



# SUNNICA ENERGY FARM

EN010106

Volume 5

Reports/Statements

5.2 Consultation Report Appendices B-1 – D-2

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)

Section 37(3)(c) Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and  
Procedure) Regulations 2009



Planning Act 2008

**The Infrastructure Planning  
(Applications: Prescribed Forms and  
Procedure) Regulations 2009**

**Sunnica Energy Farm  
Development Consent Order**

**Consultation Report Appendices**

<b>Regulation Reference:</b>	Regulation 5(2)(q)) and Planning Act 2008 section 37(3)(c)
<b>Planning Inspectorate Scheme Reference</b>	EN010106
<b>Application Document Reference</b>	EN010106/APP/5.2
<b>Author</b>	Sunnica Energy Farm Project Team

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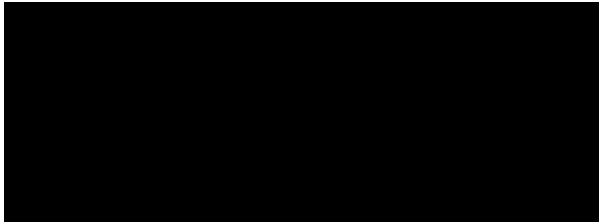
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## Appendix B-1: The Infrastructure Planning (EIA Regulations) 2017: Regulation 8(1) letter to PINS and

**AECOM** Imagine it.  
Delivered.  
**acknowledgement**

AECOM Infrastructure & Environment UK Limited  
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United Kingdom  
  
T: +44 1223 488 000  
aecom.com

13 March 2019



Dear Chris White

**Sunnica Energy Farm  
The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 –  
Regulation 10(1) Application for a Scoping Opinion**

I write with reference to Sunnica Energy Farm (the "Development"), for which we intend to apply for development consent under the Planning Act 2008.

With reference to Regulation 10(1) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ("EIA Regulations 2017"), I write to apply for a scoping opinion from the Secretary of State in respect of the Development.

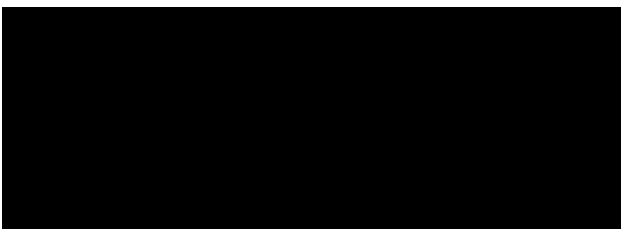
Please find enclosed the information required under Regulation 10(3) of the EIA Regulations 2017.

The enclosed information also formally notifies the Secretary of State, pursuant to Regulation 8(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations 2017, that the Applicant proposes to provide an environmental statement in respect of the Development.

For the purpose of your duties under Regulation 11(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations 2017, the name and address of the Applicant (Sunnica Ltd) for the Development is:

Sunnica Ltd  
Everitt Kerr & Co  
2 Crossways Business Centre  
Bicester Road  
Aylesbury  
HP18 0RA

Yours sincerely,







Major Casework Directorate  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Bristol, BS1 6PN

Customer Services: 0303 444 5000  
e-mail: [Sunnica@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:Sunnica@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

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Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010106-000005

Date: 23 April 2019

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Dear Clare Le Brecht

**Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations) – Regulation 10**

**Proposed application by Sunnica Ltd (the Applicant) for an Order granting Development Consent for the Sunnica Energy Farm (the Proposed Development)**

**Issue of Scoping Opinion and list of the consultation bodies notified by the Secretary of State**

Thank you for your letter received on 13 March 2019 requesting a Scoping Opinion under Regulation 10 of the EIA Regulations and for the Scoping Report entitled Sunnica Energy Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report March 2019.

In accordance with Regulation 10 of the EIA Regulations the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State (SoS) has:

- consulted the consultation bodies;
- taken account of the consultation responses received within the prescribed time period; and
- taken account of the specific characteristics of the Proposed Development as described by the Applicant and the environmental features likely to be affected by the Proposed Development .

The attached document entitled 'Scoping Opinion - Proposed Sunnica Energy Farm and dated 23 April 2019 is the SoS's written opinion as to the information to be provided in the Environmental Statement (ES) which must be submitted with an application for development consent. It should be read in conjunction with your EIA Scoping Report.

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>



All consultation responses received up to and including 11 April 2019 from the consultation bodies have been appended to and form part of the Scoping Opinion.

Further consultation responses have been received by the Planning Inspectorate following the end of the statutory deadline. These have also been enclosed for your consideration. Any further late consultation responses the Planning Inspectorate receives will be forwarded to you for your consideration and made available via our website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>.

Under Regulation 11(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the SoS is required to notify the Applicant of the list of consultation bodies notified in accordance with Regulation 11 of the EIA Regulations. The Planning Inspectorate has notified these consultation bodies that the Applicant intends to provide an ES in respect of the Proposed Development. They have also been informed of their duty under Regulation 11(3) to enter into consultation with the Applicant regarding preparation of the ES, if requested. Please find this list enclosed.

To clarify, the Planning Inspectorate has identified persons under Regulation 11(1)(c) of the EIA Regulations, who may be affected by the Proposed Development. The identified Regulation 11(1)(c) bodies are identified within the enclosed Regulation 11 List. Please refer to the requirements imposed under the EIA Regulations with regard to notifying and consulting Regulation 11(1)(c) persons<sup>1</sup>.

Please be aware that it is the responsibility of the Applicant to ensure their consultation fully accords with the requirements of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended), and associated regulations and guidance. The enclosed list has been compiled by the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the SoS in its duty to notify the consultees in accordance with Regulation 11(1)(a) and, whilst it can inform the Applicant's own consultation, it should not be relied upon for that purpose.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

*Marnie Woods*

**Marnie Woods**  
**Senior EIA and Land Rights Advisor**  
**on behalf of the Secretary of State**

Enclosed:

- Secretary of State Scoping Opinion - Proposed Sunnica Energy Farm April 2019
- Regulation 11 Notification List

Late consultation responses from:

- Cambridgeshire County Council
- East Cambridgeshire District Council
- Bedford Borough Council

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<sup>1</sup> EIA Regulations 13, 16, 19, 20, 22 and 24 also refer to notification requirements with regard to Regulation 11(1)c

This communication does not constitute legal advice.

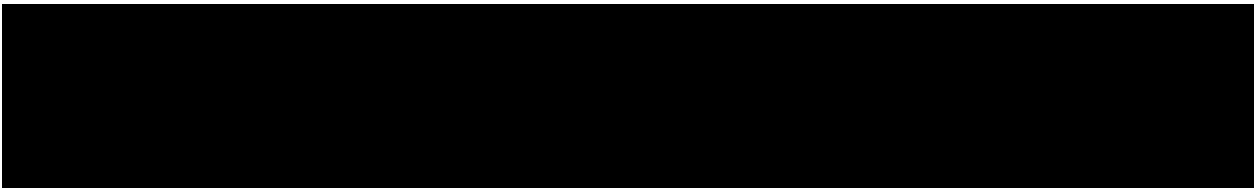
Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

## Appendix C-1: Copy of the notes from meetings with local authority working group on the SOCC and draft SOCC for consultation

### Sunnica Working Group (Communications and consultation)

23 June 2020

Via Teams



#### Introductions and first thoughts

Everyone on the call introduced themselves and stated what they were looking for from the meeting.

██████████ This is an opportunity to do something different and to get it right from the outset. COVID19 is a challenge for consultation but embracing new technologies will help to address it effectively. The key issue was coming up with a package of measure that enables this to happen and builds confidence in the process.

██████████ Also interested in how technology can help to deliver effective consultation but what else can be done to make the process robust and comprehensive?

██████████ Currently planning consultations for WSC and looking at various options and channels for conducting them. These include virtual exhibitions and online stakeholder workshops. Was interested to see how the changes that the PM announced today would actually impact on consultation, especially public face to face meetings. Also worried about the impact of a second lockdown and how the SOCC will allow for this. Also interested in mechanisms to involve hard to reach audiences. ██████████ also talked about research that WSC had conducted into digital penetration in the region which at 93% was higher than the national average.

██████████ Expressed the need to involve hard to reach audiences especially isolated people which can be of particular concern in a rural community of which WSC has many. Also raised the need for the consultation to reach out to young people in different settings such as schools and colleges as they were often underrepresented. Reinforced the need for the SOCC to future proof against a second lockdown.

██████████ Agreed with the above and reemphasised the need to have hard to reach plans in place and that careful thought needs to be given as to who actually falls within this definition.

██████████ Added that some of his members wanted to see a consultation that allowed for the intensity or feeling roused by the scheme. He was keen to see whether face to face as well as digital techniques could be blended as part of the consultation depending upon government measures and guidance in place at any given time.

## **Draft SOCC**

Everyone on the call agreed that the SOCC needed to be updated in the light of COVID 19. [REDACTED] thanked participants for the comments on the original draft SOCC and wanted to use the meeting to establish first principles for the upgrade to the SOCC.

[REDACTED] said that it would be good to have a document that is more interactive and accessible "breathe some life into it". This means using less text and better design.

[REDACTED] said that the needs to be an executive summary that can be translated into a poster format – "or something to put on the fridge" so that people knew what to do and when. It needs to be more customer facing.

[REDACTED] agreed and said that he and others thought the Cleve Hill SOCC was quite good and offered a potential way forward.

## **Non stat consultation lessons**

[REDACTED] said that the non-stat consultation for Sunnica did not contain enough details although he acknowledged that getting the balance right was difficult. Most people were intelligent enough to work things out for themselves if there was enough detail on offer. The red line boundary lacked detail and therefore tended to scare people. It was imperative that consultation materials give people a good chance to understand what the impact would actually be. There was a lack of focus on local benefits at the no stat consultation that needs to be addressed in the stat consultation. IN also said that there was a concern that the DCO process simply pushed forward without taking local views into account. He agreed that this was not the case but more effort needed to go into why involvement in the consultation matters and that the scheme does change as a result.

[REDACTED] agreed and also said that the website was weak and too basic which did not build confidence in the scheme. She said the consultation needed to show local people that it was worth investing their time to respond because it makes a difference to the scheme design and that they were not powerless. It was agreed that all involved could help to provide a better understanding of the DCO process but much of the onus for this lay with Sunnica. [REDACTED] said that the website would be substantially redesigned for the stat consultation. [REDACTED] also said that the Sunnica brand was now well known locally and therefore local people would be more likely to look at material and correspondence produced by the scheme. This was agreed. [REDACTED] also said that the pre consultation engagement was helping councillors to better understand the proposals and the process. This was agreed.

## **Good consultation practice**

[REDACTED] said that they were currently looking at the engagement for the WSC Neighbourhood Plan. She said that they had had to amend the SCI to allow the consultation to extend from 6 to 10 weeks. [REDACTED] said that Newgate had engaged with PINs on other projects but we were unaware of any specific guidance with regard to consulting against the background of current and possible future Covid 19 restrictions. He did indicate that a key concern was the establishment of information deposit points but that the relaxing of restrictions could help with this by the proposed time of the statutory consultation (Sept/Oct).

[REDACTED] was very keen on virtual exhibition technology and had seen various approaches from providers. Key to this was the amount of detailed data that could be collected through the

process that really showed what people were interested in and allowed for a better consultation report.

■■■■ also said that using social media was not enough to involve all hard to reach groups and it was important to find other channels such as schools, colleges and charities. This was agreed

The working group also thought that there could be an important role for parish councils to ensure that no one was missed out and this should be part of the pre consultation engagement that was already beginning to happen with them.

■■■■ aid that the CCC team had had good responses to their recent online consultation on the scheme near Soham. DC said that he could perhaps facilitate contact with the proposers of the scheme from a lessons learned perspective. He could also do the same for a scheme in South Cambridgeshire District Council that was using post code specific techniques with some success.

■■■■ said that EDF had agreed to extend their consultation on the section 56 for Sizewell and that Sunnica should approach them for views on this. EDF are now offering an 84 day consultation because of Covid 19, although ■■■■ said this allowed for the complexity of the documentation which people are being asked to consult on and that clearly this would be a lot simpler with regard to Sunnica.

■■■■ said that it would be important to have a flexible programme but that WSC will not be running face to face consultation in October when they are set to start on the Neighbourhood Plan. This was because it was not yet deemed safe for staff to attend.

<b>Draft Statement of Community Consultation – copy for discussion purposes</b>
<b>Version 4: revised for issue in draft to PINs</b>
<b>20 July 2020</b>

DRAFT



## Introduction

Sunnica Ltd is inviting feedback from the local community on its proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm.

### What is this document?

This document, known as a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), sets out how we plan to consult with the local community. It includes:

- The background to our proposals
- The planning process we must follow
- How we have developed our approach to consultation
- How we will be consulting the local community
- How we will publicise the consultation
- How people in the local community can find out about our proposals
- How people in the local community can respond to the consultation
- What we will do with feedback from the consultation

### Why are we publishing this document?

We are legally required to publish this document because of the type of development we are proposing. The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008. This is because its proposed generating capacity exceeds 50 megawatts (MW). As the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm constitutes an NSIP, we must apply to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for our proposals.

The Planning Act 2008 sets out a duty to consult with the local community, statutory consultees, landowners and local authorities before submitting an application for a DCO to the Secretary of State. The part of the Planning Act 2008 that requires us to consult with the local community is known as section 47 – it also requires us to publish this SoCC.

## The planning process

We are developing the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm under the Planning Act 2008. This requires us to submit an application to the relevant Secretary of State to obtain a DCO for our proposals. We anticipate submitting our application in spring 2021.

### **INSERT PLANNING PROCESS DIAGRAM**

**Commented [DJ1]:** To include an explanation of each phase of the planning process (drawing on the PINS diagram) and the date we expect to reach it

#### **The Planning Act 2008 and consultation**

The Planning Act 2008 also sets formal requirements for how we must consult on our proposals before submitting a DCO application. We are at the stage in developing our proposals where we will consult to meet this requirement – this is known as a statutory consultation. We will use the feedback that we receive during the statutory consultation to help us develop our final proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm before submitting our DCO application.

As part of our DCO application, we will submit a Consultation Report detailing our approach to consultation, the feedback that we received during the statutory consultation, and how we have had regard to it. When considering our DCO application, the Secretary of State must consider whether the consultation that we have undertaken has been adequate.

#### **Environmental impact assessment**

The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is considered to be 'EIA development' for the purposes of the Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') Regulations. As a result, an Environmental Statement ('ES') reporting the EIA will be submitted alongside the DCO application. As part of the statutory consultation, we will be seeking feedback on a preliminary environmental information report ('PEIR'), which will set out our preliminary findings from the EIA.

#### **More information**

You can find more information about the Planning Act 2008, the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and their role and how to participate in the DCO process on the PINS National Infrastructure Planning website - <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>, or by calling PINS on 0303 444 5000.

## The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm

### About us

Sunnica Energy Farm is being brought forward by Sunnica Ltd. This is a joint venture between two established solar energy specialists, Tribus Energy and PS Renewables. Both Tribus Energy and PS Renewables are highly experienced in the development of solar energy and energy storage projects both within the UK and abroad, including at Eveley and Oakfield in Hampshire. Together, the partners behind Sunnica Energy Farm already contribute nearly 1GW of clean energy to the UK national electricity transmission system.

### Sunnica Energy Farm

Sunnica Energy Farm is a proposed new solar energy farm and battery storage facility connecting to the Burwell National Grid Substation in Cambridgeshire that would allow for the generation, storage, import and export of up to 500MW of electrical capacity.

It would be located across four separate sites: Sunnica East A, Sunnica East B, Sunnica West A and Sunnica West B. Each of these sites would be connected to each other, and the National Grid substation, using underground cables. These would be accompanied by landscaping, biodiversity areas and a range of associated infrastructure including access tracks, construction compounds and offices.

