

I am a resident of West Oxfordshire who lives not far from the Northern site of the Botley West Project. I am grateful that the Examiners have devoted such careful attention to the project and to PVDP's Application.

I would like to make the following comments to the Examiners:

- 1) It cannot be stated too often that the extremely large size of the whole project, with its three separate areas, is grossly out of keeping with the surrounding countryside and local towns/villages/fields.
- 2) No serious consideration seems to have been given to alternatives offering more appropriate/consistent options. It appears that the Applicant has chosen not to respond properly on this fundamental issue.
- 3) The Applicant's general approach has consistently shown a lack of accuracy, a lack of timeliness and a general failure to respect the seriousness and stringency that a major project of this scale demands. For example, PVDP's assessment of landscape impacts is an unsubstantiated "not significant".
- 4) In an area that has been productively farmed for many years, it is impossible to accept PVDP's assertion that they are not taking productive land out of food production. There does not appear to be a sufficiently detailed breakdown of the agricultural land affected by categories, so that a proper assessment of the food security impact can be made.
- 5) At a time of increased intensity of rainfall, it is surely unacceptable for PVDP to fail to address with scientific evidence the increased flood risks.

Many other issues have been raised – for example respect for the county's past (heritage assets and archaeology) and concern for its future (decommissioning) – where the Applicant has not shown due regard for the magnitude and seriousness of what is at stake.

The theme which emerges throughout this process is the deficiency of the Applicant. Is this evidence of its inadequate financial resources? Or inadequate real expertise and experience?

I hope that the Examiners will reject this Application.

The only other reasonable course of action would be to require the Applicant to start afresh, return to the drawing board and work with all stakeholders to produce a proper solution that is in proportion with the location and which respects the local context.

We all appreciate the urgent need for alternative renewable energy production, but this is no excuse for an ill-considered project such as Botley West whose promoters have failed to provide proper convincing arguments in its favour as it stands.