

[REDACTED]

From: Leigh Bennett [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 July 2026 11:15
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Objection to Botley West Solar farm

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Dear Planning Inspectorate,

As a resident of the Botley, Oxford my life would be impacted by the approval of the proposed solar project. I therefore want to express my objection for the following reasons:

To proceed with this project would devastate a huge swathe of rural Oxfordshire. The impact on nature would be heartbreaking, the loss of countryside a point from which there could be no return. This beautiful part of rural Oxfordshire, lost forever. Would this project be considered in our neighbouring Cotswolds? I doubt it, yet the impact would be no less. To rob our environment of this much countryside must surely be criminal.

My family have been living within the area of the proposed site for several generations and their communities would be deeply affected by this. The construction of the solar farm would add a massive strain to the already struggling infrastructure of rural Oxfordshire with the inevitable heavy construction traffic dominating the roads for years to come. Would the affected areas be expected to put our lives on hold because builders have turned up? The hi-vis vests, temporary lights and general inconsiderate delays caused by large projects would disrupt our lives for years! As for example the Botley Road rail bridge/tunnel catastrophe.

This project would impact all other life in these communities, making it especially dangerous for the walkers and cyclists who frequent these already poor roads by adding heavy construction traffic for an undefined ongoing duration. Can the planners not give a better estimate of the duration of the work required? This reflects very poorly on them raising doubts about the whole project. Should they be given permission would it be cart-blanche for the contractors to cause as much disruption, destruction and delays as they require with no oversight? All while local council tax rises year after year and the provision of service sharply declines!

The energy contribution of this project, heaven forbid it should be approved, is also questionable when weighed against the carbon footprint of it's construction and relatively short useful lifetime of the solar farm. This is a short sighted, short term plan for the financial benefit of the estate owners only. Please do not allow this reckless destruction of our countryside and communities.

Mr Leigh Bennett
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]