The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm would use ground-mounted photovoltaic (PV) panels to generate electricity from the sun. It would also include two battery energy storage systems, which would allow it to store, import and export electricity to and from the national electricity grid.

Further details of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm will be included in materials published as part of the consultation.

**Commented [PP2]:** We will add a scheme plan below once it has been agreed for consultation.

## Developing our approach to consultation

We have undertaken early engagement with stakeholders to develop our approach to community consultation.

This has included meeting with officers and members at the local authorities that the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is located within, relevant statutory advisers, potentially affected land interests, parish and town councils, and relevant members of Parliament. We also conducted a period of non-statutory consultation between 17 June 2019 and 28 July 2019.

During the non-statutory consultation, we held a series of public consultation events in the vicinity of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. We also made consultation materials available at a number of public information points and online at the Sunnica Energy Farm website: [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk). We considered feedback from the host local authorities in developing our approach to non-statutory consultation.

Through the non-statutory consultation, we invited feedback on our early proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm, our approach to environmental impact assessment, and our approach to consultation.

The ways in which our early engagement has influenced our approach to consultation include:

- Ensuring consultation activity includes Snailwell and Kennet
- Targeted advertising through the local press including adverts in the Ely Standard and East Anglian Daily Times
- Engagement with parish and town councils in the vicinity of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm between periods of consultation
- Consulting with groups that have a particular interest in public rights of way such as The Ramblers and bridleways groups

We are required to consult with host authorities as defined by section 43(1) of the Planning Act 2008 on the development of this SoCC. We consulted these authorities between 31 July 2020 and 28 August 2020. Table 1 below summarises feedback from this consultation and our responses to it.

**Commented [PP3]:** We will be adding a table summarising the feedback received and how we have responded to it.

## Consulting the community

We are inviting the community living in the vicinity of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm to take part in the statutory consultation and provide feedback on our developed proposals.

We want to make sure that those potentially affected by our proposals have the opportunity to understand them and provide their views. To support this, we have already undertaken a period of non-statutory public consultation to engage with the community and wider stakeholders at an early stage in the development of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm.

We are now sharing details of our advanced design proposals at a statutory public consultation to provide the community with further information about the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm and the opportunity to further influence our design proposals.

### Consulting during the COVID 19 pandemic

We are consulting at a time when the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic means there are restrictions on holding public meetings and events.

We are aware of how important it is to make sure that anyone in the community who wants to find out more or share their views on the proposals can do so. We have developed a consultation programme designed to allow people from across the community to respond while complying with Government requirements in relation to COVID 19. As such, this document sets out a variety of different ways to find out more information and provide feedback.

In preparing our approach to consultation, we have considered Government guidance on COVID 19: [REDACTED] We have also considered advice from the local authorities where the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is located, the results of non-statutory consultation, and best practice guidance such as the National Infrastructure Planning Association's paper *Development Consent Orders and the Coronavirus Pandemic* (21 April 2020).

It is possible that the Government's advice regarding the COVID 19 pandemic may change during the consultation on our proposals or between the publication of this document and the beginning of the consultation. Therefore, we have set out below the different approaches that we propose to take if the Government's COVID 19 alert level changes.

### What will be consult on?

During the statutory consultation, we will be asking for views on:

- The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm
- The short term and long term impacts of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm including:
  - Construction impacts
  - Environmental impacts
  - Operational impacts

○ Impacts from decommissioning

- The Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR): this report builds upon the findings of our Scoping Report and the feedback received during the non-statutory consultation. It will incorporate the results of the environmental surveys that we have carried out to date and will set out our preliminary conclusions on the potential significant effects of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm on the environment.

#### Environmental impacts

We are in the process of carrying out an EIA for the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is an EIA development, and therefore we will be publishing a PEIR as one of our consultation materials.

The PEIR gives information about the potential significant environmental effects of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm and the measures proposed to reduce or avoid those effects to assist respondents in making well-informed responses to the consultation.

#### Who will we consult?

We will consult widely in accordance with this SoCC and encourage participation in the consultation from any person or group who is interested in the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. Please see Table 2 below for the geographic areas within which we will consult.

We have defined a series of 'zones of consultation' for the purpose of publicising the consultation directly to the local community. This recognises the fact that levels of potential impact and interest are likely to vary with geography.

These zones are set out in Table 2 below alongside maps of the zones of consultation – this comprises a buffer zone of at least 1 mile from the boundary of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm, extended in places to reflect feedback from the non-statutory consultation and the EIA process.

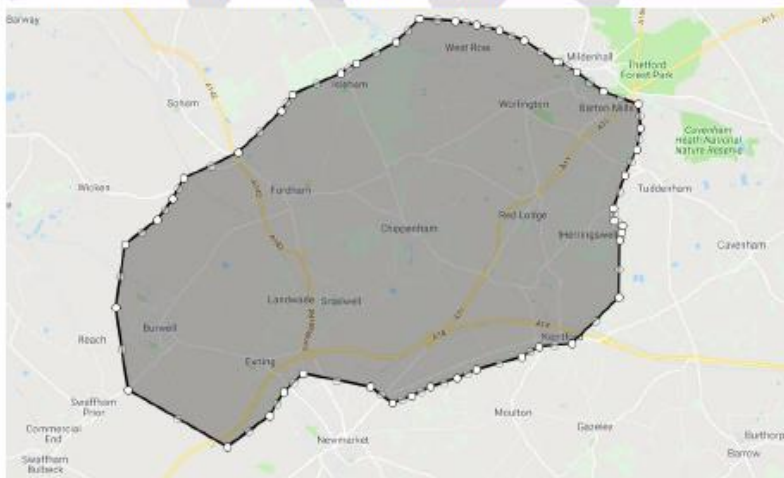
Table 2: zones of consultation

Zone	Parameters
Zone 1	Any person or group likely to have a direct interest in the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm, as well as their political representatives (at a parish, district, county and Parliamentary level) as defined in Figure 1 below.
Zone 2	People living and working in the host local authorities of West Suffolk Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Suffolk County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council outside of consultation zone 1. Figure 2 below shows the location of these authorities.
Zone 3	Neighbouring districts including:



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk</li> <li>• Breckland Council</li> <li>• Mid Suffolk District Council</li> <li>• Babergh District Council</li> <li>• Braintree District Council</li> <li>• South Cambridgeshire District Council</li> <li>• Huntingdonshire District Council</li> <li>• Fenland District Council</li> </ul> <p>Neighbouring counties including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Norfolk County Council</li> <li>• Essex County Council</li> <li>• Hertfordshire County Council</li> <li>• Central Bedfordshire Council</li> <li>• Bedford Borough Council</li> <li>• Northamptonshire County Council</li> <li>• Peterborough City Council</li> <li>• Lincolnshire County Council</li> </ul> <p>The location of these authorities is shown in Figure 3 below.</p>
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**Figure 1: area of consultation zone 1 (source: Geolist)**



**Commented [PP4]:** This area will be updated to reflect the updated scheme red line boundary in advance of the statutory consultation.

A map of East Angles, showing the counties of Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, and Suffolk. Major roads are highlighted in green and yellow, including the A1, A14, A15, A16, A17, A18, A19, A20, A21, A22, A23, A24, A25, A26, A27, A28, A29, A30, A31, A32, A33, A34, A35, A36, A37, A38, A39, A40, A41, A42, A43, A44, A45, A46, A47, A48, A49, A50, A51, A52, A53, A54, A55, A56, A57, A58, A59, A60, A61, A62, A63, A64, A65, A66, A67, A68, A69, A70, A71, A72, A73, A74, A75, A76, A77, A78, A79, A80, A81, A82, A83, A84, A85, A86, A87, A88, A89, A90, A91, A92, A93, A94, A95, A96, A97, A98, A99, A100. Major towns and cities are labeled, including Peterborough, Ely, Cambridge, St Albans, Ipswich, Norwich, and Great Yarmouth. The map also shows the coastline and the English Channel.

[illegible]

1. Suffolk
2. Cambridgeshire
3. Norfolk

4. Essex
5. Lincolnshire
6. Peterborough
7. Northamptonshire
8. Bedford
9. Central Bedfordshire
10. Hertfordshire

We will also consult and continue our engagement with a range of statutory consultees as set out by Section 42 and Section 48 of the Planning Act 2008 and additional organisations that we recognise to have an interest in the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. These groups include:

- Economic interest groups and organisations such as local enterprise partnerships (LEPs), chambers of commerce and representatives of the horse racing industry.
- Heritage consultees including Historic England and the National Trust
- Environmental consultees including Natural England and the Environment Agency
- Conservation groups such as the RSPB and Suffolk Wildlife Trust

#### How will we be consulting?

We will use a range of techniques to consult the community. These are designed to allow people with different needs across the community to take part in the consultation in a way that is convenient to them while complying with Government guidance on COVID 19. These are set out in Table 3 below.

Table 3: consultation publicity and techniques

Zone	How we will publicise consultation within this zone	How we will consult within this zone
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing to all addresses within consultation zone 1</li> <li>• Writing to elected representatives, parish councils and community groups within the zone with details of the consultation</li> <li>• Sharing a consultation information pack designed to support stakeholders promoting consultation through their own existing communication channels such as social media feeds with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the Newmarket Journal, the Cambridge News, Bury Free Press, the Ely Standard and the East Anglian Daily Times</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sending a copy of a consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, how to take part in the consultation, and proposed next steps to all addresses in consultation zone 1.</li> <li>• Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email. This will provide a variety of means for consultees to respond in a way convenient to</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advertising the consultation on social media</li> <li>• Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.sunnica.co.uk">www.sunnica.co.uk</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• them.</li> <li>• Hosting a virtual public exhibition on the consultation website.</li> <li>• Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions.</li> <li>• Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a webinar.</li> <li>• Inviting residents of consultation zone 1 to book an individual appointment to discuss the proposals by telephone.</li> <li>• Contacting community and voluntary organisations within consultation zone 1 to offer direct engagement.</li> <li>• Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>• Compliance with the most up to date legal requirements in relation to public deposits.</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing to all district and county councillors at West Suffolk Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Suffolk County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council</li> <li>• Writing to all parish councils within the consultation zone</li> <li>• Sharing a consultation information pack designed to support stakeholders promoting consultation through their own existing communication channels such as social media feeds with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the Newmarket Journal, the Cambridge News, Bury Free Press, the Ely Standard and the East Anglian Daily Times</li> <li>• Advertising the consultation on social media</li> <li>• Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.sunnica.co.uk">www.sunnica.co.uk</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions.</li> <li>• Hosting a virtual exhibition on the consultation website.</li> <li>• Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a webinar.</li> <li>• Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>• Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email.</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing to the Leader and Chief Executive of local authorities within the zone</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation in the following</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> </ul>



	<p>newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the Cambridge News, the East Anglian Daily Times and Eastern Daily Press</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advertising the consultation on social media</li> <li>• Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.sunnica.co.uk">www.sunnica.co.uk</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosting a virtual exhibition on the consultation website.</li> <li>• Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email.</li> </ul>
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These consultation techniques have been developed to comply with the current COVID 19 alert level set by the Government. At the time of publication, this is Level 3 – the pandemic is in general circulation. We recognise that the alert level may change during the consultation period, but that it is also important to provide certainty to consultees about how they will be consulted.

If the alert level is changed to Level 4 or Level 5, all contact will need to continue to be remote. We will also need to consider how we will meet statutory requirements to place information on public deposit if public buildings close. The Government's view is that deposit requirements can be met by making documents available for inspection online. We would seek to respond to a change in the alert level to Level 4 or Level 5 at any time during the consultation given that it would represent a strengthening of requirements for social distancing for public health reasons.

If the alert level is changed to Level 1 or 2, we will consider holding public events at physical locations on a voluntary basis in consultation with local authorities. This would require time to organise and therefore we would assess on 27 October 2020 whether the alert level would permit them. If the alert level remained as 3 or higher on this date, we would not consider it possible to deliver this additional voluntary activity within the consultation period.

We will publicise any change in consultation arrangements by:

- Writing to all addresses and elected representatives within consultation zone 1
- Writing to all district and county councillors at West Suffolk Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Suffolk County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council
- Writing to all parish councils within consultation zone 2
- Publicising the change of arrangements in the Newmarket Journal, the Cambridge News, Bury Free Press, the Ely Standard and the East Anglian Daily Times
- Publicising the change of arrangements on social media

#### Consultation information

We will produce a range of materials providing information as part of the consultation, including:

- A consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, and proposed next steps
- A virtual exhibition setting out information about the proposals and how to take part in the consultation
- A presentation to be given as part of webinars
- The PEIR, accompanied by a non-technical summary

- A consultation questionnaire designed to collect responses to the consultation

Copies of consultation information will be made available for review online at [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk) and at public information points where possible. Hard copies of documents will also be made available on request.

#### Collection of responses

To capture participants' feedback, we will produce a consultation questionnaire inviting comments on the different elements of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. The questionnaire will be made available by direct mail to people living in consultation zone 1, online through the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm website, [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk), at public information points, and on request.

Consultees will be able to respond by completing a questionnaire online or returning a completed questionnaire using the contact details set out in Section 6 during the consultation period.

#### Seldom heard audiences

It is important to ensure that consultation is inclusive and enables participation from a wide range of audiences, including those who are seldom heard in public consultation such as young people, seasonal workers and those for whom English is not a first language. We will do this by:

- Holding webinars at a variety of times, including evenings and weekends, to enable participation by people with different time commitments and making recordings of webinars available afterwards
- Making provision for people who do not have access to the internet through the consultation programme. This will include sending a copy of the consultation booklet and consultation questionnaire to every address in zone 1, offering one-to-one telephone appointments and making hard copies of consultation materials available on request
- Choosing accessible venues for public information points
- Producing our consultation materials in accordance with Government guidance on accessibility (available at: [www.gov.uk/service-manual/helping-people-to-use-your-service/making-your-service-accessible-an-introduction#meeting-government-accessibility-requirements](http://www.gov.uk/service-manual/helping-people-to-use-your-service/making-your-service-accessible-an-introduction#meeting-government-accessibility-requirements))
- Contacting community and voluntary organisations within consultation zone 1 to offer direct engagement and sharing a consultation information pack designed to support them in promoting consultation through their own existing communication channels such as social media feeds
- Providing a variety of communications channels including a Freephone number, email address and Freepost address for those seeking information



## Consultation arrangements

### How to take part in the consultation

The statutory public consultation for Sunnica Energy Farm will take place between 22 September 2020 and 2 December 2020.

Consultees can find out more by:

- Viewing a series of webinars we will give about the proposals online. These will offer the opportunity to ask questions about the proposals. These will include the following webinars:
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Introducing the consultation
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Sunnica West A and B
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Sunnica East A and B
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: The grid connection
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Environmental impact assessments
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Construction and operations
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Introducing the consultation
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Sunnica West A and B
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Sunnica East A and B
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of The grid connection
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Environmental impact assessments
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Construction and operations
- We will publish details of any additional webinars at [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk).
- Viewing a virtual public exhibition on our website, [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk), which will be available to view at any time from the start of consultation on 22 September 2020 to the close of the consultation at 5pm on 2 December 2020.
- Booking an appointment to speak with members of the project team about our proposals individually. We will make slots with relevant members of the team available in each week of the consultation. You can book an appointment using the contact details provided below.
- Reading a booklet summarising our proposals. We will send a copy of the booklet to all addresses in consultation zone 1. The booklet will also be available from our website, [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk), and on request.
- Reviewing the PEIR and other consultation documents by going to our website, [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk), or one of the deposit points in Table 4 below. Hard copies of consultation documents will also be available on request. The availability of public information points may change during the consultation period due to the COVID 19 pandemic – please check with the venue before visiting.
- Contacting us on 08081687925 or [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk).

