

[REDACTED]

From: Kevan Martin [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 July 2026 23:11
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Cc: Kevan Martin
Subject: Botley West

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]]

Dear Planning,

I oppose the Botley West Solar Farm.

It is not a 'farm', it is a large scale power plant spread over a large area of farm land. Its scale means that its visual impact will be considerable and unavoidable for all who live in the adjacent villages. Oxford is already encircled by more and more developments so that the green spaces are rapidly shrinking, to the detriment of the physical and mental well-being of the people who use them for leisure. This development will effectively create a large spread industrialization of what is presently a rural landscape enjoyed and valued by many. The statement that this development will have a limited life-span is risible - can one really imagine just switching it off 40 yrs from now?

While much is claimed by the developers about the benefits of solar power stations for nature, scientific studies have yet to show shows that this is the case. Science shows that the area occupied by the panels is typically not botanical biodiverse. The construction of the Large fences will restrict the natural migration of many animals. (The PR photos of sheep grazing between the panels ignores the fact that ruminants are a major source of greenhouse gases). The developers are vague about the environmental impacts and the mitigation of impacts of construction and maintenance.

The repeated claim this will have some particular benefit for Oxfordshire power needs is also risible, since the power station will be connected to the National Grid.

Yours sincerely
Kevan AC Martin