

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Sunnica Energy Farm](#)
Subject: Formal Objection on behalf of the Town and Parish Council Alliance
Date: 15 January 2026 15:01:51

Formal Objection on behalf of the Town and Parish Council Alliance to the Sunnica Non-material Change request

Good afternoon,

The Town and Parish Council Alliance submits this formal objection to the Non-Material Change request submitted by Sunnica Ltd in relation to the proposed alteration of the access point to the National Grid connection.

The grid connection arrangements, including their location and associated cabling, constitute fundamental elements of the Sunnica Energy Farm. These matters should have been fully resolved prior to submission of the original application and, in any event, before the Examination commenced. During the Examination in 2023, Sunnica Ltd sought to amend its grid connection proposals, resulting in additional consultation exercises and delays to the Examination. Those amendments introduced additional infrastructure and gave rise to further environmental impacts. In light of this history, the Alliance considers that no further changes to the grid connection arrangements, nor any extension of the Order limits, should be permitted at this post-consent stage.

Allowing extensions to the Order limits after consent has been granted would fundamentally undermine the certainty, transparency, and finality that the Development Consent Order (DCO) process is intended to provide. Local residents, parish councils, and other stakeholders engaged with the process on the basis of a clearly defined red-line boundary and a fixed description of development. Retrospective alterations of this nature risk eroding trust in the integrity of the DCO regime.

The limited scope of consultation undertaken in relation to this change request represents a further failure to engage meaningfully with affected communities. The Town and Parish Council Alliance formally requested to be included as a consultee for this process, in recognition of its representative function and detailed understanding of local impacts. That request was refused. This decision further diminishes confidence in the fairness, transparency, and inclusivity of the decision-making process.

The Alliance strongly objects to any further “drip-feeding” of changes to the consented scheme. Of particular concern is the precedent that approval of this request would set, enabling a series of incremental or “creeping” amendments which, when considered cumulatively, could result in a materially different development without appropriate scrutiny or the benefit of full public consultation.

The Sunnica Energy Farm is expected to cause significant harm to the landscape, heritage assets, biodiversity, and the local economy. These impacts were clearly articulated by numerous Interested Parties during the Examination and were reflected in the Examining Authority’s expert recommendation that the scheme be refused.

This objection is addressed to the Planning Inspectorate and the Secretary of State’s planning team. The Town and Parish Council Alliance respectfully requests that careful consideration is given to whether the proposed change genuinely meets the statutory and policy tests for a non-material change, and whether approval would further undermine confidence in the examination process and the safeguards designed to protect affected communities.

Many thanks,
[REDACTED]

On behalf of the Town and Parish Council Alliance