Table 4: Public information points

Location	Opening hours
Mildenhall Library,	By appointment only – please

Chestnut Close, Mildenhall IP28 7NL [REDACTED]	contact the Library via its website
Newmarket Library, 1a, The Guineas, Newmarket CB8 8EQ [REDACTED]	By appointment only – please contact the Library via its website
Burwell Library, Village College, Cambridge CB25 0DU [REDACTED]	Monday: 2:00pm – 5:00pm Tuesday: 10:00am – 5:00pm Wednesday: closed Thursday: 12:00pm – 7:00pm Friday: 2:00pm – 5:00pm Saturday: 10:00am – 1:00pm Sunday: closed
The Beeches, Isleham 32 Mill St, Isleham, Ely CB7 5RY [REDACTED]	Monday: 9:00am – 3:00pm, 6:00pm – 8:00pm Tuesday: 9:00am – 3:00pm, 6:00pm – 8:00pm Wednesday: 9:00am – 3:00pm, 6:00pm – 8:00pm Thursday: 9:00am – 3:00pm, 6:00pm – 8:00pm Friday: 9:00am – 3:00pm, 6:00pm – 8:00pm Saturday: 9:00am – 1:00pm Sunday: 9:30am – 1:00pm
Soham Library, 7 Clay St, Soham, Ely CB7 5HJ [REDACTED]	Monday: 9:00am – 5:00pm Tuesday: 9:00am – 1:00pm Wednesday: Closed

Commented [DJ5]: Due to reopen in August

Commented [DJ6]: Due to reopen August

	Thursday: 9:00am – 5:00pm Friday: 2:00pm – 5:00pm Saturday: 9:00am – 1:00pm, Sunday: Closed
La Hogue Farm Shop and Café, La Hogue Road, Chippenham, Ely CB7 5PZ	Monday: 9:00am – 5:00pm Tuesday: 9:00am – 5:00pm Wednesday: 9:00am – 5:00pm Thursday: 9:00am – 5:00pm Friday: 9:00am – 5:00pm Saturday: 9:00am – 5:00pm Sunday: 10:00am – 4:00pm

In addition, all of the consultation materials and the consultation questionnaire will be made available on the consultation website: [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk). Hard copies of consultation materials will be made available on request.

#### Responding to the consultation

We welcome feedback on our proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm. Anyone can share their views by:

- Completing a consultation questionnaire online at [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk)
- Returning a questionnaire to FREEPOST reference RTRB-LUUI-AGBY, c/o Newgate Communications, 50 Basinghall Street, London EC2V 5DE or [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk)
- Submitting their comments by email to [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk) or in writing to the above Freepost address.

#### How we will consider the responses

Following the statutory consultation, we will consider all the views that we receive and continue to develop our design for the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm ahead of submitting our DCO application to the Secretary of State.

Any comments received will be analysed by Sunnica Ltd and any of its appointed agents. Copies may be made available in due course to the Secretary of State, the Planning Inspectorate and other relevant statutory authorities so that feedback can be considered as part of the DCO process. We will request that any personal details are not placed on public record and will be held securely by Sunnica Ltd and its agents in accordance with the data protection law and will be used solely in

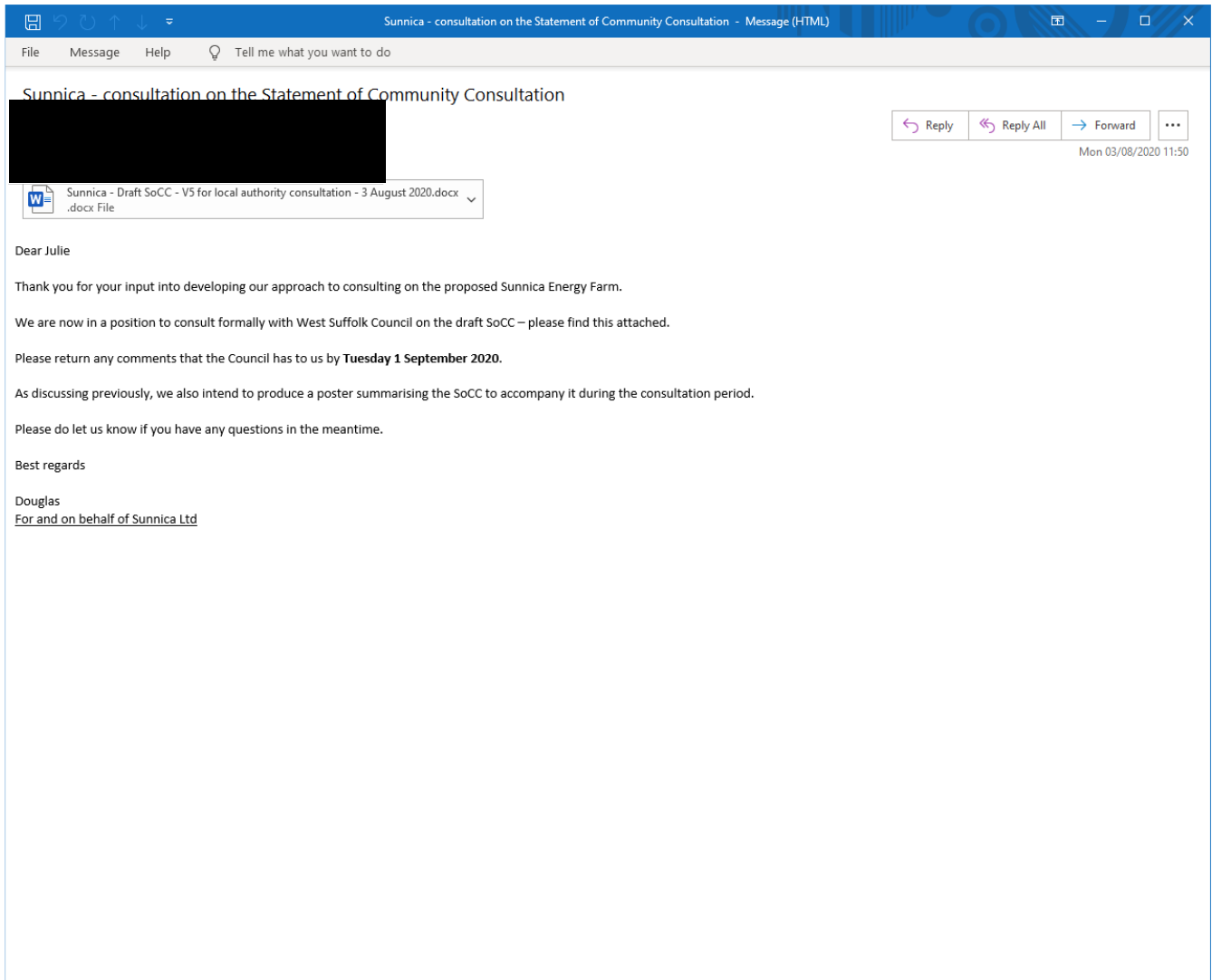
connection with the consultation process and subsequent DCO application and, except as noted above, will not be passed to third parties.

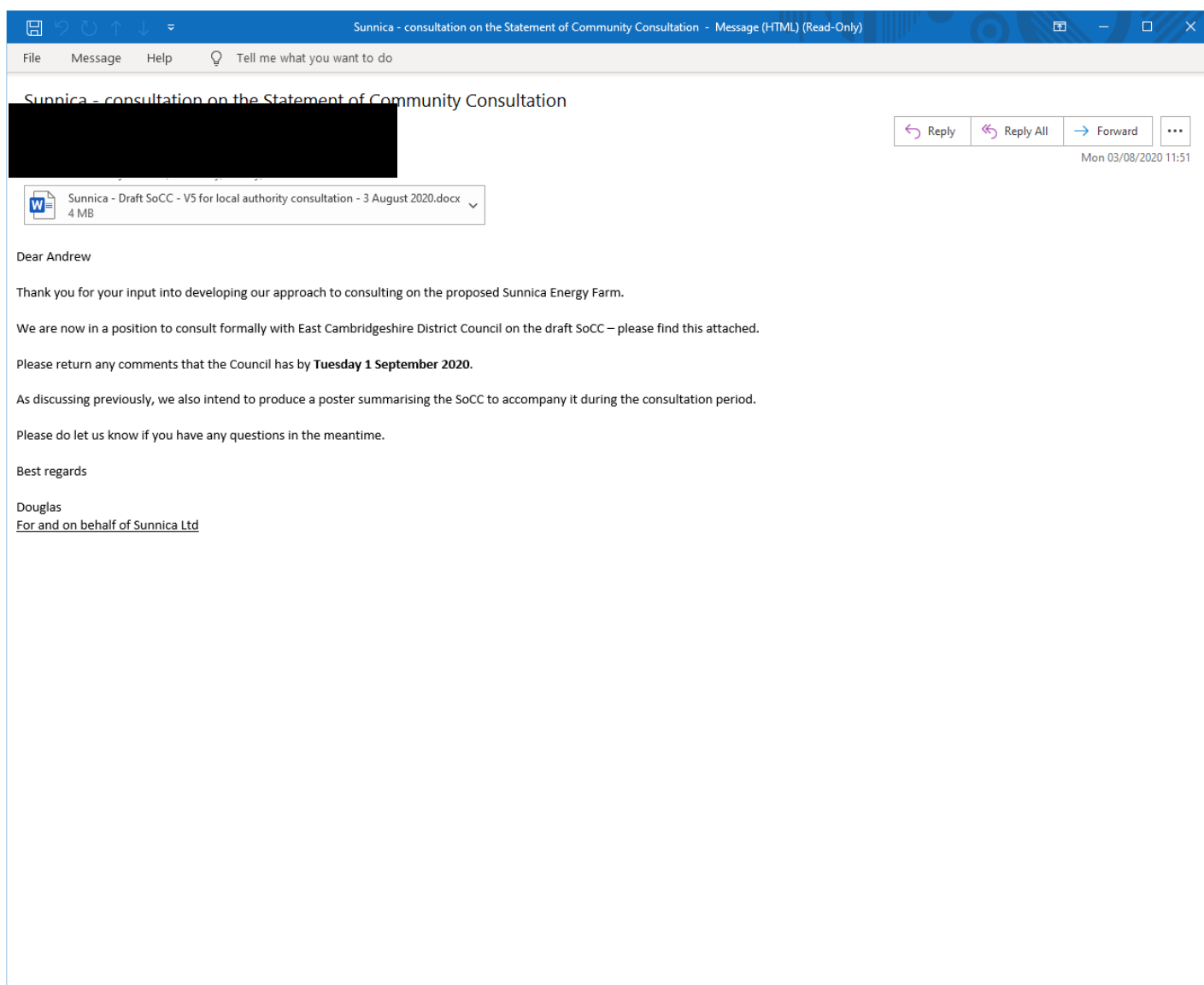
#### Further information

For further information, please contact us by:

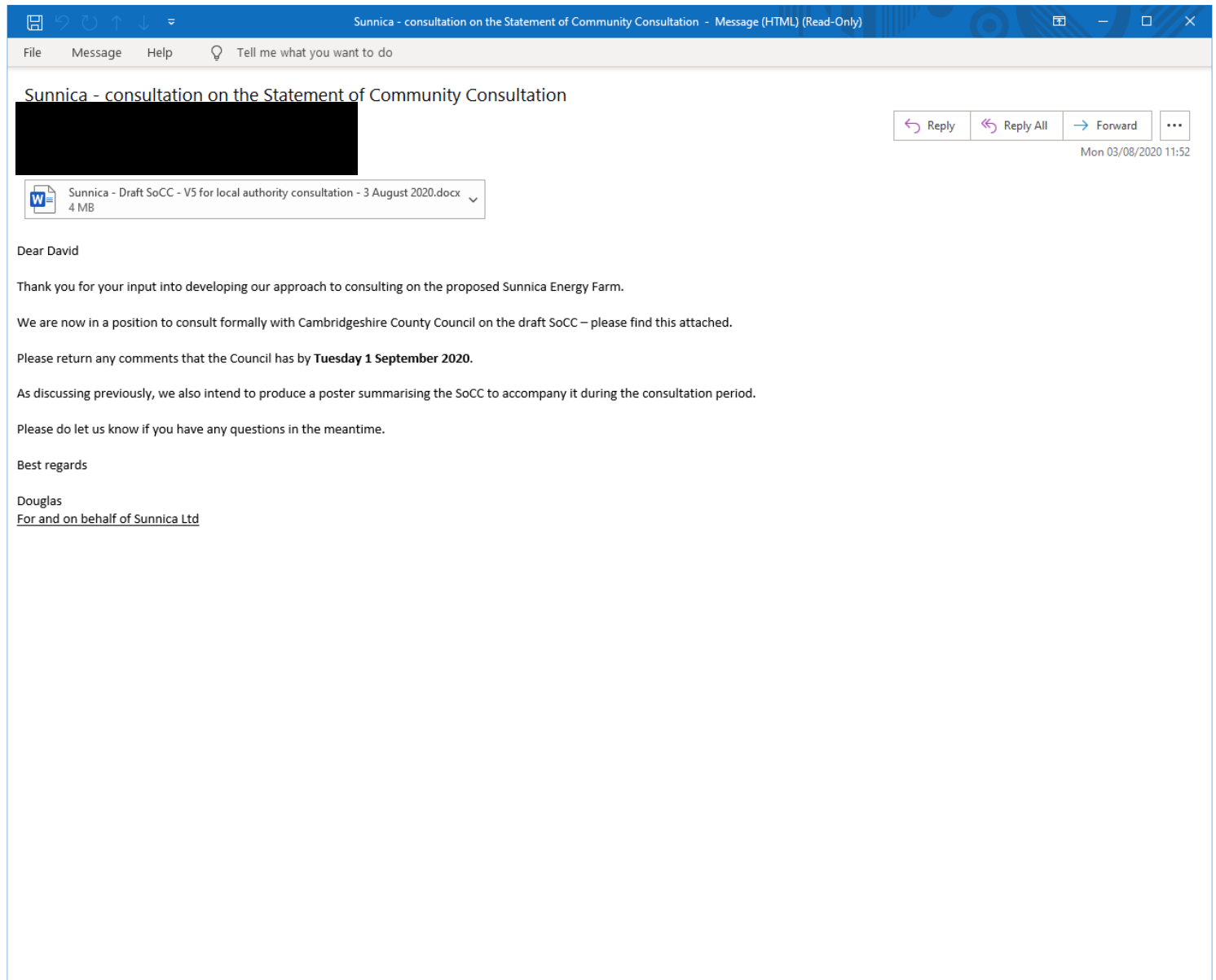
- Visiting the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm website: [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk)
- Calling 08081687925 (9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday)
- Email at [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk)
- Writing to the project team at: FREEPOST reference RTRB-LUUI-AGBY, c/o Newgate Communications, 50 Basinghall Street, London EC2V 5DE

