the area, the risk to health and indeed life, damage to the ecosystem and residents wellbeing and the fact that many other applications for development have been rejected due to their not being suitable for the rural location, this application cannot be granted. Planning policy would have to be broken and if that is the case, why do we have planning policies?

Yours,

Duncan and Jo Woodcock
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