

**From:** [Scott Harker](#)  
**To:** [Gregory, Michele](#)  
**Cc:** [Sunnica Energy Farm](#); ["Luke Murray"](#); [Douglas Johnson](#); [Rebecca Coleman](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Sunnica: approach to change consultation  
**Date:** 24 May 2022 09:59:21  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[image009.png](#)  
[image010.png](#)

---

Dear Michele,

Further to my previous email, we are proposing a small change to the consultation dates for the non-material changes.

A Thursday 2 June start would require that the consultation starts over the extended Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend and although our closing date of Monday 4 July allowed for in excess of 28 days from this date, we believe that it would be preferable to commence consultation on a day when all of the public deposit locations will be open.

Therefore, we are proposing that the consultation starts on Monday 6 June and runs to Wednesday 6 July.

We would be grateful if the ExA could consider the revised dates, apologies if this causes any inconvenience.

Kind regards,

Scott Harker

(For and on behalf of Sunnica Ltd)

---

---

**From:** Scott Harker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 May 2022 12:21  
**To:** Gregory, Michele [REDACTED]; Sunnica Energy Farm  
<Sunnica@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Luke Murray [REDACTED]; Douglas Johnson [REDACTED];  
Rebecca Coleman [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Sunnica: approach to change consultation

Dear Michele,

Further to our letter of 28 April, we are providing further details of our approach to consulting on the proposed non-material changes to the Sunnica Energy Farm application.

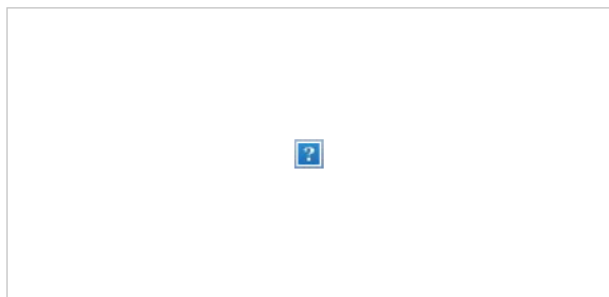
Please find our suggested approach attached. We propose to commence the consultation on Thursday 2 June to run until Monday 4 July.

We would appreciate any comments on the approach by Friday 27 May to allow for us to consider any changes ahead of the consultation starting.

Kind regards,

Scott  
(For and on behalf of Sunnica Ltd)

**Scott Harker** | Account Director



**Best Handling of an IPO – PR Week CCPA Awards 2022**  
**Best IPO Campaign – PRCA City & Financial Awards 2021/2022**  
**Best CSR Content - Corporate Content Awards 2022**  
**ESG Agency of the Year (Shortlisted) – PR Moment Awards 2022**  
**Purpose Award (Shortlisted) - PRCA Dare Awards 2022**  
**Property Adviser of the Year (Shortlisted) - PROPS Awards 2022**  
**Communications Agency of the Year (Shortlisted) – Business Green Awards 2021/2022**

# **Sunnica Energy Farm**

## **Method statement: consultation on proposed changes to DCO application**

### **20 May 2022**

#### **Overview**

Sunnica Ltd ('the Applicant') is proposing to make changes to its Development Consent Order (DCO) application for Sunnica Energy Farm.

This document sets out a proposed approach to consultation on the changes for discussion with the Planning Inspectorate (PINS).

#### **Context**

The Applicant is preparing to amend its DCO application for Sunnica Energy Farm.

To this end, the Applicant wrote to PINS on 19 April 2022 to request a delay to the date of the Preliminary Meeting to enable this changes application to be made before the examination commences.

The Applicant believes the amendments constitute a Non-Material Change (NMC) to the DCO application. Before submitting its application to make NMC to its DCO application ("NMC Application"), it intends to consult on the amendments.

#### **Consultation requirements**

We are not aware of specific guidance on consulting on a NMC Application at this stage in the consenting process.

The Department for Housing, Community and Local Government has previously published guidance on requesting a NMC - *Planning Act 2008: Guidance on Changes to Development Consent Orders (DCLG, 2015)*.

While this relates to requests to change a made DCO as set out in *The Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011*, it sets some useful principles for consultation:

- > The Applicant should publicise the proposed NMC by publishing a notice for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity of the land where the project is situated
- > The Applicant should consult those persons notified of the DCO application under section 56 of the Planning Act 2008
- > The Applicant should also consult "any other person who may be directly affected by the changes proposed in the application"
- > Consultation should take place for a minimum of 28 days
- > The consultation should focus only on the change that is being proposed to the infrastructure project and should not go into details of wider matters relating to the underlying principles of a project

The Applicant proposes to reflect these principles in its consultation on the NMC Application.