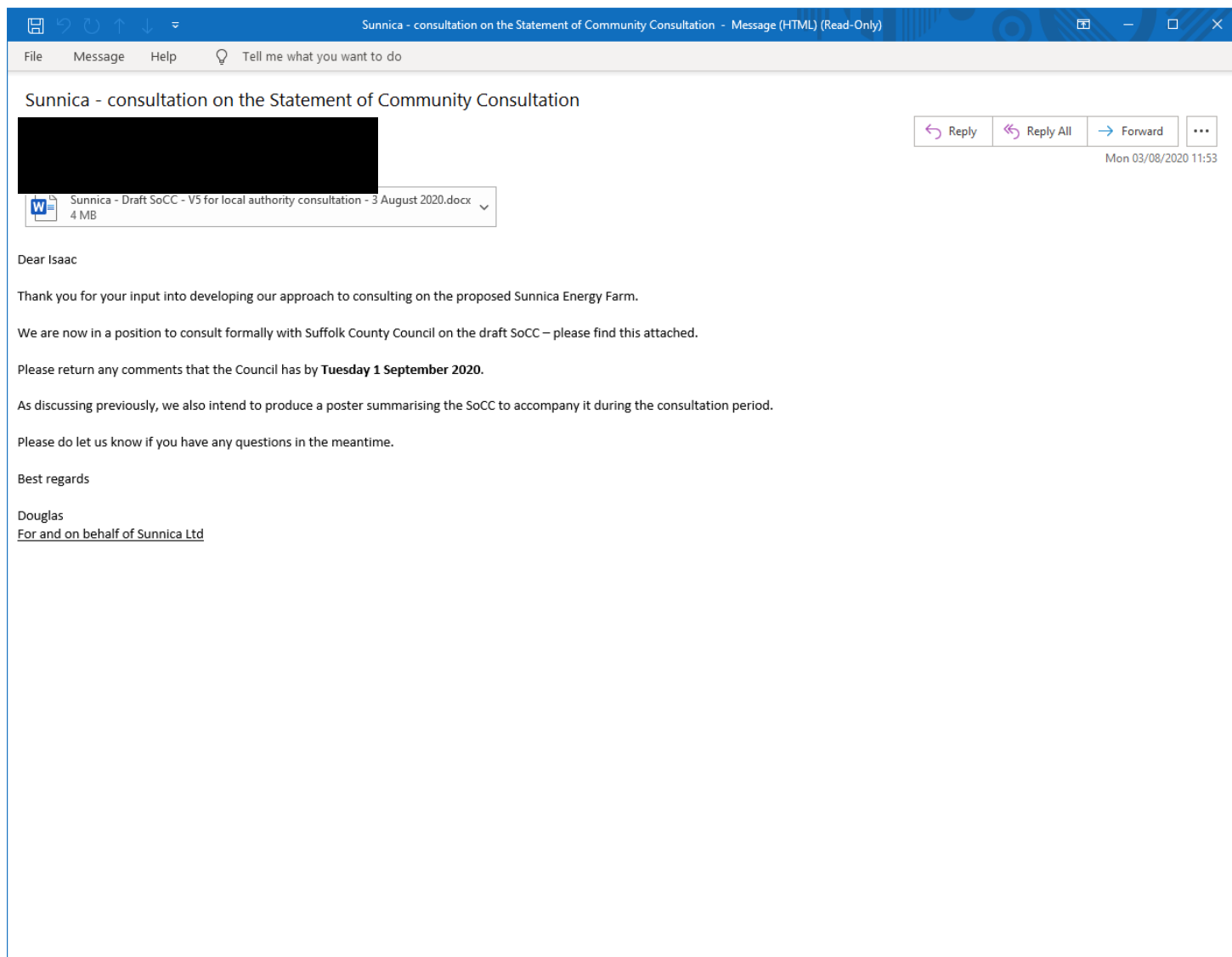
## Appendix C-2: Copy of the SOCC consultation letter issued to each local authority











## Appendix C-3: Copy of the joint response to the SOCC consultation issued by the local authorities



Cambridgeshire  
County Council

**West Suffolk**  
Council



**Suffolk**  
County Council

Date:

Enquiries to:

Tel:

Email:

[Contact Details]

[Contact Details]

[Contact Details]

[Contact Details]

[Contact Details]

[Contact Details]

[Contact Details]

[Contact Details]

Dear Clare,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

We enclose tracked changes versions of the draft SoCC and accompanying poster with comments and suggested edits.

Yours sincerely

David Collinson,  
Assistant Director,  
Planning & Regulatory,  
West Suffolk Council

James Cutting,  
Head of Planning,  
Growth Highways & Infrastructure,  
Suffolk County Council

David Carford,  
Project Manager,  
Business and Growth,  
Cambridgeshire County Council

Andrew Phillips,  
Planning Team Leader,  
East Suffolk District Council

The cover image features a vibrant green-to-yellow gradient background. In the upper right corner, there is a small white circular icon containing a stylized yellow sun. The lower portion of the image shows a close-up, angled view of solar panels installed in a field. Overlaid on this image is the title "Draft Statement of Community Consultation" in a large, bold, white sans-serif font. Below the title, the date "3 August 2020" is written in a smaller, yellow sans-serif font.

# Draft Statement of Community Consultation

3 August 2020

Introduction

Sunnica Ltd is inviting feedback from the local community on its proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm.

What is this document?

This document, known as a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), sets out how we plan to consult with the local community. It includes:

- The background to our proposals
- The planning process we must follow
- How we have developed our approach to consultation
- How we will be consulting the local community
- How we will publicise the consultation
- How people in the local community can find out about our proposals
- How people in the local community can respond to the consultation
- What we will do with feedback from the consultation

Why are we publishing this document?

We are legally required to publish this document because of the type of development we are proposing. The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008. This is because its proposed generating capacity exceeds 50 megawatts (MW). As the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm constitutes an NSIP, we must apply to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for our proposals.

The Planning Act 2008 sets out a duty to consult with the local community, statutory consultees, landowners and local authorities before submitting an application for a DCO to the Secretary of State. The part of the Planning Act 2008 that requires us to consult with the local community is known as section 47 – it also requires us to publish this SoCC.

Commented [redacted]: As a general point, the SoCC is text heavy and the inclusion of appropriate graphics/icons to break up the text would assist. Where used, these should be legible and of an appropriate size.

Commented [redacted]: This section could be shorter and would be better ordered to: "the proposal is an NSIP, unlike other applications for Planning Permission, we apply for a DCO to SoS rather than the LPA. Part of this process is to publish, which is a duty and one that at Sunnica seems important..."  
  
This process is then repeated a lot in the document (such as under figure 10) but the whole process is not clearly set out apart from the diagram.

Commented [redacted]: I think we need the consultation dates upfront

Commented [redacted]: Reiterate that Sunnica want the feedback and want to involve the community  
- it shouldn't come across that the consultation is only taking place because it is a requirement of legislation

Commented [redacted]: Page numbers are required on the document



## The planning process

We are developing the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm under the Planning Act 2008. This requires us to submit an application to the relevant Secretary of State to obtain a DCO for our proposals. We anticipate submitting our application in spring 2021.

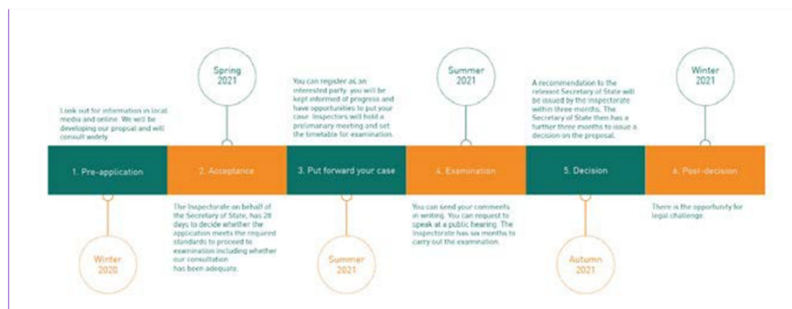


Figure 1: The planning process

## The Planning Act 2008 and consultation

The Planning Act 2008 also sets formal requirements for how we must consult on our proposals before submitting a DCO application. We are at the stage in developing our proposals where we will consult to meet this requirement – this is known as a statutory consultation. We will use the feedback that we receive during the statutory consultation to help us develop our final proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm before submitting our DCO application.

As part of our DCO application, we will submit a Consultation Report detailing our approach to consultation, the feedback that we received during the statutory consultation, and how we have had regard to it. When considering our DCO application, the Secretary of State must consider whether the consultation that we have undertaken has been adequate.

## Environmental impact assessment

The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is considered to be 'EIA development' for the purposes of the Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') Regulations. As a result, an Environmental Statement ('ES') reporting the EIA will be submitted alongside the DCO application. As part of the statutory consultation, we will be seeking feedback on a preliminary environmental information report ('PEIR'), which will set out our preliminary findings from the EIA.

## More information

You can find more information about the Planning Act 2008, the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and their role and how to participate in the DCO process on the PINS National Infrastructure Planning website - <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>, or by calling PINS on 0303 444 5000.

**Commented** [redacted]  
There is a high level of reference to the requirements of the planning DCO process without a clear demonstration of how this is fulfilled and the benefits of this immediately below or referenced to.

**Commented** [redacted] Suggest this needs to be a whole page so it's [redacted] to view?

Spell check – 'proposal' under 1. 'preliminary' under 3.

**Commented** [redacted] Agree

**Commented** [redacted] Will people understand this? I think more of an explanation is needed of what EIA development is, what an ES is and how this differs from a PEIR?

**Commented** [redacted] Yes – First sentence is n't very informative, that it comes under EIA regs is implicit. Explain what EIA is.

**Commented** [redacted] Agree

## The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm

### About us

Sunnica Energy Farm is being brought forward by Sunnica Ltd. This is a joint venture between two established solar energy specialists, Tribus Energy and PS Renewables. Both Tribus Energy and PS Renewables are highly experienced in the development of solar energy and energy storage projects both within the UK and abroad, including at Eveley and Oakfield in Hampshire. Together, the partners behind Sunnica Energy Farm already contribute nearly 1GW of clean energy to the UK national electricity transmission system.

### Sunnica Energy Farm

Sunnica Energy Farm is a proposed new solar energy farm and battery storage facility connecting to the Burwell National Grid Substation in Cambridgeshire that will allow for the generation, storage, import and export of up to 500MW of electrical capacity.

It would be located across four separate sites: Sunnica East A, Sunnica East B, Sunnica West A and Sunnica West B. Each of these sites would be connected to each other, and the National Grid substation, using underground cables. These will be accompanied by landscaping, biodiversity areas and a range of associated infrastructure including access tracks, construction compounds and offices.

The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm would use ground-mounted photovoltaic (PV) panels to generate electricity from the sun. It will also include two battery energy storage systems, which will allow it to store, import and export electricity to and from the national electricity grid.

Further details of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm will be included in materials published as part of the consultation.

#### Commented

There is a need to better describe the nature of the project, the different elements (solar panels, battery storage, electric cable connections, the connection to the sub-station at Burwell). This is important as the impacts are different to each community. It is welcome this is recognised in the webinars but does not come through strong enough elsewhere.

Commented: We will add a scheme plan below once it has been agreed for consultation.

Commented: Plan should have a dedicated landscape format page – additionally this should be included earlier in the document

Commented: Would prefer an A3 sized plan. This is a big area and the plan needs to be clear for all people.

Commented: Agree. the plan needs to be clear enough for residents to be able to assess how affected they may be by the proposal and whether they should participate in the consultation process.

Commented: Expand on the type of 'materials' that will be published - e.g. exhibition boards, maps, videos etc.

## Developing our approach to consultation

We have undertaken early engagement with stakeholders to develop our approach to community consultation.

This has included meeting with officers and members at the local authorities that the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is located within, relevant statutory advisers, potentially affected land interests, parish and town councils, and relevant members of Parliament. We also conducted a period of non- statutory consultation between 17 June 2019 and 28 July 2019.

During the non- statutory consultation, we held a series of public consultation events in the vicinity of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. We also made consultation materials available at a number of public information points and online at the Sunnica Energy Farm website: [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk). We considered feedback from the host local authorities in developing our approach to non- statutory consultation.

Through the non- statutory consultation, we invited feedback on our early proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm, our approach to environmental impact assessment, and our approach to consultation.

The ways in which our early engagement has influenced our approach to consultation include:

- Ensuring consultation activity includes Snailwell and Kennet
- Targeted advertising through the local press including adverts in the Ely Standard and East Anglian Daily Times
- Engagement with parish and town councils in the vicinity of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm between periods of consultation
- Consulting with groups that have a particular interest in public rights of way such as The Ramblers and bridleways groups

We are required to consult with host authorities as defined by section 43(1) of the Planning Act 2008 on the development of this SoCC. We consulted these authorities between 3 August 2020 and 1 September 2020. Table 1 below summarises feedback from this consultation and our responses to it.

**Commented** [redacted]  
Is it for the SoCC to document the local authorities feedback to the draft SoCC? Is there a need here for a simple statement to say who you have consulted as part of the drafting of the SoCC?

**Commented** [redacted] is right in his comment, the previous rounds of consultation should inform their approach and they could state that local authorities have, as an example, provided comments on the SoCC.

**Commented** [redacted] Members are keen for the document to acknowledge local 'feeling' in relation to the proposal. Reinforce that views expressed as part of the statutory consultation will be taken in to account.

**Commented** [redacted] Should be Kennet

**Commented** [redacted] We will be adding a table summarising the feedback received and how we have responded to it.

## Consulting the community

We are inviting the community living in the vicinity of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm to take part in the statutory consultation and provide feedback on our developed proposals.

We want to make sure that those potentially affected by our proposals have the opportunity to understand them and provide their views. To support this, we have already undertaken a period of non-statutory public consultation to engage with the community and wider stakeholders at an early stage in the development of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm.

We are now sharing details of our advanced design proposals at a statutory public consultation to provide the community with further information about the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm and the opportunity to further influence our design proposals.

### Consulting during the COVID 19 pandemic

We are consulting at a time when the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic means there are restrictions on holding public meetings and events.

We are aware of how important it is to make sure that anyone in the community who wants to find out more or share their views on the proposals can do so. We have developed a consultation programme designed to allow people from across the community to respond while complying with Government requirements in relation to COVID 19. As such, this document sets out a variety of different ways to find out more information and provide feedback.

In preparing our approach to consultation, we have considered Government guidance on COVID 19: [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus). We have also considered advice from the local authorities where the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is located, the results of non-statutory consultation, and best practice guidance such as the National Infrastructure Planning Association's paper *Development Consent Orders and the Coronavirus Pandemic* (21 April 2020).

It is possible that the Government's advice regarding the COVID 19 pandemic may change during the consultation on our proposals or between the publication of this document and the beginning of the consultation. Therefore, we have set out below the different approaches that we propose to take if the Government's COVID 19 alert level changes.

### What will be consult on?

During the statutory consultation, we will be asking for views on:

- The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm
- The short term and long term impacts of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm including:
  - Construction impacts
  - Environmental impacts

Commented [REDACTED] Repeats the point that there has already been public consultation. Change language to "we want to continue to involve" and "moving to this next (statutory) consultation phase".

Commented [REDACTED] If we are at this stage, why is the draft poster so lacking in detail.

Commented [REDACTED] ...through a period of statutory...?

Commented [REDACTED] In relation to responding to Covid 19, proposals including a virtual public exhibition and webinars are very welcome. Social media is mentioned a number of times but it is not clear what is to be used. Will Sunnica have its own twitter and facebook page for example. Noted there is mention to use local authorities, parishes, and community channels.

Commented [REDACTED] It does not say what changes are being made – there are webinars and virtual exhibition are being proposed rather than events. What else and what is the publicity on these locally? Adverts in parish magazines? Posters in supermarkets doctor surgeries?

- Operational impacts
- Impacts from decommissioning
- The Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR): this report builds upon the findings of our Scoping Report and the feedback received during the non-statutory consultation. It will incorporate the results of the environmental surveys that we have carried out to date and will set out our preliminary conclusions on the potential significant effects of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm on the environment.

### Environmental impacts

We are in the process of carrying out an EIA for the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is an EIA development, and therefore we will be publishing a PEIR as one of our consultation materials.

The PEIR gives information about the potential significant environmental effects of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm and the measures proposed to reduce or avoid those effects to assist respondents in making well-informed responses to the consultation.

### Who will we consult?

We will consult widely in accordance with this SoCC and encourage participation in the consultation from any person or group who is interested in the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. Please see Table 2 below for the geographic areas within which we will consult.

We have defined a series of 'zones of consultation' for the purpose of publicising the consultation directly to the local community. This recognises the fact that levels of potential impact and interest are likely to vary with geography.

These zones are set out in Table 2 below alongside maps of the zones of consultation. For consultation zone 1, this comprises a buffer zone of at least 1 mile from the boundary of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm, extended in places to reflect feedback from the non-statutory consultation and the EIA process.

