

Notice publicising a proposed application for a Development Consent Order (DCO)

SECTION 48 PLANNING ACT 2008 – SUNNICA ENERGY FARM

**REGULATION 4 THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS: PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE)
REGULATIONS 2009**

**REGULATION 13 THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS
2017**

**NOTICE PUBLICISING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER (DCO) FOR
SUNNICA ENERGY FARM**

Notice is hereby given that **Sunnica Limited** of **2 Crossways Business Centre, Bicester Road, Kingswood, Aylesbury, England, HP18 0RA** (the "Applicant") proposes to make an application ("the Application") to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) for the above-mentioned Development Consent Order. The Applicant intends to make the Application in April 2021.

The Application relates to the construction and operation (including maintenance) of an energy farm with ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panel arrays to generate electricity from the sun as direct current and one or more Battery Storage Systems to be located near Chippenham and Snailwell in Cambridgeshire, Isleham in Cambridgeshire and Suffolk, and Worlington and Freckenham in Suffolk. The Sunnica Energy Farm will cover an area of approximately 1,130 hectares (ha) and will be made up of Sunnica East Site A, Sunnica East Site B, Sunnica West Site A and Sunnica West Site B (the "Sites"). The proposed DCO will, amongst other things, authorise:

- construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) and storage facility with an export capacity of over 50MW on the Sites;
- associated and/or ancillary works including an extension to the Burwell National Grid Substation in Cambridgeshire, underground electrical cables connecting the Sites to each other and to the Burwell National Grid Substation, landscaping, biodiversity areas, access tracks, construction compounds and offices;
- the permanent and/or temporary compulsory acquisition (if required) of land and/or rights;
- the overriding of easements and other rights over or affecting land;
- the application and/or disapplication of legislation relating to the Sunnica Energy Farm; and
- such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licences, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.

The proposed Sunnica Energy Farm is an Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. The Applicant is, therefore, required to carry out an EIA and submit an Environmental Statement with the proposed Application containing information about the likely significant effects of the Sunnica Energy Farm on the environment. Information currently available about the likely significant environmental impacts of the Sunnica Energy Farm will be set out in a Preliminary Environmental Information Report ("PEIR") that will form part of the consultation documents.

Consultation on the Sunnica Energy Farm will take place between **22 September 2020 to 2 December 2020**. Copies of the consultation materials - including a consultation summary booklet, consultation questionnaire, photomontages, the Statement of Community Consultation ('SoCC') and the PEIR (including a non-technical summary to the PEIR) - will be available for inspection, free of charge, from **22 September 2020 to 2 December 2020** on the downloads section of our website (www.sunnica.co.uk/downloads).

Details of how the consultation for the proposed Application will be carried out, including a virtual exhibition, online webinar events, and how to get involved are set out in the SoCC. To view the SoCC,

please visit the following page on the website: www.sunnica.co.uk/public-consultation. Details of each webinar and how to register to take part will be published on the same website.

Copies of the consultation materials may be requested during the consultation period from the Applicant using the e-mail address, postal address or telephone number provided below:

- **By post:** Sunnica Consultation, FREEPOST reference RTRB-LUJJ-AGBY
c/o Newgate Communications, Sky Light City Tower, 50 Basinghall Street, London, EC2V 5DE
- **Telephone:** 08081687925
- **By email:** info@sunnica.co.uk

Paper copies of the consultation booklet, consultation questionnaire, photomontages and Statement of Community Consultation will be supplied free of charge. Paper copies of any other consultation materials will be supplied at a cost of £0.35 per page. A CD/DVD/USB of all of the consultation materials will be supplied upon request and free of charge.

Any person may comment on the proposals or otherwise respond to this publicity. Responses must be received by the Applicant between **22 September 2020 and 23:59 hours on 2 December 2020**. A consultation questionnaire is available as part of the consultation and the consultation website will also allow the submission of electronic consultation responses. When providing your response, this must be (i) be made in writing, (ii) state the grounds of the response or representation, (iii) indicate who is making the response or representation, and (iv) give an address to which correspondence relating to the response or representation may be sent. If you would prefer your comments to be anonymous, please place your postcode only. Please supply any response to:

- **By post:** Sunnica Consultation, FREEPOST reference RTRB-LUJJ-AGBY
c/o Newgate Communications, Sky Light City Tower, 50 Basinghall Street, London, EC2V 5DE
- **Online:** www.sunnica.co.uk
- **By email:** info@sunnica.co.uk

Responses must be received by the Applicant no later than 23:59 hours on 2 December 2020.

The Applicant will consider and have regard to all responses when developing its Application for a Development Consent Order once consultation has closed. Responses will form the basis of a Consultation Report that will be one of the factors taken into consideration by the Secretary of State when deciding whether the Application can be accepted for examination. Therefore, in providing any comment, it should be borne in mind that the substance of it may be communicated to others as part of the Consultation Report.

If you would like further information about this notice, the consultation or the scheme, please contact the project team by using one of the contact methods provided above.