

**From:** Chris Simpson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 05 January 2024 15:07  
**To:** Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Land at Berden Hall Farm Dewes Green Road Berden , Ref: S62A/22/0006

Inquiries and Major Casework team  
The Planning Inspectorate  
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I am writing in objection to the updated application of a Solar Factory on land at Berden Hall Farm Dewes Green Road Berden. My name is Christopher Simpson and I live at [REDACTED]

**The reasons for my objection are as follows:**

1. The scale of the solar factory is vastly out of proportion to any development in the area. This would have the impact of industrialising and urbanising much needed farmland in an area where ancient woodland is located. Low Carbon states that this is "*a small scale renewable energy development scheme*". This is far from a small scale development and would take 177 acres of prime farmland out of food production for at least 40 years.
2. The impact of this development would be devastating for a number of reasons. The catastrophic effect on local wildlife would be immense. Deer routinely cross this area which would effectively be a no go zone due to the construction of 2 metre high fencing, destruction of the land, storage unit construction and constant construction traffic. This area also has many bird species including the relatively rare Red Kite. I believe that Solar Farms in the USA killed over 140,000 birds annually, so the argument that this construction will improve the environment is null and void. The area where this is proposed is rolling landscape, and therefore would be a complete eyesore and would also not be compatible for the construction of a solar farm which would be impossible to hide from view by hedges alone. I have also absolutely no confidence that Low Carbon has considered the environmental impact this will have. A great example of this is the way in which the electricity storage units were developed at Stocking Pelham power station. A large white blocked construction which is an eyesore for miles around was developed, and the promised screening of this was an unmitigated disgrace. This project is a greed project. There would also be a significant impact to the Crump ringwork, which is soon to be listed as an ancient monument, and both St Nicholas Church & Berden Hall which are both Grade 1 & 2 listed buildings respectively.
3. A consistent approach to planning regulation must be considered and the refusal by the Planning Inspectorate to grant permission for Pelham Spring Solar Farm (PSSF), in close proximity to the Berden Hall Solar Farm site, is therefore must be a serious consideration. The Planning Inspector, Mr Callum Parker, argued that PSSF would erode the agricultural landscape and constitute industrial infrastructure that would be present for c. 40 years, which is not temporary. The scheme would fail to preserve the setting of the listed buildings

and other heritage assets, including the Crump scheduled ancient monument. Clearly, many of the factors which led to the refusal of Pelham Spring Solar Farm are also relevant to Berden Hall Solar Farm.

4. The revised proposals given by Low Carbon are contrary to Policy S7 of the Uttlesford Local Plan (LP) which (broadly) states that planning permission will only be given where a development is needed in a particular location, is appropriate and protects and enhances the landscape character. The proposals are also contrary to para 174 (now 180) of the NPPF for similar reasons.

I therefore strongly object to the proposals that have been given.

Regards Mr Christopher Simpson