**Table 2: zones of consultation**

Zone	Parameters
Zone 1	Any person or group likely to have a direct interest in the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm, as well as their political representatives (at a parish, district, county and Parliamentary level) as defined in Figure 3 below.
Zone 2	People living and working in the host local authorities of West Suffolk Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Suffolk County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council outside of consultation zone 1. Figure 4 below shows the location of these authorities.
Zone 3	Neighbouring districts including:

**Comment:** Explain how the PEIR fits into the EIA process

**Commented:** Included in the list of additional organisations to consult it is important to include infrastructure organisations including Highways England and National Grid. This will demonstrate the full scope of the project and organisations to involve.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk</li><li>• Breckland Council</li><li>• Mid Suffolk District Council</li><li>• Babergh District Council</li><li>• Braintree District Council</li><li>• South Cambridgeshire District Council</li><li>• Huntingdonshire District Council</li><li>• Fenland District Council</li></ul> <p>Neighbouring counties and unitary authorities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Norfolk County Council</li><li>• Essex County Council</li><li>• Hertfordshire County Council</li><li>• Central Bedfordshire Council</li><li>• Bedford Borough Council</li><li>• Northamptonshire County Council</li><li>• Peterborough City Council</li><li>• Lincolnshire County Council</li></ul> <p>The location of these authorities is shown in Figure 5 below.</p>
--	---



Figure 3: area of consultation zone 1 (source: Geolist)

Commented [REDACTED]: Can this be made bigger. The map of zone 1 consultation is very small.



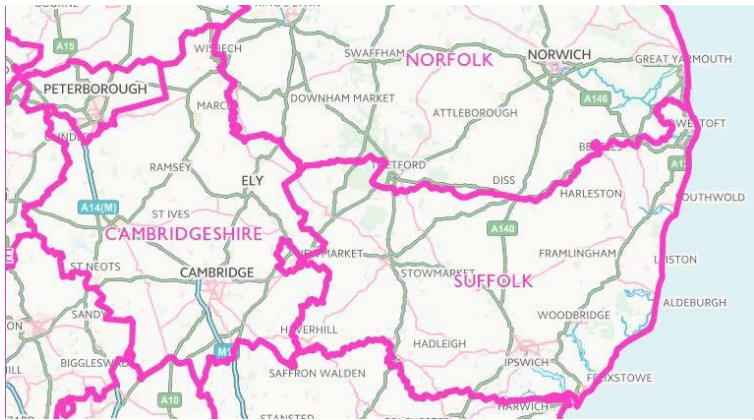


Figure 4: area of consultation zone 2 (source: Ordnance Survey)

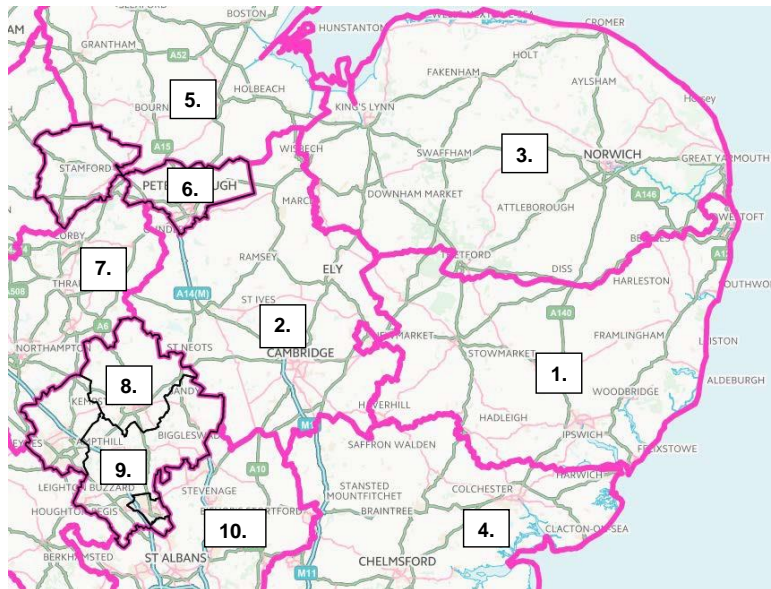


Figure 5: area of consultation zone 3 (source: Ordnance Survey)

Key:

- 1. Suffolk
- 2. Cambridgeshire
- 3. Norfolk
- 4. Essex
- 5. Lincolnshire

Commented [redacted] If the zone 2 is just for Cambridgeshire and Suffolk can the other areas be 'washed out'?

Commented [redacted] Figures 4 and 5 should be consistent with the design approach used for the previous figures.

6. Peterborough
7. Northamptonshire
8. Bedford
9. Central Bedfordshire
10. Hertfordshire

We will also consult and continue our engagement with a range of statutory consultees as set out by Section 42 and Section 48 of the Planning Act 2008 and additional organisations that we recognise to have an interest in the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. These groups include:

- Economic interest groups and organisations such as local enterprise partnerships (LEPs), chambers of commerce and representatives of the horse racing industry.
- Heritage consultees including Historic England and the National Trust
- Environmental consultees including Natural England and the Environment Agency
- Conservation groups such as the RSPB and Suffolk Wildlife Trust

#### How will we be consulting?

We will use a range of techniques to consult the community. These are designed to allow people with different needs across the community to take part in the consultation in a way that is convenient to them while complying with Government guidance on COVID 19. These are set out in Table 3 below.

Table 3: consultation publicity and techniques

Zone	How we will publicise consultation within this zone
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing to all addresses within consultation zone 1</li> <li>• Writing to elected representatives, parish councils and community groups within the zone with details of the consultation</li> <li>• Sharing a consultation information pack designed to support stakeholders promoting consultation through their own existing communication channels such as <a href="#">social media</a> feeds with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the Newmarket Journal, the Cambridge News, Bury Free Press, the Ely Standard and the East Anglian Daily Times.</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation via the following broadcasters: BBC Suffolk, BBC Look East BBC Radio Cambridgeshire,</li> <li>• Advertising the consultation on social media</li> <li>• Sending a copy of a consultation booklet providing a non -technical overview of the proposed <a href="#">Sunnica Energy Farm</a>, the EIA process, the <a href="#">consultation</a> and planning process, how to take part in the consultation, and proposed next steps to all addresses in consultation zone 1.</li> <li>• Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email. This will provide a variety of means for consultees to respond in a way convenient to them.</li> <li>• Hosting a virtual public exhibition on the consultation website.</li> <li>• Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions.</li> </ul>

**Commented** [redacted] This is quite repetitive – could it be slimmed down by setting a baseline of the things that apply to each group – then add in the extras that apply to zones 1 and 2? Just an idea and might not be possible...

**Commented** [redacted] This is a good example of where icons could be used for text heavy information, [e.g.](#) small graphics to illustrate information packs, virtual exhibitions, webinars etc.

**Commented** [redacted] Is the non -technical summary the poster. If so I feel the draft poster sent around does not provide a non -technical summary. It appears to rely on the user going to a website to find more information.

**Commented** [redacted] BBC should be supplemented with other regional and local [broadcasters](#).

2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.sunnica.co.uk">www.sunnica.co.uk</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a webinar.</li> <li>Inviting residents of consultation zone 1 to book an individual appointment to discuss the proposals by telephone.</li> <li>Contacting community and voluntary organisations within consultation zone 1 to offer direct engagement.</li> <li>Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>Compliance with the most up to date legal requirements in relation to public deposits.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing to all district and county councillors at West Suffolk Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Suffolk County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council</li> <li>Writing to all parish councils within the consultation zone</li> <li>Sharing a consultation information pack designed to support stakeholders promoting consultation through their own existing communication channels such as social media feeds with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone</li> <li>Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the Newmarket Journal, the Cambridge News, Bury Free Press, the Ely Standard and the East Anglian Daily Times</li> <li>Publicising the consultation via the following broadcasters: BBC Radio Cambridgeshire, BBC Suffolk, BBC Look East</li> <li>Advertising the consultation on social media</li> <li>Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.sunnica.co.uk">www.sunnica.co.uk</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions.</li> <li>Hosting a virtual exhibition on the consultation website.</li> <li>Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a webinar.</li> <li>Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email.</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing to the Leader and Chief Executive of local authorities within the zone</li> <li>Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the Cambridge News, the East Anglian Daily Times and Eastern Daily Press</li> <li>Publicising the consultation via the following broadcasters: BBC Radio Cambridgeshire, BBC Suffolk, BBC Look East</li> <li>Advertising the consultation on social media</li> <li>Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.sunnica.co.uk">www.sunnica.co.uk</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>Hosting a virtual exhibition on the consultation website.</li> <li>Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email.</li> </ul>

Commented [REDACTED] How are the invites sent?

These consultation techniques have been developed to comply with the current COVID 19 alert level set by the Government. At the time of publication, this is Level 3 – the pandemic is in general circulation. We recognise that the alert level may change during the consultation period, but that it is also important to provide certainty to consultees about how they will be consulted.

If the alert level is changed to Level 4 or Level 5, all contact will need to continue to be remote. If the alert level is changed to Level 1 or 2, we will consider holding public events at physical locations on a voluntary basis in consultation with local authorities. This would require time to organise and therefore we would assess on 27 October 2020 whether the alert level would permit them. If the alert level remained as 3 or higher on this date, we would not consider it possible to deliver this additional voluntary activity within the consultation period.

We will publicise any change in consultation arrangements by:

- Writing to all addresses and elected representatives within consultation zone 1
- Writing to all district and county councillors at West Suffolk Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Suffolk County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council
- Writing to all parish councils within consultation zone 2
- Publicising the change of arrangements in the Newmarket Journal, the Cambridge News, Bury Free Press, the Ely Standard and the East Anglian Daily Times
- Publicising the change of arrangements on social media

We will also need to consider how we will meet statutory requirements to place information on public deposit if public buildings are closed. The Government's view is that deposit requirements can be met by making documents available for inspection online. If public buildings are open to the public then deposit locations will be utilised, but if this is not possible, we will use our website to meet this statutory requirement.

Depending on the outcome of the consultation, we may conduct further, targeted, consultation on a voluntary basis.

### Consultation information

We will produce a range of materials providing information as part of the consultation, including:

- A consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, and proposed next steps
- A virtual exhibition setting out information about the proposals and how to take part in the consultation
- A presentation to be given as part of webinars
- The PEIR, accompanied by a non-technical summary
- A consultation questionnaire designed to collect responses to the consultation

Commented [REDACTED]  
The current layout has a mix of actions for different levels of restrictions associated with Covid 19. It would be clearer to state what is currently proposed i.e. under current level 3, and have a separate section after to list the additional actions should restrictions be relaxed. This should include a minimum of 2 weeks notice of any new events, exhibitions.

Commented [REDACTED] People might not know what this means – need an explanation?

Commented [REDACTED]: What about local lockdowns?

Commented [REDACTED] Not sure I understand this wording

Commented [REDACTED] Why this date?

Commented [REDACTED] More than a view – regulations have been changed?

Commented [REDACTED] Buildings might open, but it might not be possible for documents to be on deposit.

Commented [REDACTED] One presentation but many webinars? Will not different presentations be given at different webinars?

Copies of consultation information will be made available for review online at [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk) and at public information points where possible. Hard copies of documents will also be made available on request.

Collection of responses

To capture participants' feedback, we will produce a consultation questionnaire inviting comments on the different elements of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. The questionnaire will be made available by direct mail to people living in consultation zone 1, online through the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm website, [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk), at public information points, and on request.

Consultees will be able to respond by completing a questionnaire online or returning a completed questionnaire using the contact details set out in this document during the consultation period.

Seldom heard audiences

It is important to ensure that consultation is inclusive and enables participation from a wide range of audiences, including those who are seldom heard in public consultation such as young people, seasonal workers and those for whom English is not a first language. We will do this by:

- Holding webinars at a variety of times, including evenings and weekends, to enable participation by people with different time commitments and making recordings of webinars available afterwards.
- Making provision for people who do not have access to the internet through the consultation programme. This will include sending a copy of the consultation booklet and consultation questionnaire to every address in consultation zone 1, offering one-to-one telephone appointments and making hard copies of consultation materials available on request.
- Choosing accessible venues for public information points if these are to be utilised.
- Producing our consultation materials in accordance with Government guidance on accessibility (available at: [www.gov.uk/service-manual/helping-people-to-use-your-service/making-your-service-accessible](http://www.gov.uk/service-manual/helping-people-to-use-your-service/making-your-service-accessible) - an introduction meeting - government - accessibility - requirements ).
- Contacting community and voluntary organisations within consultation zone 1 to offer direct engagement and sharing a consultation information pack designed to support them in promoting consultation through their own existing communication channels such as social media feeds.
- Providing a variety of communications channels including a Freephone number, email address and Freepost address for those seeking information .

Commented [REDACTED] Need to add pre-paid envelope will be included.

Commented [REDACTED] Refers to adhering to government guidance, but does not say how. This will mean little to most.  
Commented [REDACTED] Who?



## Consultation arrangements

### How to take part in the consultation

The statutory public consultation for Sunnica Energy Farm will take place between 22 September 2020 and 2 December 2020.

Consultees can find out more by:

- Viewing a series of webinars we will give about the proposals online. These will offer the opportunity to ask questions about the proposals. These will include the following webinars:
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Introducing the consultation
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Sunnica West A and B
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Sunnica East A and B
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: The grid connection
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Environmental impact assessments
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Construction and operations
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Introducing the consultation
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Sunnica West A and B
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Sunnica East A and B
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of the grid connection
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Environmental impact assessments
  - XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Construction and operations
- We will publish details of any additional webinars at [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk).
- Viewing a virtual public exhibition on our website, [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk), which will be available to view at any time from the start of consultation on 22 September 2020 to the close of the consultation at 5pm on 2 December 2020.
- Booking an appointment to speak with members of the project team about our proposals individually. You can book an appointment using the contact details provided below.
- Reading a booklet summarising our proposals. We will send a copy of the booklet to all addresses in consultation zone 1. The booklet will also be available from our website, [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk), and on request.
- Reviewing the PEIR and other consultation documents by going to our website, [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk), or one of the deposit points in Table 4 below. Hard copies of consultation documents will also be available on request. The availability of public information points may change during the consultation period due to the COVID 19 pandemic. In circumstances where the public information point becomes unavailable the consultation documents will not be available for inspection at that location and the consultation documents will need to be viewed either at an alternative public information point (if available) or via our website. You should check with the venue before visiting.
- Contacting us on 08081687925 or [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk).

Commented [redacted] I feel like there should be one on Landscape and Biodiversity.

Commented [redacted] Need to add district's or nearby villages, so people are clearer on which ones to attend.

Commented [redacted] Do you have provisional dates for the webinars? How much time is there between the last webinars and the close of the consultation?

Commented [redacted] It is important the option to phone and discuss the proposals is as accessible as possible (in terms of number of days available as well as a range of times during the day) for those that do not readily use IT. Whilst technology is an opportunity for some, it is important to recognise it is not accessible for all and so alternatives are as important.

Commented [redacted] Telephone number should be freephone



**Table 4: Public information points**

Location	Opening hours
Mildenhall Library, Chestnut Close, Mildenhall IP28 7NL [REDACTED]	By appointment only – please contact the Library via its website
Newmarket Library, 1a, The Guineas, Newmarket CB8 8EQ [REDACTED]	By appointment only – please contact the Library via its website
Burwell Library, Village College, Cambridge CB25 0DU [REDACTED]	Monday: 2:00pm – 5:00pm Tuesday: 10:00am – 5:00pm Wednesday: closed Thursday: 12:00pm – 7:00pm Friday: 2:00pm – 5:00pm Saturday: 10:00am – 1:00pm Sunday: closed
The Beeches, Isleham 32 Mill St, Isleham, Ely CB7 5RY [REDACTED]	Monday: 9:00am – 3:00pm, 6:00pm – 8:00pm Tuesday: 9:00am – 3:00pm, 6:00pm – 8:00pm Wednesday: 9:00am – 3:00pm, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

<b>Commented</b> [REDACTED] Libraries are allowing documents on deposit?
<b>Commented</b> [REDACTED] Are people going to be able to handle documents? What form will the materials take? e.g. will there be exhibition boards, paper copies of documents? Is there a need for additional computers etc. to be made available for those that do not have equipment at home to use specifically to access the Sunnica consultation? Preferable to have phone numbers here for those that do not have internet access so that they can make appointments? What arrangements have been made with libraries for access?
<b>Commented</b> [REDACTED] the document should recognise the COVID is an issue and be clear what information will be available at these points and whether people will be allowed to review documentation at these premises and what the arrangements are.
<b>Commented</b> [REDACTED] The table of potential public information points I would advise is better omitting to save confusion, being the current position is the se are not available. Could replace with a statement stating intent to use public buildings, community facilities and other locations should restrictions allow.

