

From: charlotte green [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 2:50 PM

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

Subject: S62A/2024/0045. Land to the north West of Bishop stortford Farnham road Farnham

[REDACTED]

I am writing in response to the notice of application for the proposed solar farm and storage units based within Farnham Bishops Stortford.

Whilst there is clearly a need for solar energy within the UK there are several points that cause me some concerns around the proposed application.

1. The area selected for the solar farm is currently arable land that has a high nutrient level and can sustain growing arable crops. It is essential that British farmers are encouraged to grow and sell their products within the UK to reduce the high carbon foot print the country has by importing large amounts of products and ingredients.

2. After a block period of time the land will become nutritional worthless and can then be built on, so instead of having Green land more houses will be built. Bishop stortford has numerous housing sites ongoing that the town cannot cope with from an infrastructure perspective it does not need more.

3. The proposed site will remove bridlepath access to the land which is going to force horse riders, cyclists and walkers to use the local roads and place these people/animals at risk of injury or death. Any bridal path routes should be replaced, it is quite obvious to see they are well used and a consultant should be run within the local community to ensure everyone is provided for, this is a rural community not waste land.

4. Wild life impact must be taken into account, when solar farms are erected fences will be placed around the site, this means wildlife such as deer, badgers and foxes are unable to feed, breed and migrate. Some of these are protected wildlife and should be fairly treated, there fore they should be allowed access through the land. Recent fencing within the new a120 bypass has shown how many deer have been killed in the fencing trying to migrate, wildlife should not have to suffer due to humans actions.

5. Toxicity within batteries used, batteries used within solar farms can and do leak. These leaks can poison the ground making it unusable for food growth and unable to support wildlife thus allowing residential building to be carried out. The process of creating a battery uses a large range of minerals and ingredients that are depleting our natural resources.

6. The natural environment, Farnham is a beautiful place to live. It is an area where wildlife and fauna can and does flourish. We have seen a large increase in Red kites, Buzzards, Deer, Barn owls and many other small birds and mammals. This area should be protected, if further land is built upon it will become a forgotten island where nothing exists as it is cut off from the surrounding areas. Residents that live here choose so because it is rural, there are fields and footpaths to enjoy and the area has not been built.upon and destroyed.

7. Solar panel usage should be factored into new housing and grants awarded to home owners to install these thus creating their own electricity, this is a much more sustainable option.

There are many areas that have solar farms, this land can and should.continue to be used for farming regardless of whether the land owner wishes to do so.

Kind regards