

Peter Maxwell

The Secretary of State
Department for Energy Security & Net Zero
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

September 11th 2023

Re EN010106 Sunnica Energy Farm
Interested Party No. 20031342

Dear Madam,

I refer to your Department's letters requesting Interested Parties responses by today.

With expected predictability, Sunnica's responses sent through a law firm, are weak on detail and continue avoid facing the cogent questions that have been asked consistently. I wish to focus on two key issues.

Agricultural Land Classification

Sunnica and the landowners have refused to allow any independent soil examination. If Sunnica genuinely believed that the arable soil surrounding our villages was below Grade 3 they would have allowed independent testing. We know that the countryside around us is very good arable land, and an independent assessment would support this. The fact that Sunnica has resolutely refused this is telling.

The Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak, in a speech in Newmarket, stated on July 27th 2022 that "ground mounted solar would not be allowed on productive arable land".

Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

Sunnica have proposed an enormous energy storage capacity without understanding the huge potential dangers associated with such a system. When these systems catch fire – and they do - they are almost impossible to extinguish. All three of the proposed BESS are close to

PHONE: [REDACTED] • MOB: [REDACTED]
email [REDACTED]

towns and villages, and there is no provision for a mass evacuation should that be necessary.

Furthermore, Newmarket is the racing capital of the world, and there is billions of pounds worth of bloodstock, which could not be moved in time.

On an environmental basis, the components of these lithium batteries are all sourced and controlled by China, where lithium and cobalt, as examples, are mined [REDACTED] Sourcing these batteries may contravene the Modern Slavery Act of 2015.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Maxwell