

Webinar – 25 November 2020

Additional questions

There were a number of questions that it was not possible to answer during the consultation webinar on 25 November 2020. This document sets out answers to these questions.

Design

Roughly how many panels can be put on one acre please?

For most flat solar sites, such as Sunnica, approximately 400 panels per acre can be installed. This includes the fence, inverter areas, roads, off-sets and taking into account any shading.

However, it is not possible to give a definitive answer at this stage for Sunnica, as the detailed design of the type of module and configuration on site will need to be developed. These are subject to advances in technology and detailed constraints on site. For the purposes of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application we are proposing dimensions that can be found within the Scheme Description of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report), Chapter 3 to be installed in specific areas.

These will follow through to the plans submitted as part of the DCO application to the indicative area that can be found within the project's parameter plans. All of this information can be found on the Sunnica website:

<https://sunnica.co.uk/preliminary-environmental-information-report>

So how many panels would you need based on your indicative plans?

The answer to this will depend upon our final design. This will be developed subject to a successful Development Consent Order (DCO) application.

What is a "marginal" Loss in percent please?

It is not possible to answer this question at this stage of the process as it depends on the final technical design including the cable material type (copper/aluminium), construction methodology (trenching/trenchless), distance and electrical configuration as well as ground conditions. Until we reach the final design we cannot fully establish what the cable losses are.

We define 'marginal' as not significant in terms of the project economics. The typical loss on high voltage lines such as the cable route is very low. The technology typically used on high voltage lines such as the cable route is very efficient and is in use in transmission systems across the world.

If the plans are indicative, but may change, how do we know if you'll have south facing panels, not east-west?

Our design proposes south facing panels and this will be set out and secured in our DCO application.

This is a very dusty area, will the efficiency of the solar panels be affected by atmospheric aerosols from local area and the RAF bases for example?

The performance of the solar PV panels will depend on the amount of light that reaches them. If there were to be elements that prevented light reaching the panels, then it would affect their performance. The UK's climate is a suitable one for solar. Rain is fairly frequent, and this effectively washes the panels of any dust or materials that would reduce their efficiency. This makes the maintenance of the panels easier relative to warmer, drier climates.

The question just now on how many panels will there be was ducked again. Why can't an approximate answer be given, is it 1 million plus, 2 million plus etc? I suspect the answer is it's a big number which is why they don't want to disclose it. Again, why are Sunnica not being open?

Please refer to the answer given above.

Hoping to secure along the cable route, really, you put everyone through this before you even have permission?

We are committed to securing voluntary agreements with all the landowners and land interests along the cable route. We would like to reach voluntary agreement with as many of those affected as possible and we are in negotiations with them. Where we are not able to reach a voluntary agreement, we would use the powers available to us to secure that land if we were awarded a Development Consent Order (DCO).

Can you please publish the day by day, week by week, month by month forecast of electricity you expect to be produced based on a credible source?

At this stage, we cannot as we are only at the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report) stage and do not have the information available to us in this granular detail.

Cleve hill is not built, what is the biggest that is built?

Shotwick Solar Farm is currently the largest (in terms of installed capacity of power) solar farm constructed in the UK. It has a capacity of 72.2 MWp.

Does Cleve Hill have batteries. Also Cleve Hill is not winding through villages.

Yes, Cleve Hill proposes to install BESS, the full details are available via the DCO published documents.

Solar is an intermittent technology, please publish your expectations of energy generation day by day in different levels of cloud cover?

At this stage, we cannot as we are only at the Preliminary Environmental Information Report stage and do not have the information available to us in this granular detail. It is important to note that when we make such assessments, we will do so using sun hours (irradiance) and will not make calculations based upon different levels of cloud cover.

Why do you keep claiming you moved the site after feedback from the non-statutory consultation, this is not true, it moved because a landowner withdrew their land, will you make this known to residents please?

Sunnica has opted to move the red line boundary of the Scheme as a result of the feedback received from stakeholders at the non-statutory consultation stage.

What will be the lifetime unit cost per megawatt hour?

At this stage we cannot as we are only at the Preliminary Environmental Information Report stage and do not have the information available to us in this granular detail. This will develop as the design of the panels develops, which may be affected by technological change between now and when the Scheme is being built out.

How high will be the CCTV poles and any cabling?

