

## Application by Sunnica Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Sunnica Energy Farm Project

Notification of the date, time, and venue for Issue Specific Hearing (ISH3) on 8 December 2022 was provided in the [Examining Authority's letter dated 8 November 2022 \[PD-018\]](#).

**Date: Thursday 8 December 2022**

**Time: 10am**

**Venue: King Edward VII Memorial Hall, High Street, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 8JP and by virtual means using Microsoft Teams.**

Seating at the venue will be available from 9am.

Full instructions on how to join online or by phone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered.

An **Arrangements Conference** will be held at **9am** for those participating online or by phone.

### Detailed Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing (ISH3) on Environmental Matters

- 1. Welcome, introductions and arrangements for the Hearing**
- 2. Principle and nature of development**
  - a. Implications for the Proposed Development of an eventual recommendation to delete a part or parts of the Order limits
  - b. Benefit to local community from reduced energy costs
- 3. Socio-economic and land use**
  - a. Agricultural land classification
    - i. Adequacy of agricultural land classification surveys, relevance of irrigation needs
    - ii. Whether assessment of best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land accords with planning policy
  - b. The effects of the Proposed Development on the local community and economy
    - i. Horse racing industry (HRI)
    - ii. Generally: employment assumptions, effects on local economy and compensation package for local communities
- 4. Air quality and human health**

- a. Battery energy storage system (BESS) - safety
  - i. Fire risk, potential effects and mitigation
  - ii. Explosion and effects
  - iii. Health implications
- b. Emergency planning including evacuation plans

**5. Water resources, flood risk and drainage**

- a. Adequacy of flood risk assessment
- b. Design of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) features, floodplain compensation
- c. Residual flood risk at Burwell Substation
- d. Solar panels in FZ3

**6. Public rights of way**

- a. Temporary closure and restoration
- b. Permissive paths

**7. Next steps**

**8. Close of the Hearing**

**Participation, conduct and management of the Hearing**

The Examining Authority (ExA) has identified the matters to be considered at this ISH, and those on which it requires additional information, and these are set out in this Agenda. It is intended that the scope of the ISH will be limited to those matters. However, the ExA may wish to raise matters arising from oral submissions and pursue lines of inquiry in the course of the discussions which are not listed on the Agenda. The actual Agenda on the day, including the order of items, may be subject to change at the discretion of the ExA.

Oral submissions on other matters or from persons who are not registered Interested Parties (IPs) may only be heard at the discretion of the ExA. However, reliance should not be placed upon the exercise of that discretion.

Participation in the ISH is subject to the ExA's power to control the Hearing. It is for the ExA to determine how Hearings are to be conducted, including the time allowed at the Hearing for the making of a person's representations. IPs may be invited to make oral representations at the ISH (subject to the ExA's power to control the Hearing), on the specific issues being examined at the Hearing, as set out in this Agenda. The ISH will be managed in the interests of ensuring that the submissions of invited persons are fully heard within the allotted time. However, if there are additional matters to be dealt with or there are submissions that take a considerable amount of time at any Hearing there may be a need to prioritise some matters and defer others.

Oral representations should be informed by the Relevant Representations, Written Representations and Local Impact Report made by the person by whom (or on whose behalf) the oral representations are made.

However, representations made at the Hearing should not simply repeat matters previously covered in a written submission. Rather, they should draw attention to those submissions in summary form and provide further detail, explanation, and evidential corroboration to help inform the ExA.

The ExA may ask questions about representations or ask the Applicant or other parties to comment or respond. The ExA will probe, test, and assess the evidence through direct questioning of persons making oral representations. Questioning at the Hearing will therefore be led by a member of the Panel, supported by other Panel members.

All participants are advised that written summaries of their oral submissions at this Hearing should be submitted at **Deadline 4**, Friday 16 December 2022.

The Hearing will run until the ExA is content that all matters on the Agenda have been addressed. Breaks will be provided after about 90 minutes of business, subject to the ExA's discretion.

### **Arrangements Conference**

Those participating in the Hearing virtually will receive an email shortly before the event containing a joining link and telephone number. Please join the Arrangements Conference at the appointed time for the Hearing. The Case Team will admit you from the Lobby and register your attendance. The Arrangements Conference allows procedures to be explained and will enable the Hearing to start promptly.

### **Livestream / Recording**

For those that wish to observe the Hearing, a link to a livestream of the event will be published on the [project webpage](#) shortly before the Hearing is scheduled to begin. If you are unable to watch the livestream a recording of the Hearing will be published on the [project webpage](#) shortly after the event has finished.