	Thursday: 9:00am – 3:00pm, 6:00pm – 8:00pm
	Friday: 9:00am – 3:00pm, 6:00pm – 8:00pm
	Saturday: 9:00am – 1:00pm
	Sunday: 9:30am – 1:00pm
Soham Library, 7 Clay St, Soham, Ely CB7 5HJ	Monday: 9:00am – 5:00pm
	Tuesday: 9:00am – 1:00pm
	Wednesday: Closed
	Thursday: 9:00am – 5:00pm
	Friday: 2:00pm – 5:00pm
	Saturday: 9:00am – 1:00pm,
	Sunday: Closed
La Hogue Farm Shop and Café, La Hogue Road, Chippenham, Ely CB7 5PZ	Monday: 9:00am – 5:00pm
	Tuesday: 9:00am – 5:00pm
	Wednesday: 9:00am – 5:00pm
	Thursday: 9:00am – 5:00pm
	Friday: 9:00am – 5:00pm
	Saturday: 9:00am – 5:00pm
	Sunday: 10:00am – 4:00pm

**Comment:** [REDACTED] What materials will be made available here? Will it be the same as the libraries? Are people free to visit without going into the shop/cafe? What is the reason for this choice of venue? Does the owner have an interest in the development?

In addition, all of the consultation materials and the consultation questionnaire will be made available on the consultation website: [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk). Hard copies of consultation materials will be made available on request.

### Responding to the consultation

We welcome feedback on our proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm. Anyone can share their views by:

- Completing a consultation questionnaire online at [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk)
- Returning a questionnaire to FREEPOST reference RTRB -LUUJ-AGBY, c/o Newgate Communications, 50 Basinghall Street, London EC2V 5DE or [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk)
- Submitting their comments by email to [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk) or in writing to the above Freepost address.

Responses must be received by the consultation deadline of 2 December 2020.

Commented [REDACTED] 5pm on...

### How we will consider the responses

Following the statutory consultation, we will consider all the views that we receive and continue to develop our design for the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm ahead of submitting our DCO application to the Secretary of State. Our DCO application will include a Consultation Report setting out how we have had regard to all responses received.

Any comments received will be analysed by Sunnica Ltd and a number of its appointed agents. Copies may be made available in due course to the Secretary of State, the Planning Inspectorate and other relevant statutory authorities so that feedback can be considered as part of the DCO process. We will request that any personal details are not placed on public record and will be held securely by Sunnica Ltd and its agents in accordance with the data protection law and will be used solely in connection with the consultation process and subsequent DCO application and, except as noted above, will not be passed to third parties.

The Planning Inspectorate has also published details of how it manages comments received in a Privacy Notice available on its website:

### Further information

For further information, please contact us by:

- Visiting the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm website: [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk)
- Calling 08081687925 (9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday)
- Emailing [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk)
- Writing to the project team at: FREEPOST reference RTRB -LUUJ-AGBY, c/o Newgate Communications, 50 Basinghall Street, London EC2V 5DE

Commented [REDACTED] Telephone number should be freephone



Introduction

We're inviting feedback from local people on our proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm.

We set out the full details of how we are planning to consult in a document called a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

The SoCC is a legal document which we are required to publish because the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).

You can read the full SoCC by going to our website: <https://sunnica.co.uk/> You can also get in touch with us directly to request a copy.

This poster summarises how we're planning to consult.

Why are we consulting?

We are required to seek the views of the local community by the Planning Act 2008. This is the law that sets out requirements for NSIPs.

This is the second round of public consultation on our proposals. Previously, we carried out a round of non-statutory consultation in summer 2019.

When are we consulting?

We are consulting between 22 September 2020 and 2 December 2020.

What are we asking for views on?

- We are asking for your views on:
- The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm
  - The short term and long term impacts of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm including:
    - Construction impacts
    - Environmental impacts
    - Operational impacts
    - Impacts from decommissioning

Who are we consulting?

We're consulting people living in the local area. We will write to all addresses in the zone shown in the map on this page with a booklet summarising our proposals, including a consultation questionnaire for responses. We'll also publish details of the consultation online and in local newspapers for people living outside this zone.

Deposit points

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Mildenhall Library, Chestnut Close, Mildenhall IP28 7NL | The Beeches, Isleham, 32 Mill St, Isleham, Ely CB7 5RY              |
| Newmarket Library, 1a, The Guinea, Newmarket CB8 8EQ    | Soham Library, 7 Clay St, Soham, Ely CB7 5HJ                        |
| Burwell Library, Village College, Cambridge CB25 0DU    | La Hogue Farm Shop and Café, La Hogue Road, Chippenham, Ely CB7 5PZ |

How can I find out more?

- You can find out more by:
- Viewing a series of webinars we will give about the proposals online. These will offer the opportunity to ask questions about the proposals. These will include the webinars listed below.
  - Viewing a virtual public exhibition on our website, [sunnica.co.uk](https://sunnica.co.uk), which will be available to view at any time from the start of consultation to the close
  - Booking an appointment to speak with members of the project team about our proposals individually. You can book an appointment using the contact details provided on the first page
  - Reading a booklet summarising our proposals. We will send a copy of the booklet to all addresses within the shaded area on this page. The booklet will also be available from our website [sunnica.co.uk](https://sunnica.co.uk) and on request
  - Reviewing the PEIR and other consultation documents by going to our website, [sunnica.co.uk](https://sunnica.co.uk), or one of the deposit points listed on this page. Hard copies of consultation documents will also be available on request. The availability of public information points may change during the consultation period due to the COVID 19 pandemic – please check with the venue before visiting us on 08081 687 925 or [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk)

Commented: This should state what the proposed development actually is.

Commented: This implies that there will be other webinars – needs clarification. It may be preferable to list the 2 dates that the webinar can be viewed rather than repeating the text twice.

Commented: Would suggest that reference is also made to consultation with local authorities and statutory consultees here.

Commented: The images of Suffolk and Cambridgeshire are not particularly clear. It is also not clear that the highlighted area shown is the consultation zone as opposed to the site area. There is a danger that this could be perceived as such by members of the public viewing the document.

Commented: Suggest adding 'using the contact details on the first page' here.

Commented: Full titles of documents should be used rather than abbreviations, including for 'the DCO application'.

Commented: Has it been confirmed that these are accepting hard copies of documents and that the public will be able to handle the material?

Commented: This is unclear and implies that there will be people available at the venues.

Environmental Impact Assessment

The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is considered to be 'EIA development' for the purposes of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. As a result, an Environmental Statement reporting the EIA will be submitted alongside the DCO application. As part of the statutory

consultation, we will be seeking feedback on a preliminary environmental information report (PEIR), which will set out our preliminary findings from the EIA.

Further information on NSIPs

You can find more information about the Planning Act 2008, the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and how to participate in the DCO process on the PINS National Infrastructure Planning website: [infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk), or by calling PINS on 0303 444 5000.

Webinars

You can find out more by viewing a series of webinars we will give about the proposals online. These will offer

the opportunity to ask questions about XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Environmental impact assessments

the proposals. These will include the following webinars. XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Construction and operations  
XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Introducing the consultation  
XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Sunnica West A and B  
XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Sunnica East A and B  
XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of the grid connection  
XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Environmental impact assessments  
XXXX on XX/XX/XX: Repeat of Construction and operations

You can register for the webinars at [sunnica.co.uk](https://sunnica.co.uk)

## Appendix D-1: Copy of the SOCC notices as published

D.1.1.1 Newmarket Journal (17 September 2020)

D.1.1.2 Ely Standard (17 September 2020)







# The price is right at Seat

**S**eat has revealed UK pricing and specification for the new Ateca, which is better-equipped with a lower starting price than before.

Prices start at £23,670 for an SE model with the 1.0-litre engine and a manual transmission, but the most popular version is expected to be the SE Technology with the 148bhp 1.5-litre petrol. Priced from £26,355, it gets more equipment than before, including connected navigation and wireless smartphone charging.

A new Xperience trim replaces Xcellence, and gives a 'more robust' appearance.

There is a range of petrol and diesel engines to choose from, with the entry model being a 109bhp 1.0-litre petrol with a manual transmission. Next up is the 1.5-litre, which gets a dual-clutch automatic transmission option and four-wheel-drive. The top-spec model is the Cupra Ateca, which has a 296bhp 2.0-litre petrol. If a diesel is desired, a new 2.0-litre unit has been introduced, offering lower emissions than the 1.6-litre engine it replaces.

Standard equipment includes LED headlights, roof rails, leather steering wheel and gear knob, front and rear parking sensors and keyless entry. The popular SE Technology gets 18-inch alloy wheels, 9.2-inch infotainment system

with satellite navigation, and cloth upholstery.

The top-spec Cupra model gets the high-performance engine and sporty looks, as well as 19-inch alloy wheels, twin-exit exhaust pipes, digital cockpit, Navigation System Plus and the Cupra drive profile, which adds four different drive modes.

Richard Harrison, managing director at Seat UK, said: "The Ateca started the SUV charge from Seat and as the customer trend towards SUVs continues, we've refreshed and added more to Ateca. It's now, pound-for-pound, one of the best value vehicles on the market. This is all backed up by high-quality materials and technology."



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**WORKSHOP**

**8am-4.30pm Mon-Fri**

2 Hammond Close, Newmarket CB8 0AZ

<b>Audi</b>	TT 1.8 TFSI Sport Leather Seats 31K Miles	£15,450
	A4 2.0 Tdi SE Technik Auto 81K Miles	£8,495
<b>Citroen</b>	C3 1.2 Puretech Feel 24K Miles	£8,995
	Picasso 1.6 Exclusive Auto 21K Miles	£7,695
	Berlingo Multispace 1.6 Hdi 45K Miles	£6,695
<b>Ford</b>	C-Max 1.0 T Zetec Navigation 10K Miles	£11,995
	Focus 1.0 T Zetec Navigator 5Dr 4K Miles	£11,995
	Kuga 2.0 Tdi Titanium Sat Nav Parking Camera 49K Miles	£11,995
	Fiesta 1.0 ST Line Turbo 20K Miles	£10,495
	Focus 1.5 Tdci Zetec S 5dr 35K Miles	£9,950
	C-Max 1.5 Tdci Zetec 27K Miles	£9,450
	Fiesta 1.0 T Zetec Navigation 5Dr 25K Miles	£9,395
	Focus 1.0 T Titanium Navigator 5Dr 41K Miles	£7,995
	C-Max 1.6 Zetec 32K Miles	£7,495
	Mondeo 1.6 Tdci Edge 5Dr Ac Choice Of Colour 21K Miles	£6,995
	Fiesta 1.6 Zetec S 3dr Bluetooth Ac Aw 61K Miles	£4,795
	Ka 1.2 Zetec 52K Miles	£5,295
<b>Kia</b>	Ceed 2.1 6i 5dr Sat Nav 14K Miles	£10,750
	Sportage 2.1 7dr 70K Miles	£7,995
	Rio 1.0 5dr air 1 19K Miles	£6,495
	Picanto 1.2 Eco dynamic 5Dr 81K Miles	£4,495
<b>Nissan</b>	Qashqai 1.2 Dig T Acenta Mett Grey 19K Miles	£12,695
	Qashqai 1.2 Dig T Acenta Mett Grey 11K Miles	£12,650
	Qashqai 1.5 Dci Acenta Smart Vision Mett White 15K Miles	£11,995
	Qashqai 1.5 Dci 360 70K Miles	£6,995
	Micra 1.2 Visia 5Dr 9K Miles	£6,995
	Juke 1.5 Dci Acenta Premium 86K Miles	£5,495
<b>Peugeot</b>	2008 1.2 Allure 26K Miles	£10,495
	108 1.2 Allure Top 5Dr Electric Pull Back Roof 25K Miles	£7,450
<b>Renault</b>	18 18 Kadjar 1.2 TCE Dynamique Nav 4K Miles	£13,995
<b>Skoda</b>	Citigo 1.0 Edition Greentech 5Dr 16K Miles	£8,995
	Yeti Outdoor SE 1.2 Petrol Automatic Leather Seats 55K Miles	£10,450
	Octavia 1.6 Tdi Cr Se Estate 72K Miles	£9,995
	Fabia 1.2 Elegance 5Dr 20K Miles	£5,650
	Roomster 1.4 Tdi Scout 106K Miles	£2,995
<b>Toyota</b>	Yaris 1.5 Vvti Icon 5Dr 2K Miles	£10,495
	Aygo 1.0 VVT-I 30K Miles	£5,995
<b>Vauxhall</b>	Zafira 1.4 T Sri Nav 7Seat 23K Miles	£11,695
	Astra 1.4 T Elite 5Dr 39K Miles	£9,695
	Mokka 1.4 T Exclusive 30K Miles	£9,995
	Mokka 1.7 Cdti Se Leather Seats 45K Miles	£8,995
	Corsa 1.4 Energy 5Dr 15K Miles	£8,495
	Astra 1.6 Cdti Design 5Dr Sat Nav 22K Miles	£8,495
	Corsa 1.4 Limited Edition 5Dr 23K Miles	£7,995
	Viva 1.0 75Ps Se 5Dr 36K Miles	£6,650
	Astra 1.3 Cdti Design Tourer Ac 62K Miles	£6,395
	Astra 1.3 Cdti Design Tourer Ac 63K Miles	£6,295
	Corsa 1.3 Cdti Design 5Dr Ac 22K Miles	£6,695
<b>Volkswagen</b>	Passat 1.6 Tdi S 4Dr 55K Miles	£8,995
	Polo 1.4 Tdi Se 3Dr 34K Miles	£8,495
<b>Other Makes</b>	BMW 118 M Sport 5Dr Sat Nav 20K Miles	£14,450
	Mercedes A180 D SE 5Dr Full Leather Sat Nav 50K Miles	£11,995
	Suzuki Vitara 1.6 S25 Urban Leather Sat Nav Glass Roof 29K Miles	£11,995
	Fiat 500 1.2 Lounge 19K Miles	£6,950
	Hyundai I10 1.0 Premium 5Dr 27K Miles	£6,450
	Dacia Duster 1.5 Dci Ambiance 5Dr 75K Miles	£4,450
	Mazda 3 1.6 TS Dr 60K Miles	£4,450
<b>Automatic</b>	Volkswagen Tiguan Tdi Auto Match Hi Spec 61K Miles	£11,995
	Vauxhall Astra 1.4 T Sri Nav Auto 5Dr Sat 19K Miles	£11,495
	Mercedes C220 Cdi AMG Sport Plus Auto Sat Nav 54K Miles	£10,995
	Audi A4 Se Technik Tdi Auto 81K Miles	£8,495
	Peugeot C3 Picasso 1.6 Exclusive Auto 21K Miles	£7,695
	Vauxhall Meriva 1.4 T Exclusive Auto 21K Miles	£7,495
<b>Wheel Chair Access / Van / Multi Use / Easy Loading Ramps</b>	Peugeot Partner 1.6 Horizon 5Dr 3 Seat Access Ramp 34K Miles	£6,495
	Partner 1.6 HDI Tepee 5Dr 3 Seat Access Ramp 32K Miles	£5,995
	Kangoo 1.6 Auto 5Dr 3 Seat Access Ramp 31K Miles	£6,995
	Partner 1.6 HDI Tepee Auto 5Dr 2 Seat Access Ramp 59K Miles	£5,995
<b>Commercial Vehicle</b>	Ford Transit Connect Tdi 240 LWB 38K Miles	£9,450
	Vauxhall Corsa Van Ac 57K Miles	£4,450
	Citroen Dispatch 1200 L2 H1 2.0 Hdi 57K Miles	£8,995 + VAT
	Citroen Berlingo 850 1.6 Blue Hdi Enterprise ac in Black 46K Miles	£8,295 + VAT
	Citroen Berlingo 625 1.6 Blue Hdi Enterprise ac in Silver 43K Miles	£8,285 + VAT
	Fiat Doblo 1.3 TdL LWB Maxi van 28K Miles	£8,950 + VAT
	Fiat Fiorino 1.3 SX 51K Miles	£5,100 + VAT
	Ford Fiesta 1.5 Tdci Van 41K Miles 4800 + VAT	£9,850 + VAT
	Ford Transit Connect Trend 200 28K Miles	£9,950 + VAT
	Ford Transit Custom 200 Limited Black Mett 70K Miles	£10,495 + VAT
	Ford Transit 350 LONG W/B HIGH ROOF 60K Miles	£10,995 + VAT
	Ford Transit Custom 290 LWB Low roof Hdi Ac A/C Aw 70K Miles	£10,495 + VAT
	Ford Transit Custom Limited 270 33K Miles	£13,800 + VAT
	Ford Transit Custom 290 Limited Mett Blue 20K Miles	£15,850 + VAT
	Ford Transit Custom 280 Limited in Grey Mett 36K Miles	£13,950 + VAT
	Mitsubishi L200 Barbarian Double Cab Auto 33K Miles	£15,250 + VAT
	Nissan NP300 Navara Tekna Double Cab 21K Miles	£15,950 + VAT
	Nissan Navara Tekna Double Cab 36K Miles	£14,500
	Nissan NV200 1.5 Dci Acenta Panel Van 50K Miles	£6,495 + VAT
	Peugeot Partner 1.6 HDI SE 625 34K Miles	£6,950 + VAT
	Vauxhall Vivaro 1.6 L2 H1 2900 Sportive Biturbo Ac 19K Miles	£13,650 + VAT
	Vauxhall Vivaro 2900 hwb 35 K Miles	£10,500 + VAT
	Volkswagen Caddy Maxi C20 1.6 Tdi ac 51 K Miles	£7,695 + VAT
	Volkswagen Caddy Maxi C20 1.6 Tdi Ac 28K Miles	£8,495 + VAT

