

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Sunnica Energy Farm](#)  
**Subject:** Sunnica Requested Deferment  
**Date:** 18 May 2022 09:56:23

---

Although we accept the need for a postponement to the start date of this examination, we do not believe that the proposed new start date of mid-July is realistic or appropriate for the following reasons:

- The Parish of Isleham is going to be significantly impacted by any approval of this application but particularly in relation to the Sunnica east site and any consideration of this application obviously requires careful and thorough consideration

- The new options being considered for the grid extension is a significant change to that originally proposed.

- The failure of Sunnica to reach agreement with the National Grid on the siting of the substations before submitting their application reflects their professional competence and subsequent regard for accurate consultation

- There are a significant number of 'unknowns' in relation to the siting and feasibility of the substation. We therefore believe it only right and proper that Sunnica confirm their proposed grid connections before the examination starts and that residents and associated groups are given the necessary time to respond to proposals agreed with the National Grid, not just the possibilities.

- The site close to the Chippenham estate (which we believe to be option 3 for the positioning of the sub stations) is in a particularly prime location and any approval would have an enormous detrimental impact on local views, footpaths, wildlife, footpaths, flora and fauna.

- Isleham Parish Council having contributed towards the cost of a specialist review of Sunnica's DCO documents to assess the impacts of the scheme. Additional time and cost would almost certainly be required to further consider the impact of these changes and is dependent on the consultant's availability.

- Starting the proposed examination at the start of the peak holiday season will significantly hinder residents and councillors ability to properly participate in this stage of the consultation process.

- As the Sunnica East site was added to the planning application after the June / July 2019 non statutory consultation period, the vast majority of Isleham residents were simply unaware that the scheme had been extended right up the village boundary. Despite these changes and our repeated requests Sunnica have refused to afford full and proper, face-to-face consultation with residents of our parish. We believe that there is still time to include such consultation if this period of deferment was extended.

In summary we believe the proposed rapid timetable for resolving this issue is over-optimistic and likely to result in further delays being necessary. This is unfair and affects the ability of local communities to be consulted properly over something that will change our communities forever. If a new, more realistic timetable, based on known information, cannot be determined, the application should be withdrawn and Sunnica ordered to repay all associated costs.

Yours sincerely Richard Liddington

Clerk to Isleham Parish Council  
Kind Regards  
Richard Liddington  
Clerk to Isleham Parish Council