

Simon Raywood

From: Penny Franklin [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 October 2026 17:58
To: Botley West Solar Farm

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 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 [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 stand by my comments in the other submissions I have submitted on time and in good faith.

I cannot believe that this project has not been turned down already. I now have no faith in the planning system and the democratic process here.

It would seem that the opportunistic developers have all the advantages and the 25,000 residents that would be affected by this industrialisation of beautiful countryside surrounding a World Heritage Site are irrelevant.

What is the point of a very expensive N.S.I.P. process if every project is passed regardless of suitability. This one most obviously is not suitable and must have been turned down by the Planning Inspectorate.

Is there nowhere these days that is not considered fair game for developers? Approximately 900,000 to a million visitors come from all over the world to visit Blenheim Palace. Whether rail or road they will be approaching through or adjacent to this solar industrialisation. Is Stonehenge next ?

This site in the Evenlode Valley is of such ecological significance that it is under consideration for SSSI status.

We live about 250 metres from this site and currently Blenheim Estates are doing an Environmental Impact Assessment to build 600 houses between here and in the same

field as the solar park and immediately adjacent to a 1000 yr old ancient woodland which is home to 14 species of bats some of them rare.
The Solar Farm would occupy one third of Hanborough Parish.

The Applicant has failed to mitigate for the harm from BWSF. to nature, biodiversity and the ecosystem.

Finally, not addressed anywhere is the mental toll. The time, effort and uncertainty that the public have to endure over four years in defending much loved countryside and its ecosystem.

Now we learn this industrialisation is not for supplying houses with electricity but to supply a data centre which will line pockets of a private company.

History will judge the folly of a government that passes this awful project .
We have enough solar power in the pipeline to more than meet Net Zero without allowing enormous solar farms near residential areas on Green Belt farmland affecting so many people.
It would also be an excellent target for an enemy in any future conflict.

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

Name: Penny Franklin_____

Interested Party Registration No: _____ (delete if you can't find this!)