We are currently proposing that the CCTV will be between 3.5 metres and 5.0 metres in height. The CCTV units will need to be supplied with electricity and exchange data via underground cabling.

Consultation

It seems from Luke's words, that reports are still being prepared. The spirit would be to have public consultation after some of these on key issues are ready

We don't agree with this. We are confident that we have supplied sufficient information to allow proper engagement through the statutory public consultation on the key issues relating to the Sunnica project, and the level and detail of the responses that we have received to date indicates that this is the case. Additional detail will be included within the application for development consent which is entirely normal. The public will also be consulted at that stage of the process as well.

The PEIR report is too big for you to expect everyone to read it, it's your job to put enough detail into a quick and easy read, why haven't you done this?

One criticism that we get is that there is not enough information available and yet others suggest that there is too much. Striking the balance is a complex task because it is important that local stakeholders are able to access information in as much detail as they want and that we are able to provide at this stage.

This is why we sent a 36 page booklet to almost 10,500 addresses in the locality of the scheme. We know from the number of responses we have had that many people have used the information in this booklet as their primary source. For others, the material is provided in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report) which is hosted on the website. This documentation can be revisited any number of times and we know from the user statistics that many people do this on a regular basis. Additionally, there is available a non-technical summary of the PEI Report on the website.

This is a very wrong way to carry this out no way can you get a proper answer we listen to loads of waffle no real answer.

We respectfully disagree.

This needs to be put off until we can have a proper meeting face to face, easy to hide behind covid.

We respectfully disagree and note that we already have a significant number of consultation responses. The statutory consultation has been voluntarily extended to over 12 weeks; which contrasts with the minimum period that is established in the Planning Act 2008 that is 28 days. For the record , we are convinced that the level of effort that has gone into this consultation is more than would happen during a statutory consultation held in “normal times.”

How many people have been on this webinar at its peak this evening?

The total number of people who attended the webinar (not including the project team) was 44.

One hour and ten minutes into this call and none of my questions have been addressed yet. WE need (not want) many more opportunities to speak to the Sunnica team as part of this consultation.

We apologise. A large number of questions were submitted in advance. That is why we extended the webinar to two hours and have answered these questions in writing on the website.

On the question of the next biggest site to the one here, again the question was ducked. I've just checked Cleve Hill, which was mentioned and this was for 890 acres, so the proposal here is 3 times bigger. Surely Matt or Luke knew the size of Cleve Hill so why not give the number rather than say they don't know. So again, why are Sunnica not answering the questions as asked?

We respectfully disagree, every effort is being made to answer all questions where it is possible for us to do so at this stage.

This is not acceptable questions not answered this is hiding behind covid nice and easy hide behind the computer.

We respectfully disagree, every effort is being made to answer all questions where it is possible for us to do so at this stage.

Why did you use 'I would have thought' in answer to a question, you should know shouldn't you?

The full Environmental Statement is still being developed which is why the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report) was published in time for the statutory consultation. Not all questions can be answered in the detail that might be desired as we undertake further studies and refine our design. This is entirely within the expectations set by the DCO process.

It's great to stop questions after 8pm but we do not get the reply

During this webinar and the previous webinar, we answered over 150 questions. We respond to as many questions as we are able to and this is why we have prepared these written answers.

We have to work all day and then sit up to listen to this waffle with no replies

Your response is noted.

You can see that many of the questions asked today have been answered on previous Webinars, also there are 40+ people on the call. This tells me that we are starting to see lots of new people starting to want to be involved. Again this consultation is flawed.

We disagree. During the statutory consultation we have taken many hundreds of questions from the general public and other stakeholders. We recognise that there is considerable interest in these webinars which is why we are holding them.

You still have not extended the area for consultation letters to cover all of Mildenhall and Newmarket and Burwell perhaps an extra 100,000 residents. I think this is a failure of the consultation as this is of such a size that both these towns will be significantly affected. Please will you leaflet drop all these houses and businesses?

The size and nature of the consultation zones and the approaches we took to communicating with them were the subject of discussion with local authorities as part of the consultation working group for the project, and are set out in the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) that was developed through discussions with them. You can view and download the SoCC through the following link: <https://sunnica.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Sunnica-Statement-of-Community-Consultation-16Sep20.pdf>

We have no plans to extend our core consultation zone, although of course, we remain happy to send materials to anyone who requests them.