In addition, the Applicant has considered PINS Advice Note 16: How to request a change which may be material. This Advice Note is not directly applicable to the NMC Application but some of the principles therein are relevant, albeit the consultation requirements need to be proportionate to the non-material nature of the changes proposed.

The Applicant has also considered the approach taken by other applicants for development consent seeking NMC to their applications for development consent.

## Approach to consultation

### Scope

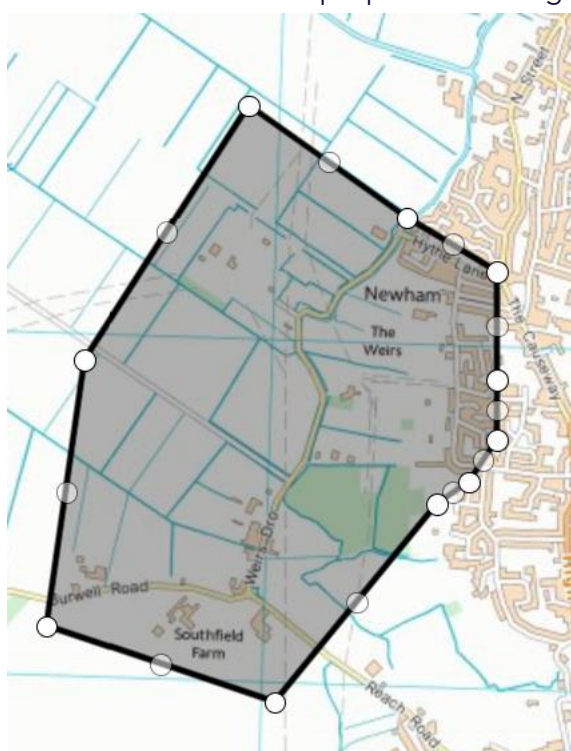
The consultation will be in relation to the **proposed amendments only**. All materials produced as part of the consultation will make this clear.

### Consultation

We consider those to be consulted:

- > Persons or bodies notified of the application under section 56 of the Planning Act 2008
- > Members of the local community likely to be directly affected by the NMC

As the NMC Application relates principally to changes to the options for the substation, we have defined those directly affected by the changes as those in the area shown in **Figure 1**. This has been drawn considering those who may be able to see Burwell Substation or who may use Weirs Drove for access purposes on a regular basis:



**Figure 1: Proposed notification area (scale - 1:25000)**





## Methods

The Applicant will prepare a consultation document summarising the proposed NMC, including a non-technical description of the changes, why they are necessary, why the changes are non-material, impacts from the changes on the Environmental Statement and other application documents, and how to take part in the consultation.

This will principally be made available on the Scheme website, [REDACTED] or on request by email, on a USB stick or in hard copy.

The Applicant will publicise the availability of this document and how to take part in the consultation by:

- > Writing to persons or bodies notified of the DCO application under section 56 of the Planning Act 2008
- > Placing a notice of the proposed NMC Application in the Newmarket Journal and the Ely Standard
- > Placing a notice of the proposed NMC Application on the Sunnica website and providing a copy to PINS to notify Interested Parties and to publish on the National Infrastructure website on the Application page.
- > Placing on deposit the consultation document at the following deposit points for the duration of the consultation (subject to availability):
  - > Burwell Library, Village College, Burwell, Cambridge CB25 0DU
  - > St Peters Church, Church Ln, Snailwell, Newmarket CB8 7LZ
- > Writing directly to addresses in the area in Figure 1 (approx. 140 homes and businesses)

Consultees will be invited to provide comments in writing to the Applicant at [info@sunnica.co.uk](mailto:info@sunnica.co.uk) or Sunnica Energy Farm NMC Consultation, Freepost SEC NEWGATE UK LOCAL.

The Freephone number, email address and Freepost address already put in place by the Applicant will remain available for enquiries.

The Applicant will also offer briefings to relevant stakeholders including the host local authorities, Burwell Parish Council, Chippenham Parish Council, Snailwell Parish Council and Lucy Frazer MP, whose constituency includes the land affected by the NMC application. The purpose of the briefings would be to ensure that elected representatives are informed about the proposed NMC and the consultation, as well as being in a position to respond to questions from their residents.

## Management of responses

The Applicant will have due regard to all relevant responses to the consultation which concern the proposed amendments. Responses which are not in relation to the proposed NMC will not be taken into account in relation to the NMC or application made as all interested parties will have full opportunity to make written representations on all application material during examination.

The Applicant will submit a Consultation and Publicity Statement with its application for the NMC. This will set out how the Applicant has consulted, summarise relevant responses, and set out how the Applicant has had regard to these responses that relate to the NMC.

## Timing

We propose that consultation commences on 2 June 2022 and lasts for a total of 32 days, closing on 4 July 2022.

