

The thorough and impressive examination carried out by the Examination Authority has only strengthened my opinion that the proposed development of Botley West Solar Farm should not go ahead. The Applicant's plans have so many shortcomings, and there is so much information missing or unclear, that allowing the proposed development to continue cannot be following the proper process.

Reports relating to flood risk and storm damage have not been provided.

Local authorities, professional landscape architects, local organisations and residents have provided substantial and robust evidence of the significant impact on the landscape and detailed areas from which panels (and associated construction) should be removed, all of which has been ignored by the Applicant.

The Applicant has provided no evidence for the claim that the land to be used for solar panels is poor due to farming methods, and has ignored evidence from soil surveys and tenant farmers that the development will result in the significant loss of best and most versatile land for food production.

Plans for 'community food growing' were included without relevant consultation, do not explain how the community will benefit from the described commercial enterprise, do not show what land will be used, or provide evidence for what could be grown.

An educational facility appeared late in the process without relevant consultation and in wholly inappropriate location.

The residential visual amenity assessment was rushed through at the last minute and is full of mistakes and omissions. No location has been given for the substantial solid constructions associated with solar installations. Any construction should be at least 250m from residences.

There is no plan for managing the claimed increase in biodiversity.

Narrow enclosed footpaths are not characteristic of the area, as claimed by the Applicant, who has ignored the request from the local authority for wider corridors.

Much has been made of the development being temporary, but there are no clear logistical or financial plans for decommissioning, either in respect to the solar panels or the land.

The cable route under the River Thames or through the town of Eynsham is not defined.

The National Grid substation has not been approved, neither has the significant amount of lithium battery storage (with its associated fire risk) needed for a solar installation on this scale.

Funding for the project is not clear. Funding commitments by developers must be independently evaluated and there must be safeguards and guarantees against investment from inappropriate or even hostile parties. I welcome the written questions submitted by my local MP (Callum Miller) on these matters.

If the proposal is considered on merit, as stated by the Secretary of State that all proposals should be, then it must be rejected.