

Dear Examiners,

I hope you'll forgive me an introduction; I was born in Lahore, Pakistan and spent the first half of my childhood there before moving to Oxford with my family. We have roots in the area as my grandmother has lived in and around Oxford since the seventies and my mother spent part of her childhood here; she now teaches at [REDACTED]. After living in London for a decade, my fiancée and I have recently moved to Bladon. It is a homecoming for me; I've played cricket in most of the villages of West Oxfordshire, spent evenings in many of its pubs, passed days walking and cycling its trails and paths.

I return to Pakistan regularly to visit family but also to travel around the country. Over time, I have noted small changes in the villages that I pass by; most people still live in simple brick houses but I've seen the eventual addition to each of mosquito nets and a small array of solar panels. These changes have been quietly transformational. Families can now live without fear of dengue or malaria, sterilize their babies' bottles, and educate their children by electric light. It is an example of rural self-sufficiency combined with a considered use of modern technology to create improvements in daily life that are tangible and on a human scale.

The planned Botley West "farm" is none of those things. It the proposition of a distant corporation to extract more profit from the world, to turn more of the Earth into a machine for delivering profit at the expense of everyone and everything else. What used to be "environmentalism", or simply love of the Earth, has now been captured by this way of thinking and the fusion of the two presents itself as the solutions of the problems of its own making. As the Examiners have found, the Applicant has shown nothing but [REDACTED] for even the planning process; indeed, one gets the impression that they've proposed this enormous project in the hope of extracting a smaller victory out of it in the name of compromise.

Until moving here, I worked at Kraken Technologies, an energy technology company part of the Octopus Energy group. I know from my time there that it has never been easier for households to incorporate solar power into their houses by means of panels on the roof, home battery storage, and a smart tariff that helps them make the most of the hardware.

Indeed, many of my neighbours have already taken advantage of this and I plan on doing the same in due course. This is human scale and with tangible benefits (reduced bills for the customer and reduced load on the grid). [REDACTED]

representation treads the same path when he says that "large solar plants are not the way to go in the United Kingdom".

Why we should give up our land to something we don't control or interact with directly?

Before Kraken, I worked at a heavy machine telematics company. From this experience, I know the vast amounts of fuel a large construction project consumes. Therefore, I can corroborate the existing objections from IPs that it will not offset the carbon emissions it generates during its construction. Even on its own terms, Botley West will be a failure.

Finally, it has not escaped my notice that the paving stones around Sir Winston Churchill's grave recently become loose and required repair. I should think that the old bulldog sensed what was being proposed for the green and pleasant land that he did so much to protect and was trying to warn us against it.

Yours sincerely,

Imran Azin Khan