

Comment for planning application 22/01682/F

Application Number	22/01682/F
Location	Land North Of Manor Farm Noke
Proposal	Development of a ground mounted solar farm incorporating the installation of solar PV panels, associated infrastructure and access, as well as landscape planting and designated ecological enhancement areas.
Case Officer	James Kirkham
Organisation Name	
Name	Suzy Harvey
Address	Mandray, Street Through Noke, Noke, Oxford, OX3 9TT
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I agree with the need for solar energy, however, I strongly object to this application. We live at the top of Noke village almost next to the Oxfordshire Way footpath between Noke and Islip and every day I look at the wonderful view towards Otmoor and what is now proposed as a solar farm. That first intake of breath from the stunning landscape is followed by a big sigh of what could potentially happen to it. We are so privileged to be able to live here and we should consider ourselves custodians of this landscape and welcome all the walkers and visitors to Noke and Otmoor. We are 40 meters above the proposed application so a 2.8 meter hedge is not going to do much apart from obscure the views from the footpath within it!</p> <p>This is an amazing landscape and I cannot believe that it could be destroyed. I'm sure that Green Nation are a good and considerate company, but an application for this site goes even beyond the criteria on their website. The local environment, bio-diversity, wildlife habitat and migrating birds could be put at huge risk. We are trying to put a sticky plaster on renewable energy and creating a hemorrhage on our landscape and environment - this is too big a risk to take, especially on the misleading information of this application. Anybody with agricultural or horticultural knowledge would class this land as grade 3A. Otmoor is a totally unique habitat and could never be reproduced or replaced - we must realize how fragile our planet and environment is and we can't always solve one problem by creating another. If this application gets approved then it will have such an adverse effect on our village, the surrounding area and all the people who visit Otmoor. Possibly the only person who will benefit from this application is the landowner (and major share holder of New Oxford Energy). I cannot see that any of the so called 'enhancements' will actually be of benefit - in fact they will be the opposite. Wild flowers are not going to grow under solar panels! This land should remain agricultural to preserve the open space or ideally be financed to create a wild habitat as an extension to Otmoor. I'm sure that many local residents would support and cloud fund this if the land remained at agricultural value so that we could protect it for future generations.</p> <p>My biggest concern is that this could just be the start of industrialization of this area of green belt and the natural habitat and agriculture will be lost forever. I think this is a misguided and selfish proposal that should be totally rejected. The prospect of what could happen if this proceeds is incredibly upsetting. We must consider human well-being created by natural open landscapes and its benefits relating to the increase of mental health issues. I think we all need to concentrate more on saving electricity in conjunction with renewable energy rather than just trying to meet guidelines of constructing solar farms irrelevant of the landscape. This is just totally the wrong location.</p> <p>Thank you for reading. Suzy</p>
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Attachments	