

Green Belt – Three sets of facts that argue against Very Special Circumstances: area, pipeline, no other projects on greenbelt.

1. Area of greenbelt to be taken

7.1.8 Commentary JIR

The proposed development area is approximately 1,400 Ha with approximately 960 Ha falling within the Oxford Green Belt, which equates to approximately 60% of the total area.

Source

Joint Local Impact Report of
Cherwell District Council
Vale of White Horse District Council
West Oxfordshire District Council
Oxfordshire County Council
June 2025

2. Pipeline

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The current Government target for solar is 45-47GW by 2030 and ~70-75GW by 2050. Approximately, 60% of these targets comprise large-scale solar the rest coming from domestic and commercial rooftop (~40%; see:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/solar-roadmap/solar-roadmap-united-kingdom-powered-by-solar-accessible-webpage>

Source

Cassington Parish Council IP 20055026
Applicant's Responses to Written Representations Submitted at Deadline 1 July 2025 PINS
Ref: EN010147 Document Ref: EN010147/APP/12.4

3. Utilisation of Green Belt

BYG has now reviewed all the NSIP solar projects listed on the PINS website. The analysis, table extract below, indicates that none of the NSIP solar projects approved to date by PINS utilises Green Belt land. Furthermore, the same is true of those NSIP solar projects currently under examination.

Source

Deadline 5, BYG: Site selection and the Significance of the Proposed Industrialisation of Oxford Green Belt. (Begbroke and Yarnton Green Belt Group)

Conclusion

With more than three times the target requirement by 2050 already in the pipeline comprising large scale projects, no pressing need for an unfunded project on green belt land

Target 47 GW+ 75GW = 122 GW total by 2050

Pipeline 60% 738GW = 442GW Large scale projects, i.e. 362% of total requirement by 2050

No other current PINS applications on green belt, see below.

Details of all NSIP solar projects on the PINS website as of 10/9/2025					
Recommended or Decided					
		Status	MW	Green B used?	
Byers Gill Solar		Decided	180	No	
Cleve Hill Solar Park		Decided	373	No	
Cottam Solar Project		Decided	600	No	
East Yorkshire Solar Farm		Decided	400	No	
Fenwick Solar Farm		Rec.	237	No	
Gate Burton Energy Park		Decided	500	No	
Heckington Fen Solar Park		Decided	500	No	
Helios Renewable Energy Proj		Decision	250	No	
Little Crow Solar Park		Decided	150	No	
Longfield Solar Farm		Decided	420	No	
Mallard Pass Solar Project		Decided	350	No	
Oaklands Farm Solar Park		Decided	138	No	
Stonestreet Green Solar		Decision	100	No	
Sunnica Energy Farm		Decided	500	No	
Tillbridge Solar Project		Decision	500	No	
West Burton Solar Project		Decided	480	No	
Under examination					
Dean Moor Solar farm		Exam	150	No	
One Earth Solar farm		Exam	740	No	
Pear Tree Hill Solar Farm		Exam	320	No	
Springwell Solar Farm		Exam	800	No	