[redacted]

October 7th 2026

For the attention of :

The Rt Hon Miatta Fahnbulleh MP
UK Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Forever Fields Open Art Exhibition Book.

Thankyou for taking the time to look at this book. The Forever Fields Community Art Project was a creative response to the proposed Botley West Solar Farm proposal, which has now passed the Examination stage and is awaiting a final decision.

Given your new role, I wanted to share a copy of this book with you. It contains all the information needed to understand the art project and presents all the work that was created and exhibited by local artists in 2023, together with over 200 comments from visitors to the exhibition itself.

During the examination phase I summarised the views of the Forever Fields community and then contributed at various deadline phases on their behalf. The book was accepted by the Examiner as a piece of evidence and published online.

My son [redacted] and he attended the exhibition at the time. He is fully aware of the Forever Fields project and how local people have responded to the Botley West Solar Farm. I understand that he has written to you separately with copies of various Private Eye articles which relate to questions regarding the financial background to the developer proposing the scheme.

If you are short of time, it is the sort of book you can dip in and out of. However, I would be really appreciative if you could read pages 2-7 which provide the background to the project and the timeline followed.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address or by email: [redacted]

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Anthony Thompson

Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

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London
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Anthony Thompson
[redacted]

Our ref: TOB2026/13810
Your ref:

October 2026

Dear Anthony Thompson,

Thank you for your letter of 7 October, regarding the proposed 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.

Thank you also for sending a copy of the Forever Fields book to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State's office has confirmed receipt of the book as a gift.

I can confirm that your letter and accompanying material 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