From:
To:
Sunnica Energy Farm
Your Reference EN010106
Date:
16 May 2022 18:23:35

Dear Planning Inspectorates

Date 16.5.2022

Your Ref EN010106

My Unique number 20030559

- The issue of whether the Preliminary Meeting should be delayed until mid-July 2022
- The Applicant's proposed timetable to consult further on amendments intended to form the formal Change Request to be made to the ExA.

I can see no reason to DELAY the Preliminary meeting until Mid July. Either the application is ready to submit or it isn't. If it is not then how can it be submitted?

I like many people have taken time and trouble to attend the consultations prior to Covid 19, to try and find details when UNABLE to join in the zoom consultations, and to write to Sunnica. To alter the proposal at this late stage is very poor practise and shows a lack of precision in the plans that they were using in the consultations.

With regard to the timetable suggested.

The proposal has been in operation since mid 2019. If in the past 3 years they have not been able to confirm these details, how then do they propose to confirm all amendments and prepare the relevant documentation in the 6 weeks between the date of their correspondence (19th April 2022) and the end of May?

To then suggest that engagements/consultations can be achieved in 30 days is not good practise. Not everyone affected by this proposed development has access to a computer or email and previous consultations have taken several weeks to cover the MANY VILLAGES affected. The people in the last village to be consulted would need time to consider the proposed amendments before writing to the relevant people. They would not have 30 days to do this!!

And only allowing two weeks to assess the consultations and look at the matters raised gives the impression of not taking seriously any issues that the consultation might raise.

The date for the preliminary meeting suggested is NOT 18th July, but "NO EARLIER" than 18th July.

As stated in your letter dated 22nd April 2022

"The DCLG 'Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent' states that it should take place within a period from six weeks to two months from receipt of the relevant representations. A delay may be accepted but should be kept.. to the minimum period necessary.

This application was submitted on 18th November 2021 and accepted 16th December 2021 I also quote from the same letter..

The Secretary of State's expectation is that Examining Authorities will not normally agree to postpone the start of the examination FOR LONGER THAN THREE MONTHS......
And again

.....Delaying the Preliminary Meeting until mid-July 2022 would mean that it would take place some SEVEN MONTHS after the DCO Application was accepted.....

Why no longer than three months? *To*

.... limit the risk that the application, including pre-application consultation and environmental information, will no longer be sufficiently current to form the basis of an examination.....

Leaving the preliminary meeting to 7 MONTHS PLUS will certainly heighten this risk.

In answer to the last paragraph of their timetable

I cannot understand how an application can be examined if it is not complete surely the results of a consultation should be taken into account when an application is examined so how can an examination run parallel to a consultation

	Brenda Knowles		
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