From:

To:
Cleve Hill Solar Park

Subject:
Deadline 6 Submission

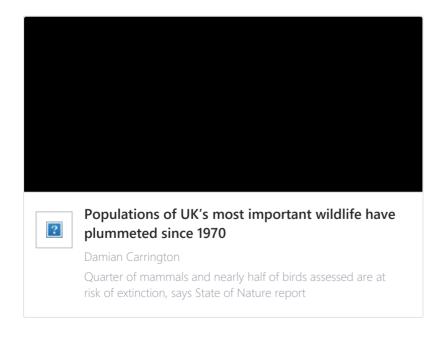
Date:
04 October 2019 15:53:53

Dear Sir or Madam

I have made previous submissions on behalf of Faversham Creek Trust and Faversham & Oare Heritage Harbour Group. These include my serious concerns about the effect on wildlife of the proposed solar park. There is no evidence whatsoever that the proposed mitigation of additional land dedicated to wildlife together with planting within the solar panel area will achieve the objective of sustaining the existing wildlife which lives all year round on this large site.

I would like to ask you to consider the report which was published today, entitled *State of Nature*, which clearly states the devastating consequences to date of all human activity on our natural environment, in particular on the animals and birds. To quote from the Guardian article about this report:

"A quarter of UK mammals and nearly half of the birds assessed are at risk of extinction, according to the report, which was produced by a coalition of more than 70 wildlife organisations and government conservation agencies. When plants, insects and fungi are added, one in seven of the 8,400 UK species assessed are at risk of being completely lost, with 133 already gone since 1500." www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/oct/03/populations-of-uks-most-important-wildlife-have-plummeted-since-1970?



There have been other reports about our declining wildlife, for example studies of bats. Of all species of bat present in the UK, 50% are

represented on the Graveney Marshes. If bats' habitat changes, they are unable to find their way around by echo-location, and will die as they cannot find food. This solar power station would comprehensively change their environment, removing much of the insect life that they depend on, and would without doubt cause a dramatic decline in the number and variety of bats.

I have made this point before in my verbal and written submissions, and I make it again: we are doing our best to mitigate climate change for the sake of all living creatures, not just humans, and we must ensure that taking action to produce green energy does not have massive negative effects on our natural environment.

Yours faithfully

Sue Akhurst Chairman, Faversham Creek Trust Convenor, Faversham & Oare Heritage Harbour Group

Kent Lodge, 20 Newton Road, Faversham, Kent ME13 8DZ

Sue Akhurst T: 01795 530141