

Comment on the Applicant's Response to RFI paragraph 52

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: **Waste**

52. In line with NPS EN-1 paragraph 5.15.9, the **Applicant** is requested to provide an update on their proposed arrangements for the decommissioning of solar panels, including whether suitable waste-processing and recycling facilities have been identified.

APPLICANT'S RESPONSE

The Applicant has provided a list of seven PV-Dedicated Recycling Facilities (AATF)¹, each of which can process typically 500 tonnes per day [[Response to Consultation 1](#), page 113]. There is a map showing their locations relative to Botley West.

"approved, licensed third party waste facilities"
has been updated to
"appropriately permitted waste facilities." [[Outline Decommissioning Plan Rev 3](#), page 8].

Seven PV-Dedicated Recycling Facilities can recycle, in total, **3500 tonnes per day**.

IP COMMENT

Solar PV recycling

Europe's most advanced solar PV recycling facility is probably the ROSI plant near Grenoble (France). A good introduction to ROSI and related PV recycling technologies can be found in this [YouTube video](#) by German broadcaster Deutsche Welte.

ROSI processes 3000 tonnes of PV panels per year (8 tonnes per day).

PV-Dedicated Recycling Facilities (AATF)

According to [Companies House](#) submissions, *Pravas Sustainable Technology Ltd*,² located in Worcester since late 2024, has four employees.

The *Recycle Solar Technologies* website states that it does not recycle solar panels. *Pravas Solar Ltd* is a dormant company name registered to a residential address. The other PV recycling facilities do not appear to be AATF-accredited; they have typically one employee and a well-designed website.

The PV-Dedicated Recycling Facilities might recycle, in total, **1 ton per day**.

¹ Approved Authorised Treatment Facility.

² [REDACTED]

PV Recycling vs. Landfill

The Deutsche Welte video reports that PV recycling in the USA is around six times more costly than landfill (US gov NREL survey). Land is at a premium in the UK, so landfill here is discouraged through taxation. Theoretically, there is scope for the government to increase the rate of landfill taxation to the point where it competes with the cost of PV recycling.

Conclusion

Botley West will generate sufficient PV waste to justify its own landfill site [[REP1-156](#), page 4]. Chemical processing will be required to remove toxic elements prior to landfill.

The DCO should secure both the solar PV disposal method and the necessary funding for decommissioning.