

Simon Raywood

From: helen catherine mortimer [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 September 2026 11:31
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Subject: Botley West Solar Farm: EN010147

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]

Dear Secretary of State

Botley West Solar Farm: EN010147

I am disappointed that the Applicant's late submissions have been accepted causing further delay in the decision for Botley West and requiring yet another response from Interested Parties.

I am a supporter of the Stop Botley West campaign and fully endorse the comprehensive SBW submission of 16 July [\[C2-161\]](#). I am concerned that despite these new proposals the Application is still irretrievably flawed. Too many questions remain unanswered and the Applicant seeks to defer too many important decisions until after any development consent is granted when they will be beyond public scrutiny and challenge.

I am concerned that the Applicant's amended Schedule 2, requirement 15 in the DCO, states that the 100m buffer minimum will be used as "the starting point which has been amended to require the final plan to be substantially in accordance with this outline plan." This implies that very few buffers will be increased to anything near 250m. This contradicts the Applicant's 9 June submissions in which the starting point was the 250m maximum to be adjusted downwards in some cases. This is a significant and unjustified change compared to the Applicant's submissions of 9 June in which the Applicant admitted that the Installation would still be viable, albeit marginally, with a panel area using a 250m buffer.

I am also dismayed that the Applicant has left many unresolved issues unaddressed. Those that particularly concern me are:

- The Landscape Character Assessment requested by ICOMOS has not been undertaken and issues raised by ICOMOS remain unresolved.
- The arboricultural impact assessment is still not done and the skylark compensation strategy is unworkable.
- A large part of the central site is now on the list of SSSI designation proposed development, named The Three Rivers potential SSSI site based on the presence of the rivers and river valleys in the region. This needs to be considered.

I respectfully request the Secretary of State to refuse outright the grant of a DCO for this Application.

Yours sincerely

Helen Mortimer