

My name is Julia and I came to England from Germany 21 years ago.

I used to work in the racing industry and when I came to England for a short vacation I visited the famous Newmarket Racecourse and had a tour around some of the local yards and training facilities.

I decided to come over for a little while to work here and explore the facilities further. I was so impressed that I decided to move to England after I had completed my Masters degree.

I have visited many racing facilities all over Europe like Germany, France, Ireland, Italy, Czech Republic, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium as well as overseas facilities like Dubai, Australia and Hong Kong.

Nowhere gave me the same feel than Newmarket did.

I used to love working on the prestigious Limekilns and enjoying the beautiful scenery surrounding them.

I no longer work in racing due to unforeseen circumstances but am still closely connected to the racing world.

I now own an Aesthetics Clinic in Red Lodge and have many clients from the surrounding villages.

Since the proposal of the Sunnica scheme many of my clients have put their houses on the market or are considering to move away if the scheme would go ahead. This already had and would continue to have a huge impact on my business if more of my regular clients would move away.

The fact that many that are connected to the racing industry fear that their jobs might be impacted, leading to financial restrictions, have mentioned that they might have to stop having treatments done if this would happen.

All of this is very worrying for me and my business.

I also am very worried about the safety aspect of the scheme with the huge battery storage units being in such close proximity to the village.

Having had a look at other similar schemes (not many of this size do exist) around the world, I'm not convinced that the technology is there yet. Reports of battery fires are a regular thing and the contamination area around the battery units would most certainly include Red Lodge.

I have seen no evidence in any of the consultations (or the lack of them) that indicates that proper safety checks have even been carried out. In fact on a meeting in Red Lodge I have attended the representative from Sunnica was unable to answer any of the question from the public regarding this matter and just kept repeating that he would have to get back to us about this.

I have never heard anything else following this meeting.

It also appears that there is no decommission plan in place for when the batteries and solar panels reach their life expectancy. This is another big concern as I'm worried we will be left with a derelict standing solar farm in years to come.

My husband and I regularly take our kids on walks around the local area as well as bike rides.

We often use the Elms Road to meet up with friend at the Wild boar in Freckenham or to go to the Worlington hall.

We also have friend in Isleham we visit regularly and meet up half way to enjoy nature walks. All this would not be enjoyable anymore.

The Elms road is our favourite road in the surrounding area since it has very little traffic to navigate the kids through and has beautiful scenery surrounding it.

If this project would go ahead we would most certainly not be doing these activities anymore, this

would be a great shame as it would really impact our social life's and would reduce the kids physical activities.

Elms road would simply be too dangerous with all the construction traffic and construction vehicles and the idea of travelling through a building site is not very inspiring.

And even once the batteries and panels were placed, we would most likely choose to meet somewhere else because our journey would be transformed into something so ugly - we don't want to cycle down a road with batteries on one side and huge areas of solar panels on the other. We like the green, the countryside, the wildlife.

The problem is that Red Lodge has developments and fast roads that already surround it on many sides. So this access from our house to Freckenham and Chippenham etc is even more valued. Without this area of scenic countryside to access, we'd be forced to drive elsewhere to have meet ups, which is really saddening and would be less healthy for my family and mean additional costs as we would have to allow for fuel as well.

With ever rising fuel costs and a pledge to have lower emissions it would be contra productive to build a supposedly green scheme in an area that then would in turn produce additional emissions in that area.

Surely rooftops of industrial units would be a much more logical place to build a scheme like this.

The idea of another huge construction site in the already not adequate road infrastructure in the area also fills me with fear.

The road network is just not good enough for a project of this size.

If any of the surrounding villages has only the smallest road works or if there is an accident on the A14 or A11 the roads cannot take the pressure and it leads to huge congestions in all the surrounding areas as traffic has to be funnels through the villages.

If this project would go ahead without the construction of a bypass first, the traffic in the surrounding areas would be a nightmare. Now imagine there would be the construction site of Sunnica putting continued pressure (traffic lights plus deliveries of huge equipment with big machinery) on the traffic and then an accident on either the A11 or A14 and the whole area would be gridlocked.

This in turn would massively impact my business with clients unable to get to their appointments, or being put off by the idea of travelling under these conditions knowing they would have to navigate this madness.

It would also impact me personally as the travel to and from school, after school clubs or other local social events would be massively impacted.

I'm massively for renewable energy projects but hugely against the construction of Sunnica.

This scheme is not a green scheme to help the environment and the local area as they are advertising it.

It is simply an energy harvesting plant that only has the financial aspect of the huge profit in mind it would bring by buying energy cheap at night, storing it in the battery units and then Selling it back to the grid at a premium priced during the day.

Nature, local residents, wildlife and the environment are not at heart of this company and this proposal. This project can not go ahead.