



## National Highways Planning Response (NHPR 21-09) Formal Recommendation to an Application for Planning Permission

From: Martin Fellows(Regional Director)  
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East Region  
National Highways  
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To: Uttlesford District Council  
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CC: [transportplanning@dft.gov.uk](mailto:transportplanning@dft.gov.uk)  
[spatialplanning@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:spatialplanning@highwaysengland.co.uk)

**Council's Reference:** S62A/2024/0045

**Location** Land at Wickham Hall Estate Bishops Stortford Uttlesford, CM23 1JG

**Proposal:** Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (Section 62A Applications)  
Planning application for Erection of a Solar Photovoltaic Farm with supporting infrastructure and battery storage, inverters and transformers, fencing, landscaping works and connecting cable.

Referring to the consultation on a planning application dated 25 June 24 referenced above, in the vicinity of the A120 that forms part of the Strategic Road Network, notice is hereby given that National Highways' formal recommendation is that we:

- a) offer no objection (see reasons at Annex A);
- ~~b) recommend that conditions should be attached to any planning permission that may be granted (see Annex A – National Highways recommended Planning Conditions & reasons);~~

~~e) recommend that planning permission not be granted for a specified period (see reasons at Annex A);~~

~~d) recommend that the application be refused (see reasons at Annex A)~~

Highways Act 1980 Section 175B is not relevant to this application.<sup>1</sup>

This represents National Highways' formal recommendation and is copied to the Department for Transport as per the terms of our Licence.

Should the Local Planning Authority not propose to determine the application in accordance with this recommendation they are required to consult the Secretary of State for Transport, as set out in the [Town and Country Planning \(Development Affecting Trunk Roads\) Direction 2018](#), via [transportplanning@dft.gov.uk](mailto:transportplanning@dft.gov.uk) and may not determine the application until the consultation process is complete.

<b>Signature:</b> 	<b>Date:</b> 22 July 24
<b>Name:</b> Mark Norman	<b>Position:</b> Spatial Planner
<b>National Highways</b> Highways England   Woodlands   Manton Lane   Bedford   MK41 7LW	

### Annex A National Highway's assessment of the proposed development

National Highways has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as a strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the Strategic Road Network (SRN). The SRN is a critical national asset and as such we work to ensure that it operates and is managed in the public interest, both in respect of current activities and needs as well as in providing effective stewardship of its long-term operation and integrity.

This response represents our formal recommendations with regards to the above application and has been prepared by Mark Norman.

The site of the proposed solar farm is some distance from the SRN it is not visible from the M11. The traffic generation site is insignificant once the site is constructed

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<sup>1</sup> Where relevant, further information will be provided within Annex A.

until its decommissioned. Given the impact of construction traffic is temporary and comparatively light we have no objection to the grant of permission.