

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	Julie Howkins
Address	4 College Farm Close, Oddington, Kidlington, OX5 2RL
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I oppose the above application. This isn't a case of 'not in my backyard' as the recent weather is proof that we need to reduce carbon emissions and focus on renewable energy but this proposal will have a detrimental impact on the surrounding area, wildlife, bio-diversity and be a blot on the landscape which will fundamentally change this green belt area for decades.</p> <p>The proposed site is productive farm land and whilst is liable to some flooding is not barren waste land and has always had crops growing in it and is productive agricultural land. The landowner will clearly benefit significantly by leasing out the land and apparently is moving from the area so doesn't feel any sense of responsibility to the local communities with the regards to the impact this will have for years to come.</p> <p>The site borders onto the Otmoor Bird Reserve an area much enjoyed by local and visiting bird spotters and has abundant wildlife all year round. The plans for increasing bio diversity will not be realised for years as much is based upon additional planting to screen the solar panels, which won't mature for at least 10 years and the proposal for sheep grazing under the panels does nothing to increase flora or fauna as sheep eat anything. There is also sufficient grazing on Otmoor already.</p> <p>The visual impact of the solar panels will be seen for miles and will block any view to the surrounding higher ground. The proposed site is undulating and has far reaching views to Islip, Beckley and Otmoor which will be totally obscured by solar panels.</p> <p>There is also a question of how much energy the panels will actually contribute and whether this complies with Cherwell District's Climate Emergency objective. Why isn't it compulsory for all new buildings to have solar panels, particularly with the huge expansion of warehousing and commercial building in Bicester? Siting a solar farm on Green Belt land when there are brown field sites available is totally unacceptable and I urge Cherwell District Council refuse this application</p>
Received Date	20/07/2022 15:39:46
Attachments	