

The recent upgrade of the East West Railway between Milton Keynes and Bicester has increased the land take that the railway previously had. It appears that a lot of this extra land is effectively redundant i.e. not used in the actual operation of the railway but still enclosed by the boundary fences. Has any consideration been given to the possibility of using these redundant areas for the location of solar panels? Whilst some might clearly present a problem of reflected light to train drivers, there are other substantial embankments (in a generally east to west orientation) that could usefully be considered for the purpose of solar power generation. Has Network Rail been consulted about this possibility?