



Pinsent Masons

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Your Ref: EN010106:  
Our Ref: 131634189.3\661999.07003

19 April 2022

Dear Michele

### **SUNNICA ENERGY FARM DCO APPLICATION**

I refer to the above DCO application that was accepted for examination on 16 December 2021.

For the reasons set out in this letter, we wish to submit a formal request to the Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of Sunnica Ltd (the Applicant), to delay the date of the preliminary meeting to no earlier than the week commencing 18 July 2022.

Further to our letter dated 30 March 2022, National Grid has confirmed in its relevant representation that option 1 for the substation connection is no longer technically feasible and has asked for it to be removed<sup>1</sup>. Due to this recent change in circumstances which only arose following submission of the DCO application despite continuous conversations with National Grid, the Applicant will need to amend its application to remove this option from the application. In addition, and as a result, the Applicant is also undertaking the following:

1. considering any other consequential changes or opportunities that removing option 1 provides, including a review of option 2 and the cable type; and
2. giving careful consideration to all relevant representations and any other consequential changes that may arise following that review.

It is our preference that one co-ordinated submission is made to the Examining Authority incorporating not only the removal of option 1, but also the above (should they be confirmed following the technical exercise currently being undertaken by the Applicant).

Furthermore, it is our preference to engage on the proposed changes and make any updates prior to the Preliminary Meeting so that, if these amendments are accepted, the updated application is

<sup>1</sup> [Representation from Eversheds Sutherland \(International\) LLP \(Eversheds Sutherland \(International\) LLP\) on behalf of National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc](#)

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Examined and all parties make written representations and submissions based on the updated application documentation. We consider that this approach would make for a more efficient Examination.

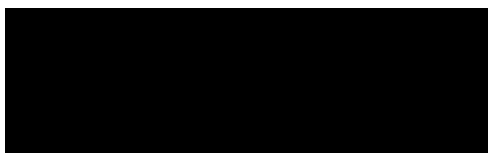
We have set out below an indicative timetable to demonstrate the activities the Applicant proposes to carry out before the Preliminary Meeting, and to support the timing, which we request is scheduled for no earlier than the week commencing 18 July 2022. We refer to the Planning Inspectorate's advice that indicates a preference for a request to amend an application to be made before the Rule 6 letter being issued as it "*would enable all Interested Parties to be fully informed before the Preliminary Meeting and to facilitate a focussed discussion about how a changed application might be examined*"<sup>2</sup>.

In light of the above, we propose the following indicative timetable:

1. now to end of May 2022 – confirm all amendments and prepare documentation;
2. end of May to end of June 2022 – engagement/consultation on amendments for 30 days;
3. first two weeks of July 2022– period to have regard to consultation responses;
4. mid July 2022 – submit amendments to PINS; and
5. no earlier than 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022 – preliminary meeting and start of Examination on updated application and revised order limits.

It is the Applicant's view that making any amendments to the application in advance of the Examination is preferable, as it will avoid having consultation running in parallel to the first month of Examination, which could cause confusion amongst consultees and interested parties, and risk duplication of work. On this basis, we would be grateful if PINS will consider this request and confirm whether the proposed approach is agreed.

Yours sincerely



**Richard Griffiths**  
Partner  
for Pinsent Masons LLP

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<sup>2</sup> [Advice Note Sixteen: How to request a change which may be material | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](https://www.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/advice-note-sixteen-how-to-request-a-change-which-may-be-material-national-infrastructure-planning/), paragraph 6.5