

Jessica Dunlop

From: Dowling christine <dowling126@yahoo.co.uk>
Sent: 14 July 2026 16:53
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Subject: Fw: Submission for the July 16 2024 Deadline

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From: Dowling christine <dowling126@yahoo.co.uk>
To: BotleyWestSolar@planninginspectorate.giv.UK <botleywestsolar@planninginspectorate.giv.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 July 2026 at 16:41:02 BST
Subject: Submission for the July 16 2024 Deadline

I am writing as a resident of Eynsham who is concerned at the pre-emptive scale of the Solar Five Botley West Application. This is a supplementary Submission. I am aware of the need to reduce the use of fossil fuels but am concerned at the need to locate energy generation within the larger planning setting.

My objections are primarily three first that the finance is ultimately Russian, hence raising question of risks of cyber security for UK energy generation. Relevant here is Private Eye the publication that publishes material other newspapers cannot get passed their legal departments have devoted five issues to this relationship.

Second, is the way the Applicant has failed to answer fully nor to meet deadlines set down by the Secretary of State for this matters. The submission of material after deadlines to which other parties have not been able to reply in my view suggests less than best practice and invalidates the Application. The contrast between the over-ambitious scale of the Application and its poor administration is worrying and no recommendation. The Application fails on procedure and thereby the community in which the land sits

Third is that the date of this Submission occurs as a change at the highest level of leadership of UK Governance is taking place. We must wait for the policy directions to emerge but from what

we have already heard, relative to planning, is that a Burnham government intends to emphasise devolution to regional levels and to operate the planning function co-operatively. In some quarters in the EU this relies on the political terms, subsidiarity and solidarity. A scheme of the scale put forward by the Applicant lacks any sense of its priority and role within a more devolved regional governance and reasonably may be said to pre-empt the large area of Oxford hinterland where it may well obstruct plans for a Greater Oxford Unitary Council and the Greater Oxford Development Corporation. This pre-emption may be part of an opportunistic attempt by the Applicant and the landowners behind them to cash in themselves where the common good implicit in the Burnham approach to co-operative regional planning would bring together many social and economic partners in the development of the greater Oxford area. This is particularly so in the case of the Salt Cross Garden Village and the research park to be located within it./

It is then for these three main reasons that I oppose this application at this particular time.

The cyber-security of UK energy generation, the failure of the Applicant to operate within the schedule set for their compliance resulting in a denial of a proper process of cross scrutiny, and its pre-emptive incompatibility with emerging processes and institutions of local and regional development in place and emerging as Oxford becomes a focus to regional economic development render the Application's refusal by the Secretary of State.

There are of course a legion of other matters such as the impact on visual amenity, heritage preservation, agriculture, future housing needs the Green Belt, and a fundamental appreciation of the extremely significance of the land for the proper development of the hinterland of a research based economy of the utmost national importance.

The Application fails substantively, procedurally, and as being contrary to public policy

Yours faithfully,
John Dowling, Eynsham resident
Professor Emeritus Smith Business School
Queen' University Canada
Sometime Visiting Fellow Templeton College
University of Oxford