

1 FRECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Jadi Coe
Clerk to the Council

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 49
freckenhamparishclerk@hotmail.com

The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House 2
The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

17th May 2022

Dear Sirs

Request by the applicant in respect of timing of the preliminary meeting/examination

EN010106

Thank you for your letter dated 4th May 2022, inviting comments to be made on the issue of whether the Preliminary Meeting should be delayed until mid-July 2022 and the Applicant's proposed timetable to consult further on amendments intended to form the formal Change Request to be made to the ExA.

Freckenham Parish Council believe the proposed changes are so significant, and that Sunnica should be asked to withdraw the application, before submitting another application detailing the proposed changes of which should enter another period of proper consultation. The Parish Council cannot be asked to consider and comment on an electricity generating and trading scheme that currently does not have a way of connecting to the National Grid.

If the application is not withdrawn at this stage, then Freckenham Parish Council would like to make the following comments:

- Whether the Preliminary Meeting should be delayed until mid-July 2022:
 - The preliminary meeting must be delayed due to material changes that Sunnica are proposing and the effect this will have on the surrounding villages
 - Changes will need to be made to details already submitted by Sunnica and the council will need sufficient time to look at these thoroughly.
 - The Preliminary meeting should only proceed when clear and adequate information has been provided by Sunnica to allow for us and other interested parties to be given adequate time to assess this. The applicant should be required to consult fully with interested parties.
 - The Parish Council with the Sunnica Alliance Group have incurred considerable costs scrutinising what we thought was the final application. The applicant should be asked to refund all reasonable costs foregone on this abortive work.

- The Applicant's proposed timetable to consult further on amendments intended to form the formal Change Request to be made to the ExA
 - The Parish Council believe it not possible for all amendments to be confirmed and documents prepared by end of May.
 - One month will not be long enough to consider, commission professional opinion, and make informed comment on the amendments if done properly.
 - The Parish Council feel the fairest time to hold a Preliminary Meeting if all the documents are in order will be mid-September. Mid July is the start of the holiday period with many people away and therefore feel that this is an inappropriate time to start an examination process with a tight timetable.

The Parish Council understand 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 may be 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 an open way. A proper Examination could then take place.

Kind regards



Jadi Coe
Clerk to the Parish Council