

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 January 2024 22:39  
**To:** Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Solar Farm - Land at Berden Hall Farm, Ginns Road, Berden, S62A/22/0006.

I strongly object to this proposed planning application.

Statera claims that there is no alternative site to generate renewable energy of this magnitude, but they have omitted one particular site which has many acres available. This is the North Sea with plenty of space for wind turbines. Each single wind turbine is capable of producing 50 MW of renewable energy and because of the flexibility of the UK grid system, once landed, this energy can be provided to any location on the eastern seaboard more easily than that generated by Statera's proposal at Berden Hall Solar Farm. Statera have chosen not to consider this alternative for reasons of their own but it should be noted that N.Sea wind does not suffer from the major weakness of solar farms pitched on fertile farm land - that of reducing home food production and thereby exacerbating food insecurity.

A recent YouGov survey by the Food Foundation (published August 2023) found that, in June 2023, 17 percent of UK households suffered from food insecurity. This is a lot of folk! Any attempt to reduce this food insecurity would involve big on costs for increased foreign imports and associated transportation adding to the continuing problems of UK cost inflation.

Statera recognises their proposal would reduce home food production and thereby increasing food insecurity, but they point out, in their defence, that their solar farm will only exist for 40 years. This is a preposterous justification for destroying best and most fertile farmland. We need the food now not in 40 years time. Everyone must understand this.

The extreme weight of the harm caused to UK food production from solar farms pitched on fertile farmland, coupled with equally extreme weight of the 'good' of an almost unlimited space in the North Sea for more wind turbines producing renewable energy (if and when necessary) are both highly significant in defining the weakness of this proposal.

**PLEASE DO NOT APPROVE THIS PROPOSAL**

If there is to be a hearing I would wish to address it please.

Peter Patrick

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