

From: [Celia H](#)
To: [Sunnica Energy Farm](#)
Subject: Sunnica proposal for Newmarket and the surrounding area
Date: 13 September 2023 17:06:08

Dear sir/madam

I would like to register objections to Sunnica's proposal for their huge Solar industrial plant.

Firstly the wildlife here is diverse and wonderful

We have one of the few chalk rivers in the country- it is thriving and has fish, swans, kingfishers and other wildlife to name but a few.

The runoff from construction alone is likely to devastate the delicate ecology of the river and wreck it's ecosystems.

The river is a wonderful place of joy and peace and serves the local villages well, with the chance to simply escape from the pressures of an ever increasing pace of life.

The farm land is highly productive. I have walked the field near us since Covid (with the dogs) and have seen such a range of crops; potatoes, onions, grains, maize, kale, asparagus and carrots.

With our exit from Europe, Ukraine's defence of it's land and Russian aggression and disruption of so many foodstuffs- does it really make sense to remove so much productive land from service? Raising the need to import even more fresh food from elsewhere- green this is not.

Pigs use the land on rotation and enrich the soil as they move around. The soil is rich and productive, don't let Sunnica fool you on this.

Sunnica keep insisting that the farmland is low grade soil- but it really isn't and many surveys have displayed this- but just viewing the fields over several years, all year round I can assure you it is highly productive.

Hares and rabbits abound- and this displays just how rich and fertile the landscape is. (Chris Packham has said so on Springwatch- so it really must be true! He knows!)

We have stone curlews who regularly nest in these fields, we have lapwings who use the land too. Many migrating birds stop over in the fields, goldeneye ducks and egyptian geese are regular lodgers here.

If the farmland is covered in solar panels this wildlife will disappear.

Please do not be fooled by Sunnica's reassurances that mitigations will be made. The wildlife will not return following the noise and disruption caused by construction, and the rural idyll they project in illustrations will completely change the nature of wildlife in the area.

Sunnica have also given little or no consideration to the danger of the ion lithium battery park that they intend to build. The panels are purely a cover for their intent to download cheap electricity over night and make a huge amount of money by selling back to the grid during the daytime. This is not a

green initiative it is purely and ONLY about making money by destroying all it surrounds.

The lithium batteries are highly dangerous if they ignite and will be located by a major route through East Anglia (A11). It is also very close to village schools and many houses (Red Lodge). The fumes released by such batteries can be lethal if inhaled and many who live close by would have no choice but to do so.

If this is passed it would be for, allegedly, a 40 year lease- there is absolutely no guarantee that these panels will last even 20 years, and talk of returning the land to farmland has been just that, talk. Sunnica have given assurances that look more like a child waving a wand wistfully through the air than anything substantial or likely.

It would appear they simply want to obtain the permissions and then sell them on- it seems they have no real interest in the project themselves- and certainly from all I have seen of them in various guises they feel that the local opposition is about Nimbyism- they have demeaned us and dismissed us, they have taken very few of the very real local concerns to heart.

They would be better in investing in solar panels on housing- no new house should be built without them- and most here are not opposed to solar power- but want to see it built and used responsibly- we are not the nimby's that Sunnica have labelled us.

There are other reasons to reject this proposal that I know less about, but these include damage to Newmarket's racing fraternity, archeological sites of special interest and the complete lack of any benefit to the local communities and economies.

Finally I would ask you to please take note of our objections to, and reasons for, Sunnica's proposal to completely encircle many local villages in this area with Solar panels and condemn us to live in an industrial landscape with dangerous Lithium Ion batteries, purely to line the pockets of greedy intermediaries- not truly interested in producing green energy.

Thank you for taking the time to read this
Kind regards

Cecelia and Mark Hawley