

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 October 2026 11:49
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Subject: Concerns about 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 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.

As Farmoor residents, we are particularly concerned over the huge scale of the installation and how it will leave currently viable arable land in a postindustrial state after 40 years. Granting the BSWF application will be the first step that leads to series of industrial scale developments in the vicinity of the Farmoor Reservoir. These are the grid substation and a probable battery farm, both of which it seems will be in the fields on the south side of Bushy Leaze Lane, the access road to Lower Whiteley Farm. The reservoir and its environment is an important wild fowl base for migratory birds, in particular the snow geese which now graze in these fields in the winter.

The route of the cable line needed to link the panels in the Northern and Central areas of BSWF to the grid is not clear but one proposed route for its installation may endanger ancient protected wild flower meadows near the Toll Bridge and disrupt the main road through Farmoor. If the grid substation and the solar panels on the slopes of Tumbledown are installed, both will be visible to the many who enjoy the reservoir facilities and its

woodland setting. They will also be visible from one of the main paths round the southern side of the Wytham Woods SSSI.

Like many, we are frustrated that so much open countryside is at risk when developers have not carried out an open effective consultation process. This process was on a 'take it or leave it' basis, with no preparedness on their part to discuss alternative plans which would include more community involvement in the proposals. Most respondents are frustrated that developers generally are not required to place solar panels on new buildings and utilise industrial roof space. This project seems like a quick win for the government to meet targets while enriching foreign investors and calling the World Heritage status of Blenheim into question.

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

Names: _Eleanor and Richard Wadge