

The Newmarket Stud Farmers Association Ltd.

c/o Edmondson Hall – Solicitors

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] t
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP
Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero
House of Commons
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

21 August 2023

Dear Secretary of State

**Application by Sunnica Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Sunnica Energy Farm
A Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP)**

You will be aware that the examination of the above proposal concluded in March 2023. I write as Chairman of the Newmarket Stud Farmers Association whose Members are all the Stud Farmers in the Newmarket area-their farms covering an area in excess of 7,500 acres. Their land has been carefully nurtured for the breeding and rearing of Thoroughbred for over 200 years. Our Membership is as listed at the base of this letter.

We respectfully suggest that this application be refused for the following reasons: :-

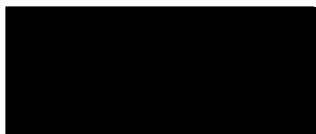
1. Newmarket is pre-eminent in the world for the breeding and training of thoroughbred racehorses. The proposed scheme will massively degrade the setting of stud farms in Newmarket (including but extending beyond just landscape), and it will diminish Newmarket's place on the world stage as the premier location for horse breeding and racing. To remain pre-eminent from which so much benefit comes in terms of attracting the best in the world it is vital that the area retains its pre-eminence on the world stage.
2. International Bloodstock breeders are always impressed by the prestige and facilities the town has to offer – the stud farms and all that is essential to the operation of world class operations and the Racehorse trainers with their unrivalled facilities. Together they make an incredible impression on visitors and potential. The towns two racecourse in the area add an important focal point as visitors enter the town. Over the last 40 years, although precise figures are not available, these investors will have invested several billions of pounds in the infrastructure.

3. Newmarket's bloodstock industry is vulnerable, the super-rich investor can afford to be involved in thoroughbred bloodstock breeding wherever it may take their fancy. Thoroughbred stud farms in Ireland and France are very keen to attract business away from the Newmarket area and the risk must be that **IF** they leave it would be very hard indeed, nay impossible, to replace these vital investors.
4. There is no doubt that the Sunnica development would be highly detrimental to the area. Visitors are always struck by the peace and tranquillity of this area of outstanding beauty.
5. Furthermore, the villages to the north-east of Newmarket house many of our important workers, especially vets, farriers, and senior managers because, not only is it a pleasant area in which to live with close knit communities in villages and schools, but it offers better value for money than the villages to the south and west – many of which are unaffordable to some. Many also choose to live there because of the rural setting where they can take long peaceful walks to relax and where it is a pleasant place to bring up their children. This area is a part of the equestrian and farming character of Newmarket with studs and farming in this location with horses seen using the bridleways. With the proposed Sunnica development spreading out in a horseshoe around them like a flood, many will feel isolated and cut off from their surrounding communities – the severance it will form will here be significant as a consequence of the Sunnica proposals and socially it will inevitably mean less interaction between them.

During the examination the Examining Authority received a significant amount of evidence from multiple experts and local people outlining the many flaws of this ill-conceived poorly located and badly designed scheme. As an Industry The Newmarket Stud Farmers Association recognise the climate emergency and the policy at local and national level that indicates strongly in the favour of the construction of a renewable energy generation. There are already a number of very substantial solar energy farms which have taken a large area of highly productive farmland out of production. Indeed if this proposal is allowed a number of our Members will be affected and their business model will no longer be viable

We respectfully ask that you refuse this flawed application.

Yours



N Angus-Smith

Chairman

The Newmarket Stud Farmers Association

Encl. List of Members of the Newmarket Stud Farmers Association Ltd.

The Newmarket Stud Farmers Association Ltd - Members

Aislabie Stud
August Farms Llp
Baker McVeigh
Barton Stud
Black Horse Farm
Blue Diamond Stud
Bottisham Heath Stud
Brendan Boyle B/s
Brook Stud B/s Ltd
Brookside Stud
Castlebridge East
Charlock Stud
Cheveley Park Stud
Childwick Bury Stud
Crockfords Stud
Daylesford Stud
Deerfield Farm
Duke's Stud
Egerton Stud
Elms Stud
Far Westfield Stud
Fittocks Stud
Moulton Stud
Galloway Stud
Genesis Green Stud
Giocri Stud
Glebe Stud
Godolphin Man. Co Ltd
Gowe Equine
Grove Farm Stud
Harling Wood
Hascombe & Valiant
Hazelwood Bloodstock
Houghton B/s UK Ltd

Jockey Club Estates Ltd
Juddmonte Farms
Keith Harte Bloodstock
Kirtlington Stud
Lanwades Stud
Laundry Cottage Stud
Little Heaven Stud
Lofis Hall Stud
Longstones Stud
Longview Stud Ltd
Lordship Stud
Moulton Stud
Moyns Park Stud
New England Stud
Newmarket Equine Hosp.
Newsells Park Stud Ltd
Northmore Stud
Old Buckenham Stud
Penny Farm
Plantation Stud
Plumton Hall Stud
Potters Tye Stud
Redgate Bloodstock
Rossdale & Partners
Shadwell Estate Ltd.
Stanley House Stud
Stetchworth Park Stud
Swynford Paddocks
The National Stud
The Royal Studs
Thoroughbred Breeders Assoc.
Vicarage Farm
Voute Sales
West Stow Stud Ltd