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From: [REDACTED]@blenheimpalace.com>
Sent: 16 July 2026 17:51
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Botley West Solar Farm (EN010147) - Response to All Interested Parties
Consultation on behalf of Blenheim Estate

Botley West Solar Farm (EN010147) - Response to All Interested Parties Consultation

Submitted on behalf of the relevant entities which make up Blenheim Estate

Blenheim Estate holds the majority of land within the Order Limits and has been an Interested Party throughout the Examination and subsequent process. We have made previous submissions and supported the examination where requested so will not repeat those points.

We were supportive of this proposal at the close of the Examination, and we remain supportive. The engagement that has taken place since April 2026, between the Applicant, the Host Authorities and the wider community has produced a scheme that is, in our view, stronger and more responsive than anything that has gone before.

As custodians of the Blenheim Palace World Heritage Site, we have followed the evolution of this scheme with particular care. We are satisfied that the revised masterplan does not cause harm to the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Site, its setting, or the qualities that underpin its international designation. This reflects our own assessment of the scheme as it has evolved, informed by our direct and long-standing knowledge of the Palace, its designed landscape, and the wider estate. We are pleased this assessment is consistent with the direction of Historic England's engagement throughout the process.

As long-term managers of the land within the Order Limits, the Estate is well placed to speak to its character and agricultural quality. With careful consideration we believe this project represents the most productive use of this land over the projects life.

Renewable energy at scale, delivered through sensitive landscape design, ecological enhancement, habitat creation, livestock farming, public access, and significant community benefits, goes some way towards addressing one of the greatest shared challenges of this generation. We are proud to play our part, both in caring for the scheme throughout its lifetime and in supporting its contribution to the national energy transition.

Our land rights position is set out in our earlier submissions and we remain grateful to the Secretary of State for the consideration given.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
Managing Director – Estates

BLENHEIM

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