

**From:** Planning <planning@uttlesford.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 06 March 2023 14:59  
**To:** Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>; Development Support <developmentsupport@uttlesford.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** FW: Comments for Planning Application UTT/22/2624/PINS S62A/2022/0011

**From:** [donotreply@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:donotreply@uttlesford.gov.uk) <[donotreply@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:donotreply@uttlesford.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** 06 March 2023 14:42  
**To:** Planning <[planning@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:planning@uttlesford.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Comments for Planning Application UTT/22/2624/PINS

## Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,  
Planning Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.  
Comments were submitted at 06/03/2023 2:41 PM from Ms Juliette Badger.

### Application Summary

**Address:** Land Near Pelham Substation Maggots End Road Manuden Hertfordshire

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**Proposal:** Consultation on S62A/2022/0011 - Construction and operation of a solar farm comprising ground mounted solar photovoltaic(PV) arrays and battery storage together with associated development including inverter cabins, DNO substation, customer switchgear, access, fencing,CCTV cameras and Landscaping

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**Case Officer:** Lindsay Trevillian

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### Customer Details

**Name:** Ms Juliette Badger

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**Email:** [REDACTED]

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**Address:** [REDACTED]

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### Comments Details

**Commenter Type:** Member of Public

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**Stance:** Customer objects to the Planning Application

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**Reasons for comment:**

**Comments:** Objection to Solar Farm on Land East of Pelham substation, Maggots End Manuden - Application number: S62A/2022/0011

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I get it that local councils are under immense pressure to find solutions to the energy crisis as

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well as find urgent alternatives to fossil fuels but building solar farms on productive farmland is not the solution.

Unfortunately, due to a succession of governments, there has not been a well-thought-out, long-term UK energy plan, carried out in decades, (or any plan at all, actually), with the last Nuclear Power Plant not authorised since Margaret Thatcher was in government. Also, we are currently facing wind turbines in the north of the UK having to be turned off because they are producing too much energy for the power stations to store, with planning applications for onshore wind farms prohibited by the current government. And in the last few weeks and months, we have had supermarkets facing shortages of fruit and vegetable amid unseasonal cold weather in producing countries of Spain and Morocco.

At what point amongst all of this have we decided that it is a good idea to urbanise the countryside restructuring productive farmland growing crops on classified as 'best and most versatile' into Solo Factories? Someone is having a laugh, here right?

40% of all food consumed in the UK is imported and the majority of our wheat is from the EU. The loss of UK agricultural land to urbanisation has been assessed at 96K acres a year and rising. A recent study by the University of Cambridge suggests there will be a shortfall of 4.8 million acres by 2030. Surely it is a stark reminder to us all that with the Russian invasion of Ukraine and year-on-year evidence we are experiencing with climate change across the world, it has never been more important that this country takes urgent steps to become more food sufficient, not less.

Solar farms do not need to be built in the countryside. Their right and proper place is on commercial roofs, new buildings, brownfield sites to include active and disused airfields. I understand Stansted airport currently has an application in process. Research reveals that there are 600K acres of south-facing commercial roof space in the UK which could provide 50% of our country's electricity.

I have lived in Stocking Pelham for over 20 years and the local road network of these small village lanes has trouble coping as it is. Have you seen the condition of our roads as they currently stand? It would become an impossible situation with the huge impact a solar farm development would have on the local residents with no local benefit to their communities. I urgently request that you take stock of this situation and turn down this application.

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Kind regards