From: Nick Wright

To: Sunnica Energy Farm

**Subject:** FW: Letter regarding Proposed Sunnica delay to proposed timetable

**Date:** 15 May 2022 18:35:26

15<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**Dear Sirs** 

Sunnica – Request by the applicant in respect of the Timing of the Preliminary Meeting / Examination.

Further to your letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022, I have replied below:

I appreciate you are asking two specific questions, but I think the Applicant should withdraw the application, get a working solution, and then reconsult with local communities authorities and all interested parties. The application as currently drafted is not fit for purpose. In the event this is not possible I have answered the questions below:

Whether the Preliminary Meeting should be delayed until Mid-July 2022:

1/ There must be a delay to the Preliminary Meeting as Sunnica are proposing a material change to their DCO Application. No meaningful examination can take place until this matter is resolved.

2/ This material change will require a considerable amount of the detail that has already been submitted being altered. Everybody will need time to reassess this fundamental change. It will not be possible to do this adequately within the tight timetable of the examination process if started. It must all be sorted out prior to the commencement of the examining process. If this is not the case the Applicant will have a huge advantage. They will be producing large amounts of new material which we will have little time to respond to.

3/ I therefore don't consider putting a firm date on the Preliminary Meeting is appropriate. The Preliminary Meeting should only proceed when clear and adequate information has been provided by the applicant and the local communities and authorities have been given adequate time to assess the information provided. The applicant should be required to consult fully with interested parties something they have refused to do up to this date.

4/ Considerable costs have been incurred in scrutinising what we thought was the final application. The applicant should be asked to refund all reasonable costs foregone on these abortive works.

The Applicant's proposed timetable to consult further on amendments intended to form the formal Change Request to be made to the ExA

- 1/ I do not believe it possible for all amendments to be confirmed and documents prepared by end of May. The Applicant cannot be allowed to continue to under prepare.
- 2/ The amendments if done properly will be considerable and one month will not be long enough to consider, commission professional opinion, and make informed comment.
  - 3/ Mid July is almost the most unfair date in the calendar to start an examination process with a tight timetable. The holiday period will have started and inevitably people will be

away. I feel the fairest time to hold the Preliminary Meeting if all the documents are in order will be mid-September.

I appreciate the NSIP process has been introduced to speed matters up, but this cannot be done if it prejudices the quality and the fairness of the Examination. It maybe too late but the Applicant should be made to withdraw this application and resubmit it when it is properly prepared, and it has been consulted on in a open way. A proper Examination could then take place.

Regards

Nick Wright

## Nick Wright

## Email:

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