



The countryside charity
Hertfordshire

31a Church Street
Welwyn
HERTS AL6 9LW
www.cpreherts.org.uk
office@cpreherts.org.uk
01438 717587

Standing up for Hertfordshire's countryside

Lindsay Trevillian
Planning
Uttlesford District Council
London Road
Saffron Walden
CB11 4ER
(planning@uttlesford.gov.uk)

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

8th December 2021 (by email)

Dear Ms Trevillian,

**Application no. UTT/21/3356/FUL
Land near Pelham Substation, Maggots End Road, Manuden
Construction and operation of a solar farm comprising ground mounted
solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays and battery storage together with associated development,
including inverter cabins, DNO substation, customer switchgear, access, fencing,
CCTV cameras and landscaping.**

I write with regard to the above application, and have already written to East Herts District Council for the small part of the proposal which lies within their administrative boundary. Our letter dated 2nd December 2021 (also published on our [website](#)) is enclosed. CPRE Hertfordshire is in full support of the representations made by CPRE Essex and local residents and groups opposing this highly damaging proposal.

I have drawn attention in our representation to East Herts District Council to the misleading nature of the applicant's original application for the Battery Energy Storage System facility at Greens Farm, Stocking Pelham, ref. 3/21/0969/FUL, which suggested that it is only needed for existing operational reasons, and is not related to any additional proposed generating capacity. This assertion has now clearly been shown to be false, and we are aware of further imminent proposals for ground-mounted solar installations proposals in both Essex and Hertfordshire which will no doubt also link into the BESS facility.

Cumulatively, these proposals will have a devastating effect on wide areas of productive agricultural land and highly valued open countryside which, in Hertfordshire, is designated as protected Rural Area Beyond the Green Belt in the adopted East Herts District Plan. It is crucial, in our view, that the impact of these various proposals on the Essex and Hertfordshire border are assessed together, or at the very least that neighbouring local authorities are fully aware of the adjacent proposals when determining the applications.

CPRE is working nationally and locally for a beautiful and living countryside

CPRE Hertfordshire is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

President: Sir Simon Bowes Lyon, KCVO
Chairman: Allan McNab

Registered Charity 1162419



I enclose our recently prepared policy statement on solar installations for your interest (also published on our [website](#)). This describes our concerns and identifies the significant problems caused by ground-mounted photo-voltaic panels and associated infrastructure, all of which are relevant to the proposals under consideration.

In support of our colleagues in CPRE Essex and others, we urge the Council to refuse this application.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Berry
Planning Manager