

From: [Justin Fuga](#)
To: [Sunnica Energy Farm](#)
Subject: Sunnica Ltd
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Dear Planning Inspectorate,

I am writing to you with reference to the application by Sunnica Ltd for an order granting development consent for the Sunnica Energy plant. Having reviewed the letter from Pinsent Masons to your department, dated 10 August 2023, I would like to share with you my thoughts and opinions on the matters discussed:

Item 2: Battery Energy Storage Design and Hazardous Substance Consent.

For me this is a case of putting the cart before the horse. I find it unacceptable that Sunnica do not know if the BESS requires Hazardous Substance Consent until approval of order is granted. The way I read this is “we won’t know if the Energy Plant is going to be dangerous to the inhabitants and environment in the area until we have properly designed it, and it must be ok because Longfield and Cleve Hill didn’t require this.”

It’s almost like Sunnica is asking the Secretary of State to gamble on this outcome rather than provide reliable and calculated information. I encourage all the decision makers of this large-scale project to take a step back and reconsider this for a moment. What’s clear to me is that this large development has been badly thought-out from the very start and at this late stage in the process we should consider the dangerous precedent that could be set if approval was granted.

Item 3: Isleham Bomber Plane Crash

I’ll keep this short but I’m very disappointed that the MOD granted Sunnica Ltd a license in principle. This does not sit well with me and many inhabitants in Isleham. It’s simply disrespectful to the pilots and aircrew that sacrificed their lives that day.

Item 7.2 Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land

I’m sure you will agree the variance in BMV calculations in this application is vast ranging from 1% to 50%. Hence I’m very dubious

about the stats given this was not conducted by an impartial party. I'm not a scientist but what I do have is a pair of eyes and all I see are crops growing in these fields year in year out, so why limit this argument to just soil quality, when what really matters is the yield from the land? Does it really make sense to have this project situated in the countryside? Why ruin good farming land for BESS and Solar Panels when this technology can be suitably deployed on rooftops and carpark spaces... It just doesn't make sense to me?!

Finally I'd like to thank you for reviewing my submissions, I appreciate this has been an extensive process for all of us. In conclusion the Sunnica application for me has certainly helped to highlight how not to build an energy plant in the countryside directly beside 16 towns and parishes. Furthermore I hope this whole process and the failings of Sunnica has helped the Secretary of State identify further reasons to improve legislation on future energy projects.

Yours sincerely,

Justin

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