

Rt Hon George Eustice MP
Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

9th February 2022

Dear George,

We are writing this joint letter to address the significant disruption and issues faced by the proposals put forward by the Sunnica solar farm development, which affects both our constituencies.

Sunnica has submitted plans to build a 2,792-acre solar farm and energy storage infrastructure. We have previously set out our position on the extent of the project, the safety of the batteries proposed for use, Sunnica's approach to the consultation process and the location chosen on arable land so close to settlements.

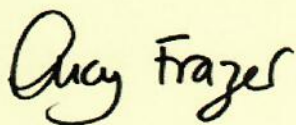
We are aware of proposals by Sunnica to use compulsory purchase orders for land on which it needs access and where it cannot reach a negotiated settlement with owners.

The proposed acquisitions would destroy businesses which are huge contributors to the local economy and drastically change the way of life in the area. For this reason, it is important that any right to buy schemes are developed in agreement with willing landowners. There is a vast difference between the sub-50 MW solar farm diversification projects, and these enormous NSIP proposals.

As you know, any greenfield developments are supposed to be targeted at poor quality farmland. We would be grateful if you would clarify your position in relation to CPOs and let us know what steps you are taking to take into account the wishes of our constituents who are affected.

Yours ever,

Matt and Lucy



Rt Hon Lucy Frazer QC MP



Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP