

Simon Raywood

From: Sally [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 October 2026 20:42
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Subject: Botley West Solar Farm

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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 regarding Botley West and requesting yet another submission from Interested Parties.

I am a supporter of the Stop Botley West campaign and fully endorse the comprehensive SBW submission of 16th July[C2-16]. 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.

Some of the many issues of concern that remain outstanding:

- Buffer zones-such a critical issue, remain unresolved. How can the Applicant be held to account?
- Heritage and landscape-the Landscape and Character assessment requested by ICOMOS has not been undertaken and issues raised by ICOMOS remain unresolved.
- National Grid Substation-issues remain that BWSF build must not start until the substation has consent.
- Decommissioning -No fund and no plan in place. This is fundamental if this is to be considered a temporary installation. How can the developer be held to account for this if there is no commitment to a plan? We cannot allow a situation where nobody is accountable for this-practically and economically.
- Ecology and Bio-diversity net gain- issues remain outstanding

The process by which this proposal is assessed has not been respected by the Applicant. Insufficient evidence has been provided by the Applicant to satisfy the requirements of the process that allow a

decision to be made. This is an enormous, audacious and flawed plan. The democracy in which we live has a process that allows full consideration before commitment to allow a development of this nature is made. The Applicant does not appear to be prepared to be held accountable as part of this process. Based on their behaviour to date, I fear what they may do, should permission be granted for a plan that is INADEQUATE and INCOMPLETE, in spite of the additional time they have been given.

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

Sally Thompson

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