Why do you scrape data from our social media sites?

We don't scrape data from any sites, but we take an interest in any commentary about the scheme so that we can make our approach to consultation as relevant as possible.

Where are all the questions that you answer being published as I cant see them on the WEB site. (Both from these Webinars and written or telephoned questions)

We have uploaded written answers to accompany recordings of the webinars. These are available to watch here: <https://sunnica.co.uk/public-consultation/> or through the virtual exhibition page on our website. Where required and will be updating the website again in the coming days to answer more questions that we weren't able to during the webinars.

This was not properly answered. Where are the answers? I want to see them.

Please see the previous answer.

You seem to have started the Statutory Consultation too early because you don't have the answers to so many questions, do you intend to hold further consultations to ensure all the residents concerns are fully addressed?

We respectfully disagree. Over the period of the consultation we have been able to answer many questions from the local community and other stakeholders. The design process for a project like this is an iterative one that will continue after the statutory consultation and we have a statutory duty to have regard to the responses we receive. This is allowed for in the Development Consent Order (DCO) process and local people will have the chance to raise specific issues again or ask new ones, should the Planning Inspectorate accept the Sunnica DCO application for examination.

Are the questions submitted here, as well as those you have received via telephone, email etc, going to be used in the consultation report? Alongside the ones raised in the questionnaires?

The questions raised in these webinars will be used as part of the overall evidence base for the consultation and will be responded to in the Consultation Report as we are required to do. We have encouraged all participants in the webinar process to also submit their comments and observations in writing as well as this ensures that they are accurately recorded and that there is no room for misinterpretation by the project team.

Sunnica Ltd.

We would like to know the full extent of your experience, will MH and LM publish their detailed cv please?

Details of Luke Murray's experience in summary can be found through the Tribus Clean Energy website (<http://www.tribus.energy/>) and details of Matt Hazell's can be found through the PS Renewables website (<https://psrenewables.com/>). It is the project that is being assessed by the Planning Inspectorate and not the individuals involved.

Do either MH or LM have any personal relationships with any MPs or connections through family members or school?

This question is personal in nature and therefore won't be answered.

Matt Hazel, you keep giving your personal opinion on how the market will develop in future, how can you go forward with personal assumptions rather than facts and expect us to have confidence?

Personal opinions are exactly what they are: personal opinions that relate to the questions that have been asked. Matt Hazell has now been working in the renewables industry in the UK for over eight years and has personal insights into the market that are interesting and valuable. You can choose to evaluate them as you wish.

We have just seen the Government overpay by many Millions of pounds for PPE and buy unusable product. Mistakes are made and people will take any advantage they can. Simply getting a DCO in place will not absolutely ensure that the contents of this will in fact be implemented. Meanwhile all existing project people will have moved off. What protection under law have you against prosecution or us against misdoings by Sunnica?

The Development Consent Order (DCO) is a legally binding document and the Applicant (Sunnica Limited) will be bound by the terms set out in the DCO. Under section 161 of the Planning Act 2008, it is a criminal offence to not comply with the terms of a DCO.

MH you are patronising us, please be careful with your language, using terms like generational insinuates we are dinosaurs that don't like change. This is not true, we don't like poorly conceived schemes like Sunnica. Will you be more careful in future webinars please?

Your point is noted.

Does Matt live in the middle of a power plant?

No, he does not.

Are any of MH companies profitable or are they all shell companies?

The companies that Matt Hazell is involved with in the UK are registered at Companies House and the information that is publicly available can be viewed through this portal.

I'm not satisfied with MH answer on PS Renewables financial status, he didn't even try to outline figures from P&L or balance sheet. Can he please come back and explain where the revenue comes from and other KPIs?

PS Renewables is the trading name of Padero Solar Limited, and information on its trading history is held at Companies House, including formal tax returns and submissions.

It should be noted that it is a requirement of the DCO process for applicants to submit a Funding Statement indicating how it will fund the compulsory acquisition of land for the purposes of the project.

MH please stop using your opinion and start referring to fact based on sources, we don't trust you so to us you are unbelievable!

Your point is noted.

Will you please publish the projects you personally own?

No further details about ownership of companies or projects will be published at this stage unless it forms part of the Sunnica Energy Farm DCO application.

What percentage ownership does MH have in PS?

