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 outside Manuden (near to Battles Farm, Maggots End CM23 1BJ) because of the adverse impact that this development will have if the solar farm is built.

National Planning policy says that planning decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils.

I understand that the highly respected Building Research Establishment (BRE) has published guidance for the development of large scale ground mounted solar PV systems which states that industrial scale solar farms should ideally utilise previously developed land, brownfield land, contaminated land, industrial land or agricultural land preferably of classification 3b, 4, and 5 (avoiding the use of 'Best and Most Versatile' cropland where possible). Land selected should aim to avoid affecting the visual aspect of landscapes, maintain the natural beauty and should be predominantly flat, well screened by hedges, tree lines, etc and not cause undue impact to nearby domestic properties or roads

There is no evidence that the applicant has investigated the possibility of poorer quality land in the area. The site that has been chosen also includes a large portion of sloping land. This application should be rejected.

Yours

7th March 2023

Geraldine Philips,

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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]