From:
 Sunnica Energy Farm

 Subject:
 Sunnica delay

 Date:
 12 May 2022 22:56:55

Dear Mr Kean

As this is the first time we have heard of an Option 3, it is difficult to understand the full implications of it in the short time available but seems to be more substantial than Sunnica would have us believe.

Option 3 will involve significant technical changes to all three substations: West A, East B and East A, but technical configurations are still being explored and more than one option is under consideration; Option 3 will also involve changes to over 100 plots of the grid connection routes; widening of cable trenches; significant changes to horizontal directional drills (which I take to mean 'non-intrusive' cabling); a substantial amount of additional 'associated works'; plus changes to core documents. This is not simply exchanging one voltage for another: these are substantial works amounting to a new scheme.

What impacts these changes will have on traffic, transport, future maintenance, efficiency, the physical and visual landscape, noise, human & animal health, wildlife, archaeology, etc. all need to be assessed.

It is nonsensical even suggesting a timetable when there is so much that is unknown and undecided, and so much to be resolved. Not least why an option formerly considered unreliable is now considered optimal. According to para. 1.6 of Pinset Masons letter 'Option 3 was considered prior to the Application being submitted but it was previously determined that it was preferential to have two 132kV circuits rather than a single 400kV circuit to mitigate the effect of failure in a single 400kV circuit'.

It is frightening that the developers are attempting to resolve the most important element of the scheme 'at pace'.

The timetable is clearly unrealistic, both for the developer to resolve all issues and for the public to digest the implications, and to check all changes and amendments to documents, which experience of previous errors, omission and misleading information has demonstrated cannot be taken at face value.

What happens if Options 2 and 3 are unfeasible, will we be asked to consider Option 4, Option 5 — where does it end? Sunnica should withdraw and resubmit a new DCO once the Burwell connection is secure, with no further changes allowed. It is unfair to put us through more stress, especially as the examination would fall within the summer holiday period.

Yours sincerely

Sandie Geddes

