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Email. 

Ms Clare Whitehead, Case Officer
Development Management
Cherwell District Council
Bodicote House, Bodicote
Banbury
OX15 4AA

11 December 2019

Ref: Great Lakes UK Ltd – Application Ref: 19/02550/F

Dear Sirs,

I wish to strongly object to the above application on the grounds that this proposal is not in accordance with the Local Development Plan and goes against the government strategy of reducing reliance on cars.

It is in an inappropriate location on the edge of a small historic village. It will comprise 500,000 square feet of building on a greenfield site, irreversibly removing important green space and disrupting ecological habitats for an abundance of wildlife. The design of the buildings is neither small scale or detached and therefore not in keeping with the character of the local area.

The existing road infrastructure cannot cope with the projected extra 1,000 + daily car movements. Chesterton is already a 'rat-run' and experiences major congestion as an escape route during the many traffic issues on the M40 and A34. As more houses and industrial units are being built within the immediate vicinity of the village the roads will carry more and more traffic and will not cope – never mind if this development adds enormously to the weight of traffic on these roads. The M40, A34, A41, A4095 and B430 are more or less at saturation point on a daily basis, certainly in rush hour periods – the projected 2,000 visitors each day will all arrive by car (there is no other transport option) and they will be arriving during peak periods, it is simply not feasible to suggest that these movements on the roads will be staggered and at non peak times. This huge volume of traffic is already causing a serious deterioration in air quality for local residents.

Local businesses are already finding it hard to recruit staff and the Great Lakes proposal will be targeting this small pool of people. As such they will either take employees away from local businesses – a negative economic impact, or they will bring in staff from other areas, thereby increasing traffic movements even further (see paragraph above). With the vast majority of visitors to this development remaining on site for the duration of their visit, there will be very little (if any) economic benefit to local businesses.

Bicester Golf Course will no longer be viable – nobody will play on a 9 hole course. The loss of this sports facility simply adds to the loss of open space and sports amenities in the growing area that Bicester has become. Sports facilities and green open spaces are championed by local councils for the well-being of all people.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs C M Steiner

