Submission ID: 17178

I would like to submit the following comments regarding Mallard Pass Solar Farm:
Countryside - beautiful countryside where we walk most days, and see amazing wildlife, will be lost. We regularly see deer in the fields behind Newstead Road towards Uffington, and it is difficult to explain the beauty of the countryside and the peace of mind it brings.
Footpaths will be lost, the ones remaining having views of solar panels and fencing.
The Governments' latest directive that we should all be within 15 minutes of green space is contradicted as we are having our green space removed around our villages.
Solar panels - we fully support solar power on rooftops and in industrial areas, but not on farmland and countryside. This site is just too vast. Another issue is the manufacture of the solar panels - IEA International Energy Report looks at whether solar panels manufactured in China will be carbon neutral by the end of their life cycle. If high carbon emissions from manufacture can't be offset by the provision of solar power, then this is not sustainable. Decommissioning and recycling will also be a huge future problem - another environmental disaster which will leave an even larger carbon footprint from this project, no doubt the company will be long gone by then. Overall not green or clean power.
[redacted] in the manufacture of the panels.
Access - I note that it is thought access from the A1 and then "rural roads" is good, but as someone who lives here, I can tell you access through country lanes with potholes, through small villages, is not good for construction traffic.
Loss of agricultural land - it is hard to understand how it makes sense to lose agricultural land, meaning more food is imported. Farmers need support to provide food to the UK for future food security and price stability. Government guidance is clear that this graded agricultural land is not suitable for solar development.