

# WORLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

56 Lamble Close  
Beck Row  
Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk, IP28 8DB

8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Secretary of State

By email only: [sunnica@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:sunnica@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

Dear Sirs

**Interested Party ref: 20030919**

I write on behalf of the Worlington Parish Council which has the following comments to the letter submitted by Pinsent Mason on 10th August 2023. (This in response to the Secretary of State's (SoS's) request in the letter dated 27 July 2023). The numbering used is that in Pinsent Mason's letter to the SoS.

## **2. BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DESIGN AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE CONSENT**

The parishioners of Worlington are extremely concerned about the safety of the proposed Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS's). The proposed locations in the East Site A (map reference E33) and East Site B (map reference E18) are extremely close to the village of Worlington (and indeed other villages). In fact, the East Site B (map reference E33) is incredibly close to the Travellers Site located just off Elms Road. Given the size and nature of design of these BESS's, we strongly refute the Applicant's response that hazardous substance consent is not required 'at this stage' and that if it was, there is no necessity for that to be obtained alongside the application for the development consent. Just the thought of these proposed BESS's being located in such close proximity to our village is causing a great deal of anxiety to so many of our parishioners.

## **7. OTHER MATTERS**

Worlington Parish Council strongly refutes the Applicant's findings on soil quality. There have been good quality crops growing in the surrounding fields of Worlington for years and years. This is agriculturally a productive area and we would kindly ask the Secretary of State to dismiss the Applicant's claim of such a low percentage of Best Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.

Finally, Worlington Parish Council fully supports the comments by both the Parish Alliance and Say No To Sunnica (SNTS).

Yours faithfully



Clerk  
On behalf of  
Worlington Parish Council