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## D.1.1.2 Ely Standard (17 September 2020)

www.efystandard24.co.uk | Thursday, 17 September 2020

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**LICENSING ACT 2003**  
New Premises Licence Application  
Notice is hereby given that Sutton Cuisine Ltd has applied to East Cambridgeshire District Council for a new premises licence for the following premises:  
**46 High Street, Sutton, Ely, Cambridgeshire, CB6 2RB**  
For the following proposed activities:  
**The sale of alcohol for ON SALE only Monday to Saturday 1100-2300 hours and Sundays 1200-2230 hours**  
Any person wishing to make representations to this application must do so in writing to the Licensing Section, East Cambridgeshire District Council, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely, Cambridgeshire, CB7 4EE by **6th October 2020**  
The application can be viewed, by appointment, at the Council Offices during normal office hours (Monday to Thursday 08:45 to 17:00 and Friday 08:45 to 16:30) or on the Council's web site [www.eastcambs.gov.uk](http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk).  
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction is a Level 5 (£5000) fine on the standard scale.  
[www.pclicensing.co.uk](http://www.pclicensing.co.uk)

**Sunnica Energy Farm**  
**Section 47(6) Planning Act 2008 – Sunnica Energy Farm**  
**Notice of Publication of Statement of Community Consultation**  
Notice is hereby given that Sunnica Limited of 2 Crossways Business Centre, Bicester Road, Kingswood, Aylesbury HP18 8RA (the "Applicant") proposes to make an application (the "Application") under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy for a Development Consent Order ("DCO") to authorise the construction, operation (which includes maintenance) and decommissioning of a new solar energy farm and battery storage facility connecting to the Burwell National Grid Substation in Cambridgeshire (the "Sunnica Energy Farm").  
The Sunnica Energy Farm will comprise of ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panel arrays to generate electricity from the sun as direct current and one or more Battery Storage Systems to be located near Chippingham and Snailwell in Cambridgeshire, Isleham in Cambridgeshire and Suffolk, and Worlington and Freckenham in Suffolk. The Sunnica Energy Farm will cover an area of approximately 1,130 hectares (ha) and will be made up of Sunnica East Site A, Sunnica East Site B, Sunnica West Site A and Sunnica West Site B (the "Sites"). The proposed DCO will, amongst other things, authorise:  
• construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) and storage facility with an export capacity of over 50MW on the Sites;  
• associated and/or ancillary works including an extension to the Burwell National Grid Substation in Cambridgeshire, underground electrical cables connecting the Sites to each other and to the Burwell National Grid Substation, landscaping, biodiversity areas, access tracks, construction compounds and offices;  
• the permanent and/or temporary compulsory acquisition (if required) of land and/or rights;  
• the overriding of easements and other rights over or affecting land;  
• the application and/or discharge of legislation relating to the Sunnica Energy Farm; and  
• such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licences, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.  
As the Sunnica Energy Farm will generate in excess of 50MW of electrical capacity, it is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project under the Planning Act 2008. Accordingly, the Applicant will apply to the Secretary of State for a DCO under the Planning Act 2008.  
Before the Application is submitted, the Applicant has a duty to consult the local community under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 in accordance with its Statement of Community Consultation ("SoCC"). The SoCC explains how the Applicant will be consulting the local community about the proposed Application.  
**The Applicant has produced a SoCC in respect of the proposed Application and which can be viewed on the project website from 17 September 2020. To view the SoCC, please visit the following page on the website: [www.sunnica.co.uk/public-consultation](http://www.sunnica.co.uk/public-consultation).**  
Details of how the consultation for the proposed Application will be carried out, including a virtual exhibition, online events, and how to get involved are set out in the SoCC. The consultation will take place between **22 September 2020 and 23.59 hours on 2 December 2020**.  
The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is an Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. The Applicant is, therefore, required to carry out an EIA and submit an Environmental Statement with the proposed Application containing information about the likely significant effects of the Sunnica Energy Farm on the environment. Information currently available about the likely significant environmental impacts of the Sunnica Energy Farm will be set out in a Preliminary Environmental Information Report ("PEIR") that will form part of the consultation documents. As stated in the SoCC, the PEIR will be available to view and comment on the project website from the start of the consultation period on 22 September 2020. To view the PEIR from this date, please visit the following page on the website: [www.sunnica.co.uk/downloads](http://www.sunnica.co.uk/downloads).  
Requests for a copy of the SoCC can be made to the Applicant from 10 September 2020:  
• **By post:** Sunnica Consultation, FREEPOST reference RTRB-LUJ-AGBY, c/o Newgate Communications, Sky Light City Tower, 50 Basinghall Street, London, EC2V 5DE  
• **Telephone:** 0800 168 7925  
• **By email:** [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk)  
As part of its consultation with the community, the Applicant will produce a virtual exhibition. This can be accessed at [www.sunnica.co.uk/public-consultation](http://www.sunnica.co.uk/public-consultation). In addition, the Applicant will be holding webinars online. These will include presentations on specific topics and will offer the opportunity to ask questions. Details of each webinar and how to register to take part will be published at [www.sunnica.co.uk/public-consultation](http://www.sunnica.co.uk/public-consultation) and published on social media and elsewhere online.  
Should you have any questions about the SoCC or the consultation on the proposed Application please visit the project website or contact the Applicant using the above details or on 08001687925.

**Legal and Public Notices**

**Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence**  
ORBIT TRANSPORT LTD of 27 Warren Road, St. Ives, PE27 5NX is applying for a licence to use TARMAC AGGREGATES, Common Farm, Block Fen Drove, Ely, CB6 2BW as an operating centre for 1 goods vehicles and 0 trailers.  
Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NE, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

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## Appendix D-2: Copy of the final SOCC



## Introduction

Sunnica Ltd is inviting feedback from the local community on its proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm as part of a public consultation from 22 September to 2 December 2020.

### What is this document?

This document, known as a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), sets out how we plan to consult with the local community. It includes:

- The planning process we must follow
- An outline of our proposals
- How we have developed our approach to consultation
- How we will be consulting the local community
- How we will publicise the consultation
- The consultation arrangements
- What we will do with feedback from the consultation

### Why are we publishing this document?

The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008. This means that, unlike other forms of development, we must apply to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for our proposals.

Part of this process requires us to publish a statement of how we will consult with the local community – known as a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). We very much want feedback from the local community on our proposals and see this document as an important part of the process.



## The planning process

We are developing the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm under the Planning Act 2008. This is because its proposed generating capacity exceeds 50 megawatts (MW), which means that under the Planning Act 2008 the Sunnica Energy Farm constitutes an NSIP requiring a DCO.

Unlike planning applications, which are considered by local authorities, DCO applications are made to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). This independent body administers the application process on behalf of the relevant Secretary of State. In this case, the appropriate government department is the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Further information on the DCO application process can be obtained from PINS Advice Note 8: Overview of the nationally significant infrastructure planning process for members of the public and others. A link to the document is here: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8.0.pdf>

Figure 1 on page 4 shows each stage of the planning process for NSIPs. We anticipate submitting our application in spring 2021.

### The Planning Act 2008 and consultation

DCOs are governed by a fixed, statutory process which requires us to consult with persons with an interest in the proposed land and certain bodies as prescribed under section 42 of the Planning Act 2008; the local community under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008; and to publicise the proposals locally and nationally under section 48 of the Planning Act 2008. It also provides a fixed role for local authorities and means we will be following a well-established and clear process to develop our proposals.

We are at the stage in developing our proposals where we will consult to meet this requirement – this is known as a statutory consultation. We will use the feedback that we receive during the statutory consultation to help us develop our final proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm before submitting our DCO application.

As part of our DCO application, we will submit a Consultation Report detailing our approach to consultation, the feedback that we received during the statutory consultation, and how we have had regard to it. When considering our DCO application, the Secretary of State must consider whether the consultation that we have undertaken has been adequate.

### Environmental impact assessment

For the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm, we are required to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of our proposals as part of the planning process. In legal terms, this means it is considered to be 'EIA development' for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

This means we must assess potential environmental impacts from our proposals and, where appropriate, propose mitigation. We will report on this process in a document called an Environmental Statement ('ES') when we submit our DCO application.

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At this consultation stage, we will be sharing and seeking feedback on the preliminary results of our assessments. We will do so in a document called a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR).

**More information**

You can find more information about the Planning Act 2008, the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and their role and how to participate in the DCO process on the PINS National Infrastructure Planning website - <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>, or by calling PINS on 0303 444 5000.



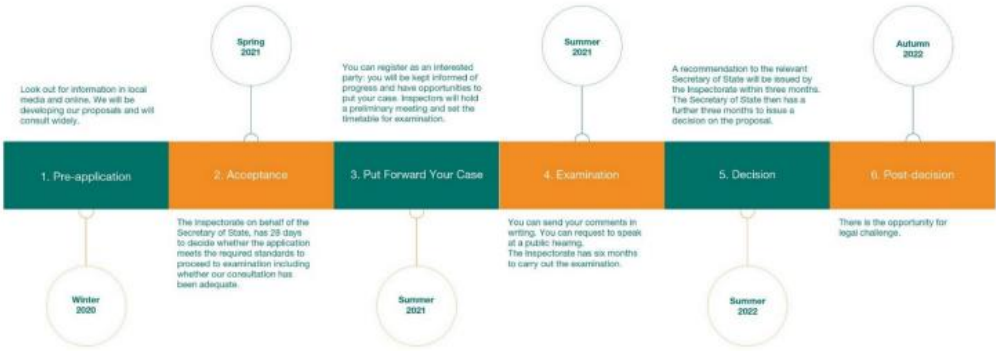


Figure 1: The planning process

## The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm

### About us

Sunnica Energy Farm is being brought forward by Sunnica Ltd. This is a joint venture between two established solar energy specialists, Tribus Energy and PS Renewables. Both Tribus Energy and PS Renewables are highly experienced in the development of solar energy and energy storage projects both within the UK and abroad, including at Eveley and Oakfield in Hampshire. Together, the partners behind Sunnica Energy Farm already contribute nearly 1GW of clean energy to the UK national electricity transmission system.

### Sunnica Energy Farm

Sunnica Energy Farm is a proposed new solar energy farm and battery storage facility connecting to the Burwell National Grid Substation in Cambridgeshire.

It would be located across four sites: Sunnica East Site A, Sunnica East Site B, Sunnica West Site A and Sunnica West Site B. Each of these sites would be connected to each other, and the National Grid substation, using underground cables. These will be accompanied by landscaping, biodiversity areas and a range of associated infrastructure including access tracks, construction compounds and offices.

The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm would use ground-mounted photovoltaic (PV) panels to generate electricity from the sun. It will also include two battery energy storage systems, which will allow it to store, import and export electricity to and from the national electricity grid.

Further details of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm will be included in materials published as part of the consultation. Details of the materials that we will publish are set out in the 'Consulting the community' section below.

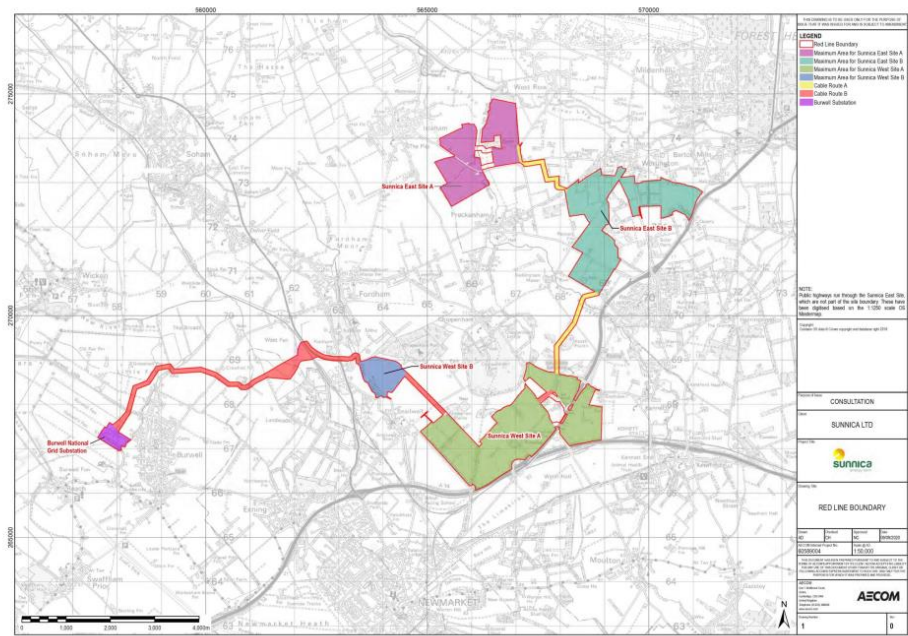


Figure 2: Proposed Sunnica Energy Farm red line boundary

## Developing our approach to consultation

We have undertaken early engagement with stakeholders to develop our approach to community consultation.

This has included meeting with officers and members at the local authorities that the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is located within, relevant statutory advisers, potentially affected land interests, parish and town councils, and relevant members of Parliament. We also conducted a period of non-statutory consultation between 17 June 2019 and 28 July 2019.

During the non-statutory consultation, we held a series of public consultation events in the vicinity of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. We also made consultation materials available at a number of public information points and online at the Sunnica Energy Farm website: [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk). We considered feedback from the host local authorities in developing our approach to non-statutory consultation.

Through the non-statutory consultation, we invited feedback on our early proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm, our approach to environmental impact assessment, and our approach to consultation.

