[redacted]

The Rt Hon Miatta Farnbulleh MP
Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET

22 July 2026

Dear Secretary of State

I am writing on behalf of Stop Botley West to congratulate you on your appointment as Secretary of State for Energy and Net Zero.

We are a large community group who are deeply concerned about the impact the proposal for a vast solar farm, mostly built on green belt and Blenheim Estate land encompassing the World Heritage Site of Blenheim Palace, will have on twelve villages and more than 11,000 homes within 1.5kms of its boundaries. 1400 residents registered as Interested Parties for the Examination.

We look forward to a clearly democratic decision on an issue that is critical to thousands of local people in their own postcodes, after following the guidance of PINS and a very thorough and fair Examination.

We have already submitted our views on the post examination questions from your department and the answers from the developer, many of which were originally requested in 2023. Rather than spell out those arguments again, our cover letter is attached for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

For and on behalf of Stop Botley West

Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

Department for Energy Security & Net Zero
55 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HP

www.gov.uk

[redacted]

contact@stopbotleywest.com

Our ref: TOB2026/10265
Your ref:

July 2026

Dear [redacted],

Thank you for your letter of 22 July, about Botley West Solar Farm. Your correspondence has been passed to me for response.

As I hope you will appreciate, the Secretary of State receives significant volumes of correspondence on a daily basis, and, regrettably, is unable to respond to each one personally. Therefore, I have been asked to respond.

I can confirm that your email will be treated as a representation and will be carefully considered alongside all matters that are relevant to the decision-making on the application for development consent in accordance with the Planning Act 2008.

Given the Secretary of State's quasi-judicial role in taking decisions on applications for development consent for energy infrastructure proposals, it would not be appropriate to comment on specific matters related to the proposals, as this could be seen as prejudicing the decision-making process.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]
DESNZ CORRESPONDENCE UNIT