

# 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 ROY ROBERTSON

Address: 2 Moat Farm Cottages, Collier Street, Tonbridge, Kent TN12 9RR

## Comment Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: I object to the proposal to build a solar farm on this site. The proposed location is totally unsuitable for a solar farm on the grounds of category of land, accessibility for construction and maintenance vehicles, fit with the surrounding area, risk of flooding and impact on wildlife.

This location is prime agricultural land and should be kept exclusively for that purpose. This is particularly pertinent given current food shortages and the importance of the UK being able to grow as much of its own food as possible. It would be idiotic to lose this considerable area of productive agricultural land at this time. A brownfield site should be considered as a suitable alternative for siting a solar farm.

The impact of construction vehicles and heavy plant - during the construction phase, and afterwards for maintenance - would be catastrophic on the local community. Sheephurst Lane is a narrow and very winding rural road, which would be damaged severely by the increase in heavy goods vehicles. Access would inevitably be via Marden and/or Collier Street. Both of those communities are already blighted by heavy traffic and Marden, in particular, is already subject to severe congestion due to the increase in traffic in recent years; it would be extremely detrimental to both communities if the traffic were to increase further in order to construct and maintain this proposed solar farm.

The land is situated in a beautiful part of the Low Weald. A solar farm of this size would be intrusive, unattractive and completely out of keeping with the rest of this rural area.

The location is in close proximity to the Lesser Teise, which is prone to flooding in autumn and

winter. It is ludicrous to site an industrial facility of this size in an area which has a high risk of flooding.

A solar farm would have a detrimental effect on the local wildlife.