The ways in which our early engagement has influenced our approach to consultation include:

- Ensuring consultation activity includes Snailwell and Kennett
- Targeted advertising through the local press including adverts in the Ely Standard and East Anglian Daily Times
- Engagement with parish and town councils in the vicinity of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm between periods of consultation
- Consulting with groups that have a particular interest in public rights of way such as The Ramblers and bridleways groups

We are required to consult with host authorities as defined by section 43(1) of the Planning Act 2008 on the development of this SoCC. We consulted these authorities between 3 August 2020 and 1 September 2020. Table 1 below summarises feedback from this consultation and our responses to it.

**Table 1: feedback from SoCC consultation**

Feedback	Our response
Clearly set out who we consulted with in developing this Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).	In developing this SoCC we consulted with Suffolk County Council, West Suffolk Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and East Cambridgeshire District Council.

Ensure that graphics are included in appropriate places to break up the text within the SoCC.	We have inserted graphics into the document at a number of points to explain the consultation arrangements.
Ensure that the consultation zones are clearly set out.	We have produced and included diagrams that clearly set out the three consultation zones. These can be viewed in figures 3-5.
Explain how the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) fits into the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.	We have included information on the planning process for EIA developments on pages 2 and 10.
Clearly set out how the consultation arrangements may change due to the ongoing impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic.	We have set out how the consultation arrangements may change in response to the uncertainty caused by the COVID 19 pandemic. This can be viewed on page 16 of this document.

## Consulting the community

We are inviting the community living in the vicinity of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm to take part in the statutory consultation and provide feedback on our developed proposals. We want to continue to ensure that those potentially affected by our proposals have the opportunity to understand them and provide their views.

We are now sharing details of our advanced design proposals through a period of statutory public consultation to provide the community with further information about the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm and the opportunity to further influence our design proposals.

### Consulting during the COVID 19 pandemic

We are consulting at a time when the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic means there are restrictions on holding public meetings and events.

We are aware of how important it is to make sure that anyone in the community who wants to find out more or share their views on the proposals can do so. We have developed a consultation programme designed to allow people from across the community to respond while complying with Government requirements in relation to COVID 19. As such, this document sets out a variety of different ways to find out more information and provide feedback.

In preparing our approach to consultation, we have considered Government guidance on COVID 19: [REDACTED]. We have also considered advice from the local authorities where the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is located, the results of non-statutory consultation, and best practice guidance such as the National Infrastructure Planning Association's paper *Development Consent Orders and the Coronavirus Pandemic* (21 April 2020).

It is possible that the Government's advice regarding the COVID 19 pandemic may change during the consultation on our proposals or between the publication of this document and the beginning of the consultation. Therefore, we have set out below the different approaches that we propose to take if the Government's COVID 19 alert level changes.

### What will be consulted on?

During the statutory consultation, we will be asking for views on:

- The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm
- The short term and long term impacts of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm including:
  - Construction impacts
  - Environmental impacts
  - Operational impacts
  - Impacts from decommissioning
- The PEIR



### Environmental impacts

We are in the process of carrying out an EIA for the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is EIA development (see page 2 above), and therefore we will be publishing a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) as one of our consultation materials. The PEIR builds upon the findings of our Scoping Report and the feedback received during the non-statutory consultation. It will incorporate the results of the environmental surveys that we have carried out to date and will set out our preliminary conclusions on the potential significant effects of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm on the environment.

The PEIR gives information about the potential significant environmental effects of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm and the measures proposed to reduce or avoid those effects to assist respondents in making well-informed responses to the consultation.

### Who will we consult?

We will consult widely in accordance with this SoCC and encourage participation in the consultation from any person or group who is interested in the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. Please see Table 2 below for the geographic areas within which we will consult.

We have defined a series of 'zones of consultation' for the purpose of publicising the consultation directly to the local community for the purposes of Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008. This recognises the fact that levels of potential impact and interest are likely to vary with geography.

These zones are set out in Table 2 below alongside maps of the zones of consultation. For consultation zone 1, this comprises a buffer zone of at least 1 mile from the boundary of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm, extended in places to reflect feedback from the non-statutory consultation and the EIA process.

**Table 2: zones of consultation**

Zone	Parameters
Zone 1	Any person or group likely to have a direct interest in the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm, as well as their political representatives (at a parish, district, county and Parliamentary level) as defined in Figure 3 below.
Zone 2	People living and working in the host local authorities of West Suffolk Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Suffolk County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council outside of consultation zone 1. Figure 4 below shows the location of this area.
Zone 3	Neighbouring districts within the administrative areas of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Breckland Council</li><li>• Mid Suffolk District Council</li><li>• Babergh District Council</li><li>• Braintree District Council</li><li>• South Cambridgeshire District Council</li><li>• Huntingdonshire District Council</li><li>• Fenland District Council</li></ul> <p>Neighbouring counties and unitary authorities within the administrative areas of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Norfolk County Council</li><li>• Essex County Council</li><li>• Hertfordshire County Council</li><li>• Central Bedfordshire Council</li><li>• Bedford Borough Council</li><li>• Northamptonshire County Council</li><li>• Peterborough City Council</li><li>• Lincolnshire County Council</li></ul> <p>The location of this area is shown in Figure 5 below.</p>
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Figure 3: area of consultation zone 1 shown in extract (source: Geolist)



Figure 4: area of consultation zone 2 (source: Ordnance Survey)



Figure 5: area of consultation zone 3 (source: Ordnance Survey)

We will also consult and continue our engagement with a range of statutory consultees as set out by Section 42 and Section 48 of the Planning Act 2008 and additional organisations that we recognise to have an interest in the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. These groups include:

- Economic interest groups and organisations such as local enterprise partnerships (LEPs), chambers of commerce and representatives of the horse racing industry.
- Heritage consultees including Historic England and the National Trust
- Environmental consultees including Natural England and the Environment Agency
- Infrastructure providers such as Highways England and National Grid
- Conservation groups such as the RSPB and Suffolk Wildlife Trust

#### How will we be consulting?

We will use a range of techniques to consult the community. These are designed to allow people with different needs across the community to take part in the consultation in a way that is convenient to them while complying with Government guidance on COVID 19. These are set out in Table 3 below.

**Table 3: consultation publicity and techniques**

Zone	How we will publicise consultation within this zone	How we will consult within this zone
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing to all addresses within consultation zone 1</li> <li>• Writing to elected representatives, parish councils and community groups within the zone with details of the consultation</li> <li>• Sharing a consultation information pack designed to support stakeholders promoting consultation through their own existing communication channels such as social media feeds with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the Newmarket Journal, the Cambridge News, Bury Free Press, the Ely Standard and the East Anglian Daily Times.</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation via regional and local broadcasters including BBC Radio Cambridgeshire, BBC Suffolk, BBC Look East</li> <li>• Advertising the consultation on social media</li> <li>• Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.sunnica.co.uk">www.sunnica.co.uk</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sending a copy of a consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, how to take part in the consultation, and proposed next steps to all addresses in consultation zone 1.</li> <li>• Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email. This will provide a variety of means for consultees to respond in a way convenient to them.</li> <li>• Hosting a virtual public exhibition on the consultation website.</li> <li>• Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions.</li> <li>• Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a digital meeting.</li> <li>• Inviting residents of consultation zone 1 to book an individual</li> </ul>



		<p>appointment to discuss the proposals by telephone.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contacting community and voluntary organisations within consultation zone 1 to offer direct engagement.</li> <li>• Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>• Compliance with the most up to date legal requirements in relation to public deposits.</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing to all district and county councillors at West Suffolk Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Suffolk County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council</li> <li>• Writing to all parish councils within the consultation zone</li> <li>• Sharing a consultation information pack designed to support stakeholders promoting consultation through their own existing communication channels such as social media feeds with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the Newmarket Journal, the Cambridge News, Bury Free Press, the Ely Standard and the East Anglian Daily Times</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation via regional and local broadcasters including BBC Radio Cambridgeshire, BBC Suffolk, BBC Look East</li> <li>• Advertising the consultation on social media</li> <li>• Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.sunnica.co.uk">www.sunnica.co.uk</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions.</li> <li>• Hosting a virtual exhibition on the consultation website.</li> <li>• Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a digital meeting.</li> <li>• Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>• Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email.</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing to the Leader and Chief Executive of local authorities within the zone</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the Cambridge News, the East Anglian Daily Times and Eastern Daily Press</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation via regional and local broadcasters including BBC Radio Cambridgeshire, BBC Suffolk, BBC Look East</li> <li>• Advertising the consultation on social media</li> <li>• Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.sunnica.co.uk">www.sunnica.co.uk</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>• Hosting a virtual exhibition on the consultation website.</li> <li>• Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions.</li> <li>• Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email.</li> </ul>



### Changes to consultation arrangements

These consultation techniques have been developed to comply with the current COVID 19 alert level set by the Government. At the time of publication, this is Level 3 – the pandemic is in general circulation.

We recognise that the alert level may change during the consultation period, but that it is also important to provide certainty to consultees about how they will be consulted. If the alert level is changed to Level 1 or 2, which would mean the Government considers the number of COVID 19 cases to be lower, we will consider holding public events at physical locations on a voluntary basis. We would also consider placing information on public deposit at physical locations subject to the availability of deposit locations in the vicinity of the scheme. The Government has confirmed that placing materials online meets the requirement to place information on public deposit in the Infrastructure Planning (Publication and Notification of Applications etc.) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 (the 2020 Regulations).

In the event that information is placed on public deposit, we will publicise the deposit locations using the methods set out above. In writing to consultees, we will provide two weeks' notice of any events.

The holding of public events and placing information at public deposit locations would require time to organise and therefore we would assess on 27 October 2020 whether it will be possible to undertake these activities. If the alert level remained as 3 or higher on this date, we would not consider it possible to deliver this additional voluntary activity within the consultation period.

We will publicise any change in consultation arrangements by:

- Writing to all addresses and elected representatives within consultation zone 1
- Writing to all district and county councillors at West Suffolk Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Suffolk County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council (zone 2)
- Writing to all parish councils within consultation zone 2
- Publicising the change of arrangements in the Newmarket Journal, the Cambridge News, Bury Free Press, the Ely Standard, the Eastern Daily Press and the East Anglian Daily Times, which cover zones 1, 2 and 3
- Publicising the change of arrangements on social media

Depending on the outcome of the consultation, we may conduct further, targeted, consultation on a voluntary basis.

### Consultation information

We will produce a range of materials providing information as part of the consultation:

- A consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, and proposed next steps

- A virtual exhibition setting out information about the proposals and how to take part in the consultation
- Presentations to be given as part of webinars
- The PEIR, accompanied by a non-technical summary
- A consultation questionnaire designed to collect responses to the consultation

Copies of consultation information will be made available for review free of charge online at [www.sunnica.co.uk/downloads](http://www.sunnica.co.uk/downloads) and, should it become possible as outlined above, at public deposit points. Hard copies of documents will also be made available on request.

### Collection of responses

To capture participants' feedback, we will produce a consultation questionnaire inviting comments on the different elements of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm. The questionnaire will be made available by direct mail to people living in consultation zone 1, online through the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm website, [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk), and on request.

Consultees will be able to respond by completing a questionnaire online or returning a completed questionnaire using the contact details set out in this document during the consultation period. Pre-addressed Freepost envelopes will be made available on request using the contact details set out on page 20.

### Seldom heard audiences

It is important to ensure that consultation is inclusive and enables participation from a wide range of audiences, including those who are seldom heard in public consultation such as young people, seasonal workers and those for whom English is not a first language. We will do this by:

- Holding webinars at a variety of times, including evenings and weekends, to enable participation by people with different time commitments and making recordings of webinars available afterwards.
- Making provision for people who do not have access to the internet through the consultation programme. This will include sending a copy of the consultation booklet and consultation questionnaire to every address in consultation zone 1, offering one-to-one telephone appointments to people living in consultation zone 1 and making hard copies of consultation materials available on request.
- Choosing accessible venues for public information points if these are to be utilised.
- Producing our consultation materials in accessible formats, including checking accessibility of online materials.
- Contacting community and voluntary organisations including parish councils and schools within consultation zone 1 to offer direct engagement and sharing a consultation information pack designed to support them in promoting consultation through their own existing communication channels such as social media feeds.

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- Providing a variety of communications channels including a Freephone number, email address and Freepost address for those seeking information.

## Consultation arrangements

### How to take part in the consultation

The statutory public consultation for Sunnica Energy Farm will take place between 22 September 2020 and 2 December 2020.

Consultees can find out more by:

- Contacting us on 08081687925 or [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk)
- Viewing a series of webinars we will give about the proposals online. These will offer the opportunity to ask questions about the proposals. These will include the following webinars:
  - 18:00 on 01/10/20: Introducing the consultation
  - 14:00 on 03/10/20: Sunnica East Site A and Site B
  - 18:00 on 08/10/20: Sunnica West Site A and Site B
  - 14:00 on 10/10/20: The grid connection
  - 18:00 on 15/10/20: Environmental impact assessments (including landscape and biodiversity)
  - 14:00 on 17/10/20: Construction and operations
  - 14:00 on 24/10/20: Repeat of Introducing the consultation
  - 18:00 on 29/10/20: Repeat of Sunnica East Site A and Site B
  - 14:00 on 31/10/20: Repeat of Sunnica West Site A and Site B
  - 18:00 on 05/11/20: Repeat of the grid connection
  - 14:00 on 07/11/20: Repeat of Environmental impact assessments (including landscape and biodiversity)
  - 18:00 on 12/11/20: Repeat of Construction and operations
- We will publish details of any additional webinars at [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk).
- Viewing a virtual public exhibition on our website, [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk), which will be available to view at any time from the start of consultation on 22 September 2020 to the close of the consultation at 5pm on 2 December 2020.
- Booking an appointment to speak with members of the project team about our proposals individually. You can book an appointment using the contact details provided below. When booking appointments, we will ask for specific areas of interest to match the caller with a specialist member of the project team for their appointment.
- Reading a booklet summarising our proposals. We will send a copy of the booklet to all addresses in consultation zone 1. The booklet will also be available from our website, [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk), and on request.
- Reviewing the PEIR and other consultation documents by going to our website, [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk). Hard copies of consultation documents will also be available on request. A charge of £0.35 per page will be applicable for hard copies of the PEIR and its non-technical summary.



### Responding to the consultation

We welcome feedback on our proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm. Anyone can share their views by:

- Completing a consultation questionnaire online at [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk)
- Returning a questionnaire to Sunnica Consultation, FREEPOST reference RTRB-LUJJ-AGBY, c/o Newgate Communications, Sky Light City Tower, 50 Basinghall Street, London, EC2V 5DE or [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk)
- Submitting their comments by email to [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk) or in writing to the above Freepost address.

Responses must be received by the consultation deadline of 23:59 on 2 December 2020.

### How we will consider the responses

Following the statutory consultation, we will consider all the views that we receive and continue to develop our design for the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm ahead of submitting our DCO application to the Secretary of State. Our DCO application will include a Consultation Report setting out how we have had regard to all responses received.

Any comments received will be analysed by Sunnica Ltd and any of its appointed agents. Copies may be made available in due course to the Secretary of State, the Planning Inspectorate and other relevant statutory authorities so that feedback can be considered as part of the DCO process. We will request that any personal details are not placed on public record and will be held securely by Sunnica Ltd and its agents in accordance with the data protection law and will be used solely in connection with the consultation process and subsequent DCO application and, except as noted above, will not be passed to third parties.

The Planning Inspectorate has also published details of how it manages comments received in a Privacy Notice available on its website:



### Further information

For further information, please contact us by:

- Visiting the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm website: [www.sunnica.co.uk](http://www.sunnica.co.uk)
- Calling 08081687925 (9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday)
- Emailing [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk)
- Writing to the project team at: Sunnica Consultation, FREEPOST reference RTRB-LUJJ-AGBY, c/o Newgate Communications, Sky Light City Tower, 50 Basinghall Street, London, EC2V 5DE