

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Sunnica Energy Farm](#)
Subject: Fw: Sunnica Energy Farm EN 010106
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Written Response to The Secretary of State following responses submitted by Sunnica and Natural England on landscape and stone curlew impacts

From Lorraine Stone [REDACTED]

I have lived in Freckenham for 40 years and object to the Sunnica proposals. I restate my objections submitted in November 2022, and I see no reason to change my mind following these additional submissions – this is still a severely flawed project. I fully support renewable energy plans to meet the UK's target to be carbon neutral by 2050. Sustainable renewables - but not at the expense of food security and the local environment. In the UK there are over 250,000 hectares of unused south facing commercial roof spaces, plus millions of domestic rooftops which could be used to meet Net Zero targets, rather than using highly productive irrigated farmland surrounding 9 rural communities, where there is also a risk of the loss of potential archaeological sites of national significance. Personally, the plans will impact on my well-being and life in this area. I have chosen to live in Freckenham for so many years because of the close-knit community of local villages connected by productive farmland. The effect of Sunnica will be to industrialise my countryside, destroy Public Rights of Way, impact my quiet enjoyment of the location due to the construction issues of noise, traffic, HGV movements, and will desecrate and disturb our wonderful wildlife habitats and displace many species. Natural England have not been able to supply any reliable evidence to back up claims that Sunnica's plans will NOT harm the stone curlews that currently nest within the proposed area of the planning application. The bird surveys are inadequate and incomplete.

The totally random layout of the sites will surround my local rural villages and enclose the vast open spaces which are a valued feature of this area. Meeting the UK's goals to combat global warming and protect the planet should not be used to justify commercial gain by permitting the wrong development in the wrong location.

The enormous impact that this sprawling scheme would have on the local area and its inhabitants was discussed at length throughout the Examination. If approved, this would be one of Europe's biggest solar plants with over a million panels and hundreds of battery storage containers. Sunnica is of the view that any additional effective mitigation would necessitate a substantial reduction in the function of their scheme, and would not be reasonable or appropriate. However, their proposed mitigation and enhancement measures, including the changes made to address feedback from the community are still totally inadequate and the residual impact is too great.

I strongly urge the Secretary of State to refuse these plans and reject the application which is flawed, totally inappropriate and would stretch for 15 miles from one end to the other and affect 16 parishes and towns along its path.

Mrs Lorraine A Stone
