

Comments for Planning Application 22/501335/FULL

Application Summary

Application Number: 22/501335/FULL

Address: Land North Of Little Cheveney Farm Sheephurst Lane Marden Kent

Proposal: Installation of a renewable energy led generating station comprising of ground-mounted solar arrays, associated electricity generation infrastructure and other ancillary equipment comprising of storage containers, access tracks, fencing, gates and CCTV together with the creation of woodland and biodiversity enhancements.

Case Officer: Marion Geary

Customer Details

Name: Mr David Baldwin

Address: Little Wanshurst, Battle Lane, Marden Tonbridge, Kent TN12 9DF

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: Although there has been a recent change to this proposed solar installation, it has not fundamentally changed the proposal and we still object for the following reasons.

This proposal is vast being as large as the footprint of Marden village.

It would substantially change the visual impact on the landscape with the loss of productive farmland. While electricity production is needed there are other alternatives solar on houses car parks and large industrial buildings, along motorways all without losing more farmland. Food production in these times of threaten shortages is more vital.

It will also have an effect on wildlife with the high fencing and concrete footings, which hardly sounds like a farm. They are seriously misnamed in the hope of getting through the planning procedure without too many objections.

The last large solar farm proposed for Staplehurst and Marden was Pagehurst which was refused by Maidstone Council and both Staplehurst and Marden Parish councils, and thrown out by the planning inspector, the Planning inspector Andrew Hammond concluded: "The harms to the intrinsic and visual qualities of the landscape are substantial, both in significance and scale, and would not be mitigated by the landscape proposals which seek to screen the development from view rather than integrate it into its setting in a satisfactory manner." And I do not see that this application is any different.