

## Comments on Change Request 2

### Change 2. Airport.

It makes no sense to leave a thin strip of panels in the North West corner of field 2.15 adjacent to Bladon Heath which is an ancient woodland with a rich habitat for all manner of wildlife including barn owls.

The edge of this woodland is already threatened by the proposed cable trenching around its south eastern edge. I presume that, once buried, the cable route will not be fenced and it can surely not be cost effective to put fencing all the way around the remaining narrow strip of panels. This fencing plus hedging on the eastern edge of the panels to screen them from a very well used bridleway would overwhelm the area for walkers and restrict the wildlife corridor between Bladon Heath and Begbroke Wood.

Please remove this strip of panels with the rest of those already agreed and adjust the Order Limits Boundary

### Change 4. Land east of Lower Rd

It is right and proper that the Applicant should remove panels from the land covered by a restrictive covenant rather than force the extinguishment of the covenant. But why is it necessary to keep the land within the Order Limits? Why not remove it from the Order Limits as the Applicant is planning to do for Change 2 near the Airport? It would stay within agricultural use whether inside or outside the red line boundary but, if outside the limits, the threat to the landowner of extinguishment of the covenant in the future is removed.

Please remove the fields in question from the Order Limits.

### Change 10. Education Facility.

The whole idea of siting an Education Facility in this location is misguided, unplanned and inappropriate as many IPs including Bladon Parish Council have pointed out. In particular, it has been pointed out that it will not be possible to use the “*existing access*” mentioned by the Applicant as it is too narrow for construction vehicles or school buses, it is only 3m wide in places and there are no passing places, parking or turning facilities. This surely ends any possibility of this facility going ahead.

It is not satisfactory to finalise details after the DCO is granted. In any case only location, size and scale are mentioned in the design plans. What about management and ongoing funding? This could so easily become a white elephant.

A much better solution would be to locate the facility within Hill End Centre which has been an education facility for over 100 years. It is a well established and respected organisation with expertise, space, good vehicular access and able to cope with many visitors (currently around 24,000 annually). It is likely that they could accommodate an area for information about the Solar Installation and might welcome funding from the Applicant to do so. It is located adjacent to the Southern site but clearly the Applicant is unaware of its existence. If they’d consulted properly with those who know the local area they would not have made this glaring error in dumping an ill-planned facility in such an inappropriate place.

It should also be pointed out that they would not, in any case, be likely to get planning consent from the Local Authority to erect a building in the Green Belt and within the setting of WHS Blenheim Palace especially as panels in the fields behind it are due to be removed on Heritage Grounds (as described in Change 1) of this document.

Please remove the proposal to build an Education Facility in Bladon.

Rosemary Lewis

10/9/25