Ownership details that are available to the public are available online via Companies House. Further information beyond that is confidential.

What are you doing to build back trust with the local community, we feel you are hiding as much information as you think you can get away with?

Sunnica has published the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report) online as part of the statutory consultation and is consulting on that report. This is what is required at this stage in the process and presents the information that is available to the project team at this stage. Further information will be available and will be included as part of the Development Consent Order (DCO), which will be developed following on-going technical engagement with the local councils and statutory bodies. Some information will only be available as part of the final design.

How much money do you expect to make personally?

This information is not part of the formal consultation and will not be shared.

Is it true that you were once on dragons den? What was your product and did you get investment?

Yes, this is true - further details are available online.

Energy/Environment

As we will all have electric cars in the next ten years surely it will use the night time energy leaving very little to transport back into the Sunnica's batteries.

As we transition away from our reliance on fossil fuels and towards modes of transport such as electric vehicles, infrastructure such as battery energy storage systems (BESS) will play an important grid balancing role by storing electricity that it produced during the day and releasing it at night. We do not anticipate that there will be limitations in storing electricity from the grid at night because during this time electricity will still be generated through a number of alternative sources.

In what way do you see this scheme as "good for the environment" as you said earlier? As in the local environment - all wildlife - plants, animals etc? Surely this claim is misleading? It is impossible to have a construction site on this scale, digging across so many areas of land, without loss of wildlife and without negative impact on the environment and local landscape, archaeology etc. Please stop pretending that this is "good" for the local environment.

The Scheme has been carefully designed to minimise the effects on wildlife (as well as the local landscape and archaeology), through retaining and protecting designated sites, notable habitats and features, such as hedgerows and woodlands which are used by a wide variety of wildlife. There is likely to be some temporary disturbance to wildlife during construction but this will be minimised through appropriate phasing of the construction works and putting measures in place to reduce impacts on sensitive habitats and species, such as protection zones and seasonal works restrictions. Once construction is complete and the embedded mitigation and enhancements, such as grassland creation and landscape planting, implemented, the scheme will deliver an overall net benefit for biodiversity. Please refer to Chapter 8: Ecology, of the

PEI Report for further details of the effects on wildlife and Appendix 10I of the PEI Report for the draft Landscape and Ecology Management Plan.

When will the scheme be "net zero" in terms of carbon?

Total lifecycle greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the Scheme equate to approximately 161,768 tCO₂e (see Table 6-15 of the PEI Report). With annual GHG emissions savings of 66,135 tCO₂e, 59,267 tCO₂e and 63,469 tCO₂e in the first 3 years (2025, 2026 and 2027), the lifecycle GHG emissions calculated are estimated to be balanced out by GHG emissions savings within the first 3 years.

Who are the big 6?????

The Big Six is a term used to describe the UK's largest retail suppliers of gas and electricity. The Big Six companies are commonly understood to include: British Gas, EDF, E.ON UK, Npower, Scottish Power, and SSE.

Which of the big 6 are you closest to and are discussing this project?

This information is confidential at this time.

You told us what the big 6 is but not who the big six are?

The Big Six is a term used to describe the UK's largest retail suppliers of gas and electricity. The Big Six companies are commonly understood to include: British Gas, EDF, E.ON UK, Npower, Scottish Power, and SSE.

Do you all drive electric cars?

No, not yet.

Safety

What insurance will you need to mitigate against an accident with the batteries?

Sunnica is currently working through its plans for battery safety and this will be set out in an Outline Fire Safety Management Plan. Once the plan has been consulted upon (which will include key stakeholders such as the local fire service and the and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)) and the final design is known then pre-construction the relevant and necessary insurance will be put in place. We do not have further details than this at this time.

Do you expect insurance premiums to rise for residents?

No, we do not expect insurance premiums to rise for residents.

What are the safety records of the installation of installations such as this in terms of expected accidents, injuries, deaths, and what do you predict for this project including panels, batteries, substations, cabling, and everything else including traffic accidents etc.?

In our experience working in the sector we have not heard of any deaths from solar farm installations. However, like any construction area, accidents can happen. This is why the site managers and wider teams will have robust health and safety measures in place throughout the build phase and the lifespan of the project thereafter. As for the question of predicting what approach will be used, our proposed application will set this out through the development of the Framework Construction Environment Management Plan (see Appendix 16C of the PEI Report).

