

Simon Raywood

From: Peter Plavina [REDACTED] on behalf of Peter Plavina
Sent: 04 October 2026 14:22
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Subject: Re Botley West Solar Farm: EN010147

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]

Dear Secretary of State,

From the other side of the planet, in Australia, I've been observing this project as it goes through the regulatory processes.

I can see there are many questions regarding details about hedges, particular parcels of land, proximity to houses, cycle paths, etc but while all of this is sort of interesting and makes everyone feel good that there is a serious process of consultation and planning taking place, the key point is being missed.

It is simply sheer madness to put a huge solar farm in that location because of what is irretrievably lost.

You have quintessential Oxfordshire landscape being destroyed, you are interfering drastically with the qualities of life for thousands of residents in 7 or 8 villages. No, interfering is too gentle, a better word is "destroying". And you have Blenheim Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site surrounded by black glass panels! It is madness that this project got past a sketch on a piece of scrap paper in someone's living room whenever this idea was born.

Yes, the country and the planet needs renewable energy projects as a matter of urgency. But please pick locations where there is not such a long list of physical, environmental, social, cultural and heritage values which will be destroyed. Look for land with lower intrinsic values.

If you don't think this is a good enough reason to block the Botley West solar farm project, then I propose you choose Bushy Park in London as the next location for a solar farm. It is the same size as the West Botley project. London needs renewable power. Make the city folk feel some of the pain the Oxfordshire people are feeling.

Every objection to filling Bushy Park with solar panels will be the same as the objections you have heard from people living in and around the Botley West project. If you don't think it's right to build a solar farm over Bushy Park, then it's not right to build a solar farm over the proposed Oxfordshire countryside.

Kind regards

Peter plavina
Perth, Australia
Interested Party Registration No: [REDACTED]