

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 07 March 2023 12:35  
**To:** Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]

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

I am writing to object to the application to construct a solar farm comprising ground mounted solar arrays together with (among other things) battery storage, inverter cabins, a substation, fencing and CCTV cameras on land near Pelham Substation Maggots End Road Manuden CM23 1BJ

My name is Samantha Burton and I live at [REDACTED]

The reasons for my objection are as follows:

**I am concerned about the impact of the development on the rich variety of wildlife on the site**

- The site for the development is rich in ecology.
- A study carried out in 2016 estimated that utility-scale solar farms around the US may kill nearly 140,000 birds annually. One leading theory suggests birds mistake the glare from solar panels for the surface of a lake and swoop in for a landing, with deadly results.
- The Ecological Impact Assessment notes that hares are seen on the site but concludes that they are unlikely to be affected! How can this be true when their habitat is being ruined and the site is being surrounded by 2m high perimeter fence.
- I frequently see Roe deer wandering across the site because they shelter in Battles Wood. These beautiful creatures will be lost.

**Farmland should be used for farming**

- This is productive farm land which should be used for farming.
- We currently import more than 40 per cent of our food, and recent threats by countries to ban exports of vaccinations have highlighted the threat that similar bans could be imposed on food if countries are themselves short of supplies in the future.
- It is predicted that we will need to produce 56 per cent more food by 2050 due to increasing populations. We have not increased food production by 56 per cent in the last 30 years, and if we continue to build on farmland we have no hope of achieving it in the next 30 years either.

**The local roads are not suitable for such large construction vehicles**

- The supporting text for Uttlesford Policy ENV15 states development will only be permitted in locations where the local road network is capable of handling any additional traffic generated by the proposal.

- Low Carbon estimate that there will be a total of 922 vehicle movements during construction.
- This includes a total of around 749 deliveries by 15.4 metre articulated vehicles and of 59 deliveries by 10-metre-long rigid HGVs. The will be a substation measuring up to five metres long and three metres wide will be delivered to site individually by 15.4 metre artic vehicle.
- The road between Manuden and Clavering is a small country road. It is barely wide enough to accommodate two regular cars. Cars currently need to stop in order to allow tractors to pass. It is completely unsuitable for articulated lorries or large HGVs.
- Access point off the road is simply not suitable for vehicles of this size.
- All vehicles will pass directly in front of the primary school in Clavering – I am concerned about the safety of primary school children
- One of access routes will also pass directly in front of a secondary school – Joyce Franklin Academy – I am concerned about the safety of secondary school children.
- Lorries cannot possibly get under the low bridge in Newport.
- Permanent access to the site will be along a protected lane.

For all the reasons above I strongly object to this proposal in its entirety.

Kind regards,

Samantha Burton