

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 adjacent to Maggots End Road Manuden CM23 1BJ on the grounds that the site is not flat and is not suitable for a solar farm.

In their Planning document Low Carbon refer to the Planning Guidance in relation to Renewables and Low Carbon Energy. Paragraph 7 of this Guidance considers the criteria that should apply in relation to planning applications and notes that "local topography is an important factor in assessing whether ... large scale solar farms could have a damaging effect on landscape and recognise that the impact can be as great in predominately flat landscapes as in hilly or mountainous areas".

There is a significant slope which rises up from Brick House End to Battles Wood (which is at the northern point of the site). The OS Map shows the contours of the eastern boundary of the site adjacent to Brick House End to be 108m above sea level. Battles Wood is therefore around 12m higher. As the panels are over 3m high, it follows that they will be completely visible to walker, cyclist, rider or road user as they travel along Brick House End. It will be impossible to mitigate the significant visual impact of this industrial development by planting a hedge.

Yours faithfully


F. J. MCKEATING

Print Name

6th March 2023

Date


cc Planning Department, Uttlesford District Council, Council Offices, London Road,
Saffron Walden, CB11 4ER 