

Simon Raywood

From: Robert Kesterton [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 October 2026 21:42
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Subject: Botley West Solar Farm: EN010147

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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 requesting yet another response from Interested Parties.

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.

The scale of the proposed **Botley West Solar Farm** is entirely disproportionate for this location and should be rejected. Spanning over **2,400 acres** of rural Oxfordshire countryside, this industrial-scale project is simply too vast to be accommodated so close to established residential communities and historic settlements. Covering such a large footprint—roughly **75% of which sits on protected Green Belt land**—will fundamentally despoil the open, rural character of the landscape and will severely impact this rural Oxfordshire setting. While I strongly support the transition to renewable energy and have worked in the sector for 20+ years, I believe it must happen in the right place and at the right scale; industrializing this unique, highly populated lowland landscape is a step too far, and the application must be refused.

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

Name: R Kesterton