

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	Mrs Vicky Robinson
Address	College Farm, Main Street, Oddington, Kidlington, OX5 2RA
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>My concerns and reason for objection are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. NPPF para 147. states that developers will need to demonstrate very special circumstances if renewable energy projects are to proceed. The statement that there are no sites in Cherwell DC outside of the green belt or on previous developed land is untrue and disingenuous. There are acres of roof in Bicester and Banbury with the development of both warehouses and new housing. These areas also have infrastructure in place to support solar panels, this is where new solar panels should be located.2. Land use: Although the area is classified as margin grade 3a/3b it's use to grow crops for food production or bio fuel as at present are not mitigated by the potential energy production of the solar panels. The anticipated energy production used in the application is misleading and uses a figure based on a maximum summer output in optimum conditions rather than a yearly average; This is misleading and should be questioned when the application is considered.3. The proposal to create a species rich sward under the panels using sheep grazing illustrates a lack of understanding on how to create floristically diverse habitats. Unless sheep are carefully managed it would be incredibly hard to create the intended outcome due to the way they graze. Establishing wildflowers on ex arable land is not easy and the detailed management to achieve this is not clear from the application.4. The mitigation proposed to reduce the adverse visual impact in such an important area for recreational walkers and riders especially given the proximity of the area to both Oxford and Bicester is not enough. <p>Overall this is a poorly thought out proposal which does not give due consideration to the importance of the area given it's status and location.</p>
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Attachments	