You said earlier that batteries of this size are being newly applied at the huge "grid scale". So they are experimental. Given that this is the case it doesn't sound very reassuring to say that you'll apply current regulations and legislation when it doesn't really exist for this technology on this scale in the UK?

Battery storage systems (BESS) have been applied to grid scale applications in the UK for several years now. There are more than 1,000 MW operational and a similar number under construction. It is projected that this number of operational BESS will rise by some industry analysts to as high as 10 to 20 GW by 2050.

Further to the above.... This is why we need to see the preliminary fire safety management plan so we can at least see what you are doing over and above the "standard" regulations (which are less applicable here).

The Outline Fire Safety Management Plan will be submitted as part of the DCO application submission. It is likely that in preparing the Outline Fire Safety Management Plan, we will take a similar approach to that taken by other large-scale solar projects such as Cleve Hill. That said, every site is different and our assessment and proposed measures will be tailored for the Sunnica site.

If there was a fire and explosion at the BESS, resulting in injury/death, who would be liable? Is it sunnica? The future new owner? The landowner? The local authority? Who would be held to account? There is a lot of concern with these being so very close to residential areas, including local primary schools.

The liability and responsibility for the Scheme lies with Sunnica Ltd. and its Company Directors under the law.

Location

Who approached who, did the landowners seek you out or vice versa?

As Sunnica is contractually under strict confidentiality agreements, this information cannot be released.

If you decided on this location, were we chosen due only to our location in regards of distance to the Burwell substation and easy of installation because of the flattish fields we have?

When choosing the site, the available grid connection capacity at Burwell substation was an important consideration.

Details of the alternatives analysis methodology that was adopted can be found within the Alternatives Chapter 4 that forms part of the PEI Report and is available for download via the website.

An alternative site for your scheme may well be better much closer to Matt and Luke's homes. Have you considered their areas as a location. If not why not.

Details of the alternatives analysis methodology that was adopted can be found within the Alternatives Chapter 4 that forms part of the PEI Report and is available for download via the website.

Was the driver for site choice the ability to access the land from landowners?

Details of the alternatives analysis methodology that was adopted can be found within the Alternatives Chapter 4 that forms part of the PEI Report and is available for download via the website.

It's very sad to hear you describe our local landscape as an "appropriate host" for solar. Do you not have any compassion for how much our beautiful rural setting means to local residents?

Considerable effort and emphasis has been and is being placed on the landscape design element of the proposals.

You use words like 'marginal' and 'temporary' in relation to disruption, noise, hugely adverse impact on our lives in Snailwell for example, define these terms? An appropriate host - how is this defined given the enormous scale of the proposal?

The terms we use in the webinars are descriptive in nature and it is not our intention to cause offence. The more technical terms for each of the effects are set out in great details within the PEI Report which is available online at our website (<https://sunnica.co.uk/>). The PEI report details impacts in terms of noise in Chapter 11, disruption in terms of Transport and Access in Chapter 13, scale in terms of Landscape and Visual Impact in Chapter 10.

Last week you revealed that the batteries will be used to import and export energy from the national grid. So why aren't these being sited in / around the national grid area?

The battery energy storage system (BESS) is what is known as AC-coupled configuration and the best location for this is located at each of the on-site sub-stations. This needs to be close to the solar farm to avoid energy losses.

For the farmers and farm workers who currently work this huge area of land, what do you expect them to do work-wise for the next 40 years? How many farming and farming related job losses are you anticipating? Given the long agricultural history here, farming is a way of life for many people here and it is not easy to find alternative work.

It is projected that the proposals will result in the displacement of one job during its operating life. This is offset by the estimated creation of six jobs during the project's operating life. Further details of this are provided in Chapter 12 (Socio-Economics and Land Use) of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report) provides further details of this.

Matt Hazel. The similar large projects you say have been built around the planet, are any of them as close to housing, schools and populated areas as this Sunnica power plant?

Yes, solar farms of various sizes are consented all around the world and often these are located next to houses or very close by. We are doing all we can to off-set from houses and have developed a very robust planting and landscaping plan.

The WWF includes buying food locally as one of their top tips for helping to reduce carbon footprint and slow climate change. Do you do this? How do you feel about taking away so much highly productive farming land, and not allowing us to obtain local produce and support this concept?

