

Christopher Nuttall-Smith

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16 September 2026

Dear Secretary of State

Botley West Solar Farm: EN010147

I am **very** disappointed that the Applicant's late submissions have been accepted causing further delay in the decision for Botley West and requesting 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 2026. 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**.

As SBW have already shown in their submission to you of 16 July there are **thousands** of very good reasons why the submission of Botley West Solar Farm should be rejected, but may I highlight some that particularly concern me:

- 1] I am in favour of the planet doing whatever is possible to reduce the effects of global warming, however the tiny UK's influence is negligible when set against the carbon output of the rest of the planet.
- 2] Solar panels located in the UK have almost the lowest yield on the planet.
- 3] If solar panels are considered useful they should first be located on roof tops of existing and new commercial and industrial buildings and on all new build housing.
- 4] *If* more electrical energy *is* required in UK to meet net zero goals, wind or packaged nuclear should be considered which can be shown to provide the power output claimed by this developer on a fraction of the land that they propose to destroy.
- 5] The project is located within the setting of a World Heritage Site, on irreplaceable good productive agricultural land. (Not on 3rd grade land as the greenwashing developers would have you believe). This proposal is in fact industrialisation of the Green Belt. The developer has made little or no effort to justify the project's location nor to convince that it meets the threshold of "very special circumstances" sufficient to outweigh the damage to the Green Belt. Once such land is industrialised by a solar "farm" it would take more than a 200 years to return it to its original state.
- 6] The solar panels proposed will presumably come from China and will inevitably contain materials (including fluoropolymers, so called forever plastics) which when they are eventually disposed of will breakdown into micro-sized particles that ultimately enter waterways, soil and food chain accumulating in animal and human tissue.

I have presented my views to you previously in my letter of 16 JULY 2026 to your predecessor.

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

Yours faithfully

Christopher Nuttall-Smith

Interested Party Registration No: [REDACTED]

cc Layla Moran MP <layla.moran.mp@parliament.uk>

cc Cllr Westcott [REDACTED]

cc SBWComms <sbwcommunitycomms@gmail.com>