

Date: 14th January 2026
Our ref: MJT/tjc/050744

The Sunnica Energy Farm Case – National Infrastructure
The Planning Inspectorate
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Sent via email:
Sunnica@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Representation in respect of the Sunnica Energy Farm on behalf of the Environment Agency

We are instructed by The Environment Agency who we act on behalf of to make a representation regarding the Sunnica Energy Farm in respect of the non-material change to The Sunnica Energy Farm Order 2024 (SI 2024/802) and the proposed scheme as a whole.

The Environment Agency are the freehold owner of Chippenham Park Pumping Station (Land Registry Title Number: CB143506) which is an active water extraction and pumping site providing water via the Lodes Granta pipeline to Chippenham Fen National Nature Reserve. The site helps to maintain the water levels at a constant level within the Nature Reserve and borders the Sunnica Energy Farm site and also the A11.

Currently access to the Pumping Station site and a section of the Lodes Granta pipeline is situated within the area designated to be included in the Energy Farm site. The Environment Agency therefore wish to ensure that access to the site is not restricted as a result of the Solar Farm and that the Lodes Granta pipeline is not compromised in any way.

The Lodes Granta pipeline is a 10inch water pipeline as shown on the accompanying plans. Within the current proposals it would appear that a large section of planting (assumed tree planting) is proposed over the current route of the pipeline. In order to protect the pipeline and allow the ability for future maintenance and replacement of the pipeline, if necessary, a strip of land with a width of 5 metres over the pipeline should be excluded from the current tree planting proposals. The proposed planting as understood from the latest plans provided could compromise the existing pipeline as well as restricting future maintenance and replacement.

I trust the above is helpful when considering the latest amendment to the Sunnica Energy Farm Order 2024 as well as the overall design of the scheme. I would be grateful if the considerations regarding the proposed planting could be considered by the Secretary of State for Energy and Net Zero and the necessary amendments made to the current scheme design.

Should the Sunnica Energy Farm require any further information relating to the current access route of the pumping station or existing pipeline, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Matthew Thompson MRICS FAAV

Land Agent

For and on behalf of Brown & Co – Property and Business Consultants LLP

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Enclosed: Pipeline Plans