The land that has been selected follows a methodology as set out in the alternatives analysis. Details of the alternatives analysis methodology that was adopted can be found within the Alternatives Chapter 4 that forms part of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report) and is available for download via the website.

We recognise the importance of protecting productive farm land and this is why we sought to locate the scheme in areas where the land is not classified as 'Best and Most Versatile', As part of the PEI Report, mapping of soils have been prepared based on site surveys of the DCO Site. Under the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system, Subgrade 3a land would form Best and Most Versatile Land (BMV) whereas Subgrade 3b and Grade 4 would not be considered BMV.

Our survey undertaken as part of the PEI Report found that 49% of the 'Sites' is in Subgrade 3b, 40% of the 'Sites' is within Grade 4 and 6% is not considered to be agricultural land. The remaining portion of the 'Sites', approximately 4% of the total area is on land considered to be Subgrade 3a.

Further detail on the scheme in terms of climate change impacts can be found within Chapter 6 (Climate Change) of the PEI Report.

Mitigation

Will you still be paying the farmers for a field you have mitigated? If so, why?

The land that is within the Scheme red line boundary will be subject to property agreements with landowners. Details of these agreements are confidential.

I heard you intend to increase the size and maturity of the bushes and trees to provide the screening, can you explain what you now will include in the DCO application?

We will look at the option of some taller trees in relation to Beck Road (the Sunnica East Site A part of the proposals). At this stage the design is still under review and we have not finalised what will be included in the Development Consent Order (DCO) application. However, the proposed landscaping and planting plans will be included in the DCO application.

What are you doing in advance of construction to mitigate the effects on wildlife, by species please?

No mitigation or enhancements can be implemented until the DCO is approved; however, the Scheme has been carefully designed to minimise the effects on wildlife. This includes retaining and protecting designated sites, notable habitats and features, such as hedgerows and woodlands which are used by a wide variety of wildlife. Where feasible, mitigation will be undertaken post-consent but prior to construction such as the establishment of stone curlew nesting plots. Some temporary disturbance during construction can be expected, but this will be minimised through the appropriate phasing of the construction works and through putting measures in place to reduce impacts on sensitive habitats and species, such as protection zones and seasonal works restrictions. The embedded mitigation measures within the scheme are detailed in section 8.7 of Chapter 8: Ecology of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report) and shown on Figures 3-1 and 3-2 (pages 9 and 11 of the consultation booklet). The potential construction effects on specific species are discussed in sections 8.8 and 8.9 of Chapter 8: Ecology of the PEI Report. Pre-construction requirements will be

established through the development of the Framework Construction Environment Management Plan (see Appendix 16C of the PEI Report).

Richard Hammond this is not true, they come to the edge of people's gardens along the road from Worlington to Freckenham.

We believe that this question is referring to Freckenham Road. The red line boundary along this road does extend to border properties, but panels are not located adjacent to properties. The panels are offset by 70 metres from properties along the road from Worlington to Freckenham, with the intervening distance consisting of new grassland, trees and hedgerows. This can be seen through the parameter plans available to view and download on our website (https://sunnica.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/200907_SunnicaEnergyFarm_Sunnica_Parameter_Plans.pdf)

Construction/Travel

Assuming your workers live off site, how will they travel to site - through our villages/ In what numbers, at what times?

Construction working times are 7am to 7pm and therefore the workers will travel between 0600-0700 and 1900-2000, which is outside peak hours and will be discouraged from travelling through the villages. Staff will travel to the site by a number of modes, with the use of more sustainable modes such as public transport, walking, cycling and car sharing promoted through a Construction Worker Travel Plan. Once staff home locations are known, it may be possible to implement a mini-bus service from locations where groups of staff are living close to the site to reduce the impact of staff travel. The assessment has reviewed the worst-case scenario; however, with the implementation of a Construction Worker Travel Plan it is anticipated that the level of car trips associated with staff will be significantly lower. Further to this the Construction Worker Travel Plan will promote the use of the A11 and A14 for journeys to the two main site access points, which have been located as close as possible to the A11 and A14 to limit travel through the villages by staff.

How much accommodation is there in the local area for all of these staff?

During the construction phase we anticipate that, at the peak in month 11, 1,260 workers will be required, 78% of which are forecast to be local, and 22% (277) would use a mix of hotels, B&Bs and rented accommodation.

