

Comments for Planning Application 3/24/2245/FUL

Application Summary

Application Number: 3/24/2245/FUL

Address: Land To The West Of The A507 Between Cottered And Cromer Hertfordshire SG9 9PU

Proposal: Installation and operation of a solar farm including co-located energy storage facilities, onsite substation, ancillary infrastructure and landscaping

Case Officer: David Lamb

Customer Details

Name: Mr Ken Crofton

Address: Hertfordshire County Council Pegs Lane Hertford SG13 8DQ

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Councillor

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment:As the County Councillor covering this application, I am opposing this vast unacceptable industrial scale generating plant. I share the opinion of the Member of Parliament, District Councillor and hundreds of local residents.

The loss of large acreage of prime agricultural land removing food production is a major local and national concern. National Planning Policy clearly states building on arable land for renewable energy should be avoided. East Herts Policy regards Land Beyond the Green Belt as important and valued, development in the countryside must be compatible with the character and appearance of the rural area. This scheme would not meet that criteria. It would be unacceptable to use valuable farmland instead of installations on new factories, warehousing and new houses. This is an inappropriate scheme in the wrong location. This complex would impact on the residents in the hamlet of Cromer, Cottered and surrounding properties including the Grade 11* listed historic windmill.

The construction of miles of 8ft high fencing in this rural environment will resemble a prison camp. It will be damaging and restrictive for the plentiful wildlife that is so plentiful in this part of rural East Herts.

Solar Panels are not considered as exceptional reasons to grant development on land in or beyond the Green Belt. Decades of irreversible harm would be caused to the land, the Beane Valley and wildlife. This application should be rejected.

County Councillor Ken Crofton

Hertford Rural Division.