



SUNNICA ENERGY FARM

EN010106

Draft Statement of Common Ground with Ministry of Defence

Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010



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**The Infrastructure Planning
(Examination Procedure) Rules 2010**

Sunnica Energy Farm

Draft Statement of Common Ground with Ministry of Defence

Planning Inspectorate Scheme Reference	EN010106/APP/8.32
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Version	Date	Status of Version
Rev 00	11.11.2022	Initial draft for Deadline 2

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared in respect of the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm Development Consent Order ("the Application") made by Sunnica Limited ("Sunnica") to the Secretary of State for Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy ("Secretary of State") for a Development Consent Order ("the Order") under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 ("PA 2008").
- 1.1.2 The order, if granted, would authorise Sunnica to construct, operate (including maintain) and decommission a ground mounted solar farm across Sunnica East Site A, Sunnica East Site B, Sunnica West Site A and Sunnica West B. The Scheme includes the following key components:
- a) Solar PV modules;
 - b) PV module mounting structures;
 - c) Inverters;
 - d) Transformers;
 - e) Switchgear;
 - f) Onsite cabling (including high and low voltage cabling);
 - g) One or more BESS (expected to be formed of lithium ion batteries storing electrical energy) on Sunnica East Site A, Sunnica East Site B, and Sunnica West Site A;
 - h) An electrical compound comprising a substation and control building (Sunnica East Site A, Sunnica East Site B, and Sunnica West Site A only);
 - i) Burwell National Grid Substation Extension should Burwell National Grid Substation Extension Option 2 be taken forward;
 - j) Office/warehouse (Sunnica East Site A and Sunnica East Site B only)
 - k) Fencing and security measures;
 - l) Drainage;
 - m) Internal access roads and car parking;
 - n) Landscaping including habitat creation areas; and
 - o) Construction laydown areas.
- 1.1.3 This SoCG does not seek to replicate information which is available elsewhere within the Application documents. All documents are available in the deposit locations and/or the Planning Inspectorate website.

- 1.1.4 This SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority (ExA) where agreement has been reached between the parties to it, and where agreement has not (yet) been reached. SoCGs are an established means in the planning process of allowing all parties to identify and so focus on specific issues that may need to be addressed during the examination.

1.2 Parties to this Statement of Common Ground

- 1.2.1 This SoCG has been prepared by (1) Sunnica as the Applicant and (2) Ministry of Defence.
- 1.2.2 Sunnica is a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) incorporated in 2013 to construct, operate, and decommission the Sunnica Energy Farm.
- 1.2.3 The Ministry of Defence is an interested party to the Examination of the Application.
- 1.2.4 Ministry of Defence is a prescribed consultee for this application under Sections 42(1)(a) and 56(2)(a) of the PA 2008.
- 1.2.5 Collectively Sunnica and Ministry of Defence are referred to as 'the parties'.

1.3 Terminology

- 1.3.1 In the tables in the Issues chapter of this SoCG:
- "Agreed" indicates where the issue has been resolved.
 - "Not Agreed" indicates a final position of the parties that is not agreed, and
 - "Under discussion" indicates where these points are the subject of on-going discussion wherever possible to resolve, or refine, the extent of disagreement between the parties.
- 1.3.2 It can be taken that any matters not specifically referred to in the Issues chapter of this SoCG are not of material interest or relevance to Ministry of Defence's representation and therefore have not been considered in this document. It is recognised however that engagement between both parties will need to continue due to their joint interest in matters arising from the Scheme.

2 Issues

2.1 Matters Agreed

2.1.1 **Table 2** below details the matters agreed with Ministry of Defence.

Table 1: Matters agreed

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Agreement
Assessment findings	Assessment findings: Construction, operation and decommissioning effects	It is agreed by the parties that the assessments provided within Chapter 9: Flood Risk, Drainage and Water Resources [APP-041] ; glint and glare conditions contained within Chapter 16: Other Environmental Topics [APP-048] and the Outline Battery Fire Safety Management Plan [app-267] have identified the adverse and beneficial effects that would potentially result from construction, operation and decommissioning of the Scheme. The parties agree that the Scheme would not result in any significant residual glint and glare effects nor raise any other air safety safeguarding concerns.

2.2 Matters Under Discussion

2.2.1 **Table 3** below details the matters under discussion with Ministry of Defence.

Table 2 Matters under discussion

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Agreement
None	None	None

2.3 Matters Not Agreed

2.3.1 **Table 4** below details the matters not agreed with Ministry of Defence.

Table 3: Matters not agreed

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Not Agreed
None	None	None