Would the “short period of two years” of utter disruption be agreeable to you next to YOUR homes... ? (Genuine question)

As a team we recognise that construction can be disruptive and that is why we are proposing to regulate the construction impacts through a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) that we will finalise in conjunction with statutory stakeholders subject to a successful development consent order (DCO) application. A framework CEMP is available for you to review as part of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report), Appendix 16C. This can be viewed and downloaded from the Sunnica website.

Are you using experienced Labour to construct the panels and batteries? If so, why are beating around the bush with where they come from?

An experienced contractor will be appointed for the construction phase of the Scheme through a competitive tendering process. The contractor will need to demonstrate that they have previous experience of delivering this type of project and has a workforce available, with the right skill set to deliver the project. At this stage of the process, Sunnica cannot provide details on the source of labour because this will be controlled by the contractor that would be procured to construct the scheme if we receive development consent.

What percentage of construction workers are foreigners from overseas?

An experienced contractor will be appointed for the construction phase of the Scheme through a competitive tendering process. The contractor will need to demonstrate that they have previous experience of delivering this type of project and has a workforce available, with the right skill set to deliver the project. At this stage of the process, Sunnica cannot provide details on the source of labour because this will be controlled by the contractor that would be procured to construct the scheme if we receive development consent.

In parallel to this, Sunnica Ltd is exploring opportunities for apprenticeships and local employment through a dedicated skills programme. We are in the process of discussing this with the host authorities and with local education providers.

These are small rural roads, not always in good condition now. Will you fund road resurfacing and repair after completion for the routes you have used in and between the villages, they will be seriously affected by the number of movements and HGV's

Construction traffic issues will be managed through a Construction Traffic Management Plan developed in conjunction with stakeholders.

How do you propose to get the massive volume of construction traffic detailed in the PEIR, in particular the HGV's, through the narrow streets of Worlington to the East A site and east B without major disruption to the existing road users? when answering please consider that the junction of Newmarket Road and The Street is extremely narrow even the school buses have to wait for oncoming traffic to give way in order to negotiate this junction.

The main HGV access to the Sunnica East Sites is proposed to be from Elms Road and to be located close proximity to the A11 northbound off-slip/Elms Road T-junction. There are eight secondary access points providing access to the different portions of the Sunnica East Site. It is anticipated that there would be on average three HGV deliveries per hour (six movements) to the Sunnica East Sites split across all access points and only traffic travelling to access (I) (see Figure 3-12 of the PEI Report) will be required to travel through Worlington. In addition, there are two other access points (access H and D - see Figure 3-12 of the PEI Report) into the eastern portion of the site off Newmarket Road. Where feasible, HGV traffic will travel through the Site to reduce the impact on the local road network. The work for the Environmental Statement (ES) will continue to look at the impacts through villages in consultation with the county highways department. In addition, if the DCO is granted, a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) will be developed in conjunction with stakeholders, based on the Outline CTMP provided with the PEI Report. This will be prepared based on the information in the Transport

Assessment and the Access Strategy as well as the detailed site information provided by the appointed contractor to ensure that the best routes are utilised and that traffic management, where required, is put in place to ensure that any impact on other road users is minimised.

What are the mitigations proposed for the Icknield Way, which you propose to close for 2 years, and the critical access for Anglian Water emergency vehicles, and their routine maintenance.

The Public Rights of Way (PRoW) adjacent to fields W03 and W04 does not form part of the Icknield Way. This PRoW has been included within the site boundary as a worst case at this stage in case closure is required due to boundary works for Health and Safety Reasons but during detailed design the team will investigate if it is possible to avoid or minimise its closure.

The PEI Report has been based on a worst-case assessment, assuming that all PRoWs that may be impacted by the Scheme will be closed for the full two years of the construction programme to ensure a robust assessment. However, the actual duration of the closure will be determined by the final construction programme, health and safety requirements of works adjacent to the PRoW and access requirements. During any closures, alternative routes will be put in place to mitigate any disruption. With regard to PRoW 204/5 that runs adjacent to fields W03 and W04, users would be able to use an alternative route via Newmarket Road that would add no additional journey length to users.

Can you work with local landowners to construct a temporary access road from the A11 via East B directly to East A so to avoid all traffic trying to negotiate the narrow streets of Worlington?

