



**EAST
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This matter is being dealt with by:

Andrew Phillips

Sent by Email

Telephone: [REDACTED]
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Unique 20031149
Reference:
Your ref

Date: 5 August 2022

Dear Mr Kean

RE: Application by Sunnica Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for Sunnica Energy Farm Project – Procedural Deadline A

Thank you for your letter dated 28 July 2022.

Procedural Deadline B

It is understood that the Preliminary Meeting, based on your letter, could restart potentially any time between early September to the end of September.

We are primarily interested, at this stage, in ensuring there is suitable time in order to allow for all information submitted by the developer to have been fully considered before the Local Impact Report and Written Representation needs to be submitted.

It would be sought that at least 4 weeks post acceptance of documents/amendment to allow for the Local Impact Report to be finalised between the four authorities. Following this at least two additional weeks for us to get Committee sign off on the Written Representation. It must be noted that until the Written Representation is signed off by district councillors, the Local Impact Report is only the view of officers and not that of the District Council. In addition the writing, checking, publication and determination of the Written Representation will take at least five weeks.

On the basis that 21 days notice of the Preliminary Meeting happens following the agreement of the change request that the rough dates (based on the previous timeframe) will be:

21 September 2022 – Preliminary Meeting
Local Impact Report (Deadline 1) – 12 October 2022
Written Representation (Deadline 2) – 25 October 2022
Hearing completed – Late March 2023

It is noted that potential key deadlines will happen now over Christmas and it is requested the Examining Authority consider this. The Council will also be in Purdah in March 2023.

The Council would be grateful to have as clear a timeframe as possible, and as early as possible. There are currently Committee dates during which we are **unable** to consider the Written Representations due to conflicting other statutory/committee obligations (12, 20 and

31 October). The date of 5 October is a normal planning committee meeting, during which this could be considered, but that there will be additional pressures from developers awaiting determination of other schemes.

In summary, at the moment, the Local Planning Authority is having great difficulties reacting and responding to the changes / amendments being proposed by Sunnica. This is particularly difficult because resources are stretched by the need to respond, as well as maintaining a working service for other applications and determinations. This is why a clear timeframe is required, and the assurances that the dates set will be met.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Phillips
Planning Team Leader