From: Jon Howells

**Sent:** 30 November 2023 12:29

To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Subject: Berden Hall Solar Farm

I am writing to explain why on balance I do not believe that progressing this application in in the best interest of the local environment. The risks to the community and country do not outweigh the benefits and simply result in unnecessary profiteering of already wealthy land owner and private equity funded companies. The risks are loss of good farming land and allow weak government because new legislation should be in place to ensure that all new homes are self sufficient in solar and that empty roof space in shopping, car parks and warehouses is used first. The huge growth of new building in this area is already consuming vast tracts of good farming land and there is plenty of available roof space. Granted that it is easier to install on fields and more profitable for the companies and farmers, but this just weakens our resilience to food shortages and will mean another wheat shortage and impact on food prices that affect the poorest in society. We need to be self sufficient in farming otherwise we will have to import food and raise our carbon footprint and be at mercy of other countries. Solar factories are not the answer, there are many other better green solutions including wind as the UK is famous for wind and not sun. Please do not allow this application to progress against the wishes of local residents to benefit the minority of already wealthy people. Jon Howells