It is not considered feasible to create a new access off the A11 for the Scheme due to the type of project and the duration of construction as this would potentially pose significant safety concerns for the road users on the A11. In addition, it is not expected that Highways England or County Highways would support a new junction off the A11. Traffic through Worlington will be limited and controlled through a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP). Two access have been provided off Newmarket Road to service the eastern portion

of Sunnica East B Site and where feasible HGV and construction traffic will utilise internal roads rather than the local network to travel around the Site.

Has a preliminary review of the current traffic load been undertaken? This would the traffic primarily passing through Snailwell at peak times - 7:00 to 9:15 am and 16.00 - 18.30. Some residents have houses have approx 2.5 m between their homes and the road ... plus their cars are parked on the road immediately outside. This road is NOT suitable for HGV

A review of the road network has been carried along with reference being made to the HGV route information provided by Cambridgeshire County Council and Suffolk County Council. It is appreciated given the rural nature of the area which surrounds the site and from where access is required that there are areas where HGV routing will need to be managed to minimise the impact of the Scheme on the residents in those villages and towns where HGVs will need to travel through.

Construction working times are 7am to 7pm and therefore the workers will travel between 0600-0700 and 1900-2000, which is outside peak hours and will be discouraged from travelling through the villages.

A Construction Traffic Management Plan will be implemented following consultation with the Highway Authorities. This will include measures to avoid travel through villages during peak times. In addition, traffic management will be identified and implemented in those locations whereby changes or amendments are required to assist movement of HGVs. Any changes or amendments will be temporary and likely to be short in duration rather than be experienced over the whole construction period.

Decommissioning

Do the panels absolutely have to be removed after 2065, even if the landowners want to carry on? Is it legally binding that they have to be removed by this year?

It is envisaged that the Scheme will have a design and operational life of at least 40 years; therefore, decommissioning activities are currently anticipated to commence on or after 2065.

Supply Chain

Where will the panels be manufactured?

It is likely that the panels will be manufactured in China. We will confirm details of this at the final design stage.

Doesn't matter that MH cannot believe child Labour exists, it does so answer the question, what will you do to make sure to the best of your ability that no chemicals used in the site where mined using child Labour? You will need to engage with the supply chain, will you do this or not?

We recognise that there are risks of modern slavery being connected to UK businesses and supply chains. We will seek to address these risks through our supply chain and during the procurement process to uphold the high ethical standards that we expect.

What exactly will be procured locally? Try using a percentage figure of overall spend?

We will always aim to procure locally where possible. We do not have a breakdown of procurement by local/national/international in percentage terms of overall procurement spend at this time.

Comments

Luke should realise that you cannot have 150%

Yes, your point is noted.

Seem to be housing here perhaps Matt, Luke and Paul would like to live here nice glittering outlook

Your point is noted.

Companies are not people. People can be put in jail if they break the law companies are simply fined. Saying the company is responsible does not mean that things will occur as you believe or would want. Money talks and so does politics so don't believe the rhetoric.

Company Directors can be held liable should they be deemed as having made an offence under Companies Law. Under section 161 of the Planning Act 2008, it is a criminal offence to not comply with the terms of a DCO.

Decommissioning will not occur. We will still have the need for power, the technology will become outdated along the way and so be updated along the way. So at the end of 40 years we will still have a good working site. It will therefore not be decommissioned despite the "Law". As you know laws can and are changed...

It is envisaged that the Scheme will have a design and operational life of at least 40 years; therefore, decommissioning activities are currently anticipated to commence on or after 2065.

Yes, India, China and the U.S. sites these large sites are in the middle of deserts and plains or mountainous areas. Not winding around residential areas.

The UK is a small island and we have a national policy to achieve net zero. This will involve difficult land use choices if these targets are to be met. Sunnica believes that this is a good location for this project and will set out the full case for this within the Alternatives Analysis submitted as part of the DCO submission.

To Luke: If you consider the Chinese to be a good example of how to live and organise their country, you have revealed to me and probably others, that you are NOT to be trusted to execute this project with the moral fibre we in any way accept. I say no to Sunnica and shall continue to do so.

The comment was not meant to pass judgement on anything other than the ability of China to deliver net zero climate ambitions. The comment referenced the nation's response to the COVID-19 pandemic as an example of this.