

Registered Party Ref [REDACTED]

I am a strong supporter of renewable energy and we are in the process of installing 13 solar panels on our property. I support development especially appropriate and well-conceived development. This proposal is neither.

Botley West is too big, inappropriately located to residential areas, destroys good agricultural land for ever and removes the amenity of the Green Belt, not only from local communities but the wider benefit of Oxfordshire, including the 23,000 visitors to Hill End Outdoor centre.

I fully support the position of Cumnor Parish Council and The Vale of White Horse DC to remove the Southern Site wholly from this application.

From the outset, at the first public consultation at Cumnor Village Hall, the developer has attempted to deflect, mislead and openly ignore reasonable requests to answer questions and provide evidence.

The curtilage of our property, on Tumbledown Hill sits 225m from the Power Station boundary. Yet our property has not been included in the RVAA. To my knowledge my neighbours have also been omitted. As has Hill End Centre on the other side of Farmoor Valley. The photos supplied for my neighbours show their driveway rather than the views towards the solar panels and Power Station to the north. This is either incompetence or [REDACTED] by the developer of the Planning Inspectorate.

The developer has failed to acknowledge the Cumnor Neighbourhood Plan particularly with respect to Flood Risk and Important Views policies.

It is clear that the developer has not engaged positively with the Planning Inspectorate which, given the sheer size and scale of this infrastructure is alarming and leads to a lack of trust in their being able to fulfil their commitments and promises.

Many questions, posed by the Parish Council, by residents, by the MP Layla Moran and by others, remain and will, by the look of things, remain unanswered, with the applicant asserting that these matters will only be addressed after planning permission is granted. This level of detail should not be left to chance with a project as large and permanent in nature as this.

In addition, I wish to reiterate my opposition to Botley West on the following grounds:

- Permanent, not temporary, industrialisation of Green Belt land — including large areas within Cumnor Parish.
- Substantial and lasting Heritage, Landscape and Visual impacts, notably on Public Rights of Way such as the Oxford Green Belt Way.

- Contravention of the adopted Cumnor Neighbourhood Plan policies, particularly those concerning Important Views and Flood Risk.
- Lack of assessment of cumulative impacts, including those arising from the proposed National Grid substation and the adjacent Red House Solar Farm.
- Inadequate and error-strewn assessment of visual amenity impacts on domestic properties.
- Noise disruption from both construction and operation, affecting homes and walkers across the parish's extensive footpath network.
- Numerous unanswered questions — including:
 - Traffic and transport impacts, such as repeated disruption to the B4044 and B4017, alterations to roads to accommodate abnormal loads up to 150 tons, and adverse effects on the proposed B4044 Community Path.
 - Ecological concerns, including risks to protected farmland species such as skylarks and the impact on the Hill End Outdoor Education Centre.

I'm also struck by the volume of detail that PVDP has yet to provide.

The Planning Inspectorate's own hearings have revealed significant shortcomings in the application, and the Examiners have expressed clear frustration at the lack of clarity and rigour.

I therefore endorse the Oxfordshire Host Authorities' request for the removal of the proposed southern site from the application. This portion, which lies entirely within Cumnor Parish, is especially sensitive and ill-suited to development.

I also support the Examining Authority's proposed conditions that:

- **No construction may commence until National Grid's application to VWHDC is granted, and**
- **The applicant, PVDP, must demonstrate how they intend to fund decommissioning in 42 years' time.**

