Comment for planning application 22/01682/F

Application Number

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

John & Rosemary Creese

Type of Comment

Address

Comments

Objection

Type neighbour

We object to this application for the following reasons -

5 New Road, Beckley, Oxford, OX3 9ST

1. Agricultural land should not be used for solar panels which only produce electricity in day light hours and mainly through the summer months. They produce nothing during the night and very little through the winter when demand is particularly high. Agricultural land should surely be used primarily to produce food, particularly at this time when we cannot rely on imports.

2. It is very close to the RSPB reserve on Otmoor and installation will undoubtably impact the wildlife on the reserve. The solar farm would be less than 400 metres away from the Bird Reserve and only just over 1 km away from the permanently flooded area within it. Wetland birds and insect life are attracted to the large shiny surfaces of water bodies. Over 100 acres of shiny panels could disorient migrating and other birds.

3. The solar park would fall entirely within the Green Belt. A stand-out feature of Otmoor and the surrounding area is its open, undeveloped character, a rare haven for wildlife and humans alike. 108 acres of panelling would totally change its character for ever.

There are many other less damaging places to position solar panels, such as on home roofs, on industrial and farm buildings or on brown field sites. We surely cannot afford to sacrifice farm land for this use when there are clearly credible alternatives.

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Attachments