

**From:** [Red Lodge Clerk](#)  
**To:** [Sunnica Energy Farm](#)  
**Subject:** Ref EN010106  
**Date:** 11 September 2023 19:58:16

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### **Unique Reference 20031138**

To Whom it May Concern,

Further to the invitation from the Secretary of State to comment on the information request of 27 July 2023, please reiterate Red Lodge Parish Council's continued objection to the Sunnica scheme, as outlined in our previous representations.

Red Lodge Parish Council fully supports the representations submitted by the Parish Alliance and the Say No to Sunnica Community Action Group.

In addition Red Lodge Parish Council supports the position of Dr. Edmund Fordham and the Council's regarding the need for Hazardous Substances Consent for the battery storage, which is the crux of this scheme.

Red Lodge Parish Council does not agree that the HSC matter can be resolved after the decision has been taken. It is essential that the required consents are gained during the consenting process. If this isn't possible, the application should not proceed.

Sunnica have shown a lack of transparency throughout this process with regard to the battery storage. At the Red Lodge Parish Council meeting Sunnica attended in March 2022, they spoke of the indicative plans and layout for the BESS sites that they had used for modelling purposes etc. However, they did not share these despite requests at the meeting and post meeting. The BESS issue is one of the most critical concerns about this scheme for residents of Red Lodge due to our close proximity. The size and scale of the proposed BESS was only eventually admitted by the applicant during the examination process - they did not make residents of Red Lodge (or any of the other affected communities) aware that these would be amongst the biggest in the world. Furthermore, the BESS is proposed to be located within just a few metres of the travelling community and other residents and businesses on Elms Road and within a very short distance of primary schools, people's homes, local businesses, etc. which are all to the east and south east of this site.

Red Lodge Parish Council on behalf of it's residents strongly opposes the installation of such a BESS that has not had an adequate safety appraisal, whose battery fire safety management plan has been shown by experts to be unfit for purpose and that has failed to obtain the necessary consents or have adequate engagement with statutory bodies and other relevant parties.

We heard in the House of Commons last week that the government acknowledges the concerns around the safety and environmental impacts of battery energy storage and that they see it as a priority to ensure that a robust regulatory framework that protects people and the environment is in place. Red Lodge Parish Council does not consider that the Sunnica BESS are in the right place to meet this requirement.

Sunnica have been permitted extensions yet again, failure to provide clear and complete information for the application is deeply concerning, highlighting that the scope of this scheme and issues relating to the scheme, have not been fully understood, evaluated, analysed and resolved by Sunnica.

Given Sunnica's provision of lack of complete accurate information, the vast size of this scheme, the complexity in it's layout and considering the potential serious consequences and harm that this scheme could cause on multiple levels, reaffirms that it is highly inappropriate to allow Sunnica to proceed with this proposal.

Red Lodge Parish Council objects the Sunnica scheme.

*Shazia Shujah*

Proper Officer and Responsible Finance Officer

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