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 plus battery storage, inverter cabins, a substation, fencing and CCTV cameras on land near Battles Hall, Maggots End, Manuden CM23 1BJ because solar panels belong on the roofs of buildings – we should not sacrifice productive land for an industrial development.

The Planning Guidance issued by the Government in relation to renewable energy says that developers should focus large scale solar farms on previously developed and non-agricultural land which it is not of high environmental value.

The former Department of Energy and Climate Change estimated that there were 250,000 hectares of south facing commercial roof-space in the UK. Why use precious high grade farmland? There is no evidence that Low Carbon has considered the use of rooftops (for example, those at Stansted airport). Clearly, Stansted is not worried about issues of glint and glare because they have applied for planning permission to build their own solar farm. New technologies mean that pencil thin roof top panels are now available so arguments that the roofs were not built to withstand these sorts of loads are no longer credible.

Both Uttlesford and East Herts should make a major contribution to carbon reduction by introducing policies requiring new developments to have solar panels on their roofs, heat pumps or district heating systems.

Yours

7th March 2023

Michelle Norris

……..... …….

Print Name *Date*

[redacted]

……

Address

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