

Sent 7 November 2024

Dear Layla,

Council would like the following questions to be raised please.

1. The National Grid letter to Cumnor Parish Council says, “there are three customers with signed agreements in the area”. We all know one of those is Botley West who propose to install solar panels and underground High Voltage cables in my constituency. How many of the other two – and of the other potential customers you mention - also intend to install solar panels and/or high voltage cables in my constituency?
2. I understand that National Grid cannot build infrastructure in advance of the need for it. How many of your three signed up customers have planning permission?
3. Can I confirm that your proposed planning application for the substation in my constituency would be for a permanent facility – not just for the proposed 42-year life of Botley West? I ask because I am concerned that you are proposing permanent industrialisation of the Oxford Green Belt
4. What other locations have you considered for the proposed substation and why have you chosen not to locate it there?
5. In 2023 you told me - and Cumnor Parish Council - that you had no plans for a substation in Cumnor and referred me back to the Botley West developer. You are now proposing your own development. When did you change your mind and why?
6. Does National Grid plan to install battery storage in its proposal for the new substation?

Kind regards

Tina Brock

Clerk to Cumnor Parish Council