

Simon Raywood

From: Graham May [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 October 2026 14:51
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Botley West Solar Farm: EN010147

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To: <BotleyWestSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Dear Secretary of State

Botley West Solar Farm: EN010147

I write as a resident of the Parish of Cumnor for over 30 years. I have over two decades of experience at Directorial level in heavy engineering. For those familiar with these industries and for all objective observers it is quite obvious that the Applicants and their contractors have failed to comply with the requirements of the planning process. Furthermore, they have used the very common (and often cynically employed) tactics of obstruction and procrastination to try to exhaust the patience of the public upon whose lives their project will have such a deleterious effect, and to attempt to force the hands of the decision-makers.

I write to **OPPOSE** this project.

I strongly oppose the Botley West Solar Farm initiative for the reasons so professionally and cogently articulated by Cumnor Parish Council (see their submission of 15/7/26), and the Stop Botley West campaign (see, inter alia, their submission of 16/7/26 [C2-161]). These submissions express with great thoroughness and rigour the failings of the project from multiple perspectives: scientific, environmental, archaeological, cultural and agricultural.

The documents of the Parish Council and the Stop Botley West campaign present their evidence-based arguments far better than I can do in this short letter. I write as I have done before in support of the excellent work done by these two bodies, to oppose this project.

What is clear is that the Applicants' inability and unwillingness to comply with the requirements of the planning process demonstrate that there is no evidence that they can actually achieve the implementation, on-going running, and eventual dismantlement of so vast and complex a project without permanent harmful consequences to the human and natural environment.

We are all the custodians of this cherished land for our children and our children's children. We passionately believe in the goals of Net Zero and the benefits of the replacement of fossil fuels by alternative, environment-friendly, means of electricity generation.

But what we all need are solutions that actually work without multiplying the challenges we face, solutions that are driven by intelligence, science, and the enthusiastic goodwill of local communities.

I therefore strongly urge you to REFUSE outright the grant of a DCO for this Application.

This will, I hope, free your Department and our local communities to concentrate upon more workable and sustainable solutions.

Sincerely,

Graham May

MA MPhil FCA