

From: [REDACTED]
To: [SizewellC](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Prevented from speaking
Date: 26 March 2021 10:25:21

Dear Ms McKay and Ms Gregory,

I am writing to express my disappointment and upset at being cut off by Mr Brock in Wednesday's meeting. I was making what I believe to be a valid point that spoke to the agenda item concerning the Examination Timetable, countering EDF's counsel Mr Philpott call for urgency. My remarks, which were not long, and certainly a good deal shorter than many other speakers including Mr Philpott, used a short quote from EDF's 2020 financial report to provide evidence to show that the Applicant itself recognised there were many uncertainties about financing (see below) which would necessarily affect the timing of the project.

Mr Brock prevented me from continuing, stating that these were comments about financing relevant for an Issue Specific Hearing. I want to assure the Examining Authority that I totally respect the process and have no intention of making comments out of turn, but would equally request to be afforded the trust to be able to make what I believe was a legitimate point at the correct moment.

I have further comments which I will submit by Deadline B.

Yours sincerely,

Alison Downes
Stop Sizewell C

The claim of urgency by the Applicant is not reasonable. There is no agreed funding mechanism for this project, nor likely to be for some months - if not longer - after the current scheduled end time of the Consent Order process; indeed if the Regulated Asset Base is to be used, that would require legislation.

Indeed, EDF's own 2020 financial report states *"EDF's ability to make a final investment decision on Sizewell C may depend on the operational control of the Hinkley Point C project, the definition of an appropriate regulatory and financing framework and the existence of sufficient investors and financiers interested in the project. None of these conditions is assured at this time."*

From: [REDACTED]
To: [SizewellC](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Deadline B response Stop Sizewell C
Date: 06 April 2021 17:48:18

Dear Ms McKay,

Stop Sizewell C requests permission to speak at the Preliminary Meeting Part 2 (represented by Alison Downes) **IP number 20026489**.

To date the following Interested Parties have notified us that they have requested we speak on their behalf:

Nick Burfield
Mike and Judy Wade
David Gordon
Alan Collet
Ian Rose
Robert Flindall

The following feedback is provided for Deadline B.

1. Technical and practical issues

There were a number of technical issues which affected participation in the meeting. Teams does not function well on Alison's (Mac) desktop or laptop and we have resorted to recommending that people join through a web browser rather than via the App, which is clunky, slow to open and respond, and takes up bandwidth. On the first day Alison was dropped from the meeting three times and had to seek re-admittance, but only after some minutes while the system attempted to reconnect. This was disconcerting as we were unclear what we had missed.

A number of our supporters have reported intermittent connections, videos freezing and incompatibility of the software especially with ipads. Others have reported extreme weariness from staring at a screen all day, or headaches associated with flickering screens. We have asked everyone so affected to contact you directly and hope they have done so.

There were times when the Examining Authority's screens froze, or members could not see hands up, and we were also informed that the LiveStream did not always work

We are concerned that these problems leave people and organisations disadvantaged, and will deter many from participating in the process. We urge the ExA to return to in-person meetings as soon as possible. We have an open mind on hybrid hearings, although we can see limitations as pointed out by other Interested Parties. All hearings should be streamed.

We would encourage the ExA to regularly remind people which agenda item was under discussion. Some agenda items were broken down into several parts and at times it was rather unclear which agenda item we were on.

We would ask the ExA to request the Applicant's counsel's desist from using the expression "important interested parties". This has a discouraging impact on individuals.

We were disappointed that a number of speakers - including Alison (see 2) - were interrupted from making what they considered to be valid and appropriate comments on Day 2.

We were further disappointed that EDF's counsel were encouraged to provide an explanation about use of the "Rochdale envelope" from EDF's perspective. We consider this was inappropriate given that PINS has its own guidance on the use and limits of this approach.

2. Timing of the examination.

Since Part 1 the examinations of EA1N and EA2 have been extended by 3 months in recognition of the impact of the pandemic on people's ability to respond and the extensive amount of new information. Given that the Applicant's counsel described Sizewell C as an "unusually large and complex application", and the ongoing restrictions on face to face meetings, **we urge the ExA to delay the start of the Sizewell C examination for the reasons below.**

- We remain very concerned that you will not decide whether to accept EDF's application until the examination is due to have started. Every single day lost will disadvantage those of us with very limited resources to respond. We urge you to delay the start of the examination until after this decision is taken, by whatever means at your disposal.
- The Applicant's claim of urgency is not valid. Alison was attempting to respond to the Applicant's claim in Part 1, and requests permission to complete her point. There is no funding model in place, nor likely to be for some months after the end of the examination and we wish to briefly quote from EDF's own financial reports to give evidence that the Applicant is aware of circumstances that undermine its claim of urgency.
- The pre-election period for Suffolk County Council's elections begins the same day as Part 2. Even after the elections, there is a delay until cabinet appointments are made, meaning there will be no Suffolk County Council Sizewell C lead in place until the end of May.
- Given that EA1N and EA2 is now running to 6 July, the cumulative effect of both these examinations will have a major impact on anyone taking part in both - which applies to many individuals, Town and Parish Councils, as well as the District and County Council. We appreciate that you are endeavouring to timetable both events so that hearings do not clash, but there is a great deal of material on both applications to be assessed, and the burden will further disadvantage Interested Parties.

3. Principal Issues.

- Re: Coastal Defences. We found the discussion about this issue very concerning. We are troubled that EDF is pushing this critical issue off the examination and onto the Office of Nuclear Regulation's site licensing process. EDF's coastal defence plans are incomplete, and late submission of applications for site licenses means that complete plans may not be available in the examination, potentially subverting the process. Our understanding is that the Applicant must not use the "Rochdale envelope" approach extensively or over-rely on it, so we consider it very important that coastal defences are examined in public.

- We would ask the ExA to consider looking at the impact of the Applicant's road proposals on people who use mobility carriages.

We also wish to reiterate the importance of the following issues for specific inclusion:

- Sizewell C's life cycle assessment of CO2 emissions/contribution to net zero
- Financing, not just for compulsory acquisition
- Under Policy & Need the Applicant's consideration of alternative sites
- Under Policy & Need the review of the National Policy Statements
- Under Marine Ecology the removal of the Acoustic Fish Deterrent
- Under Air Quality, impacts of borrow pits (quarries) and spoil heaps on local communities.

4. EDF's new proposals

- See above for our comments on the timing of the Examining Authority's decision.
- If the new proposals are accepted, we consider it absolutely essential that the Applicant

provide all documentation as a fully integrated package as they are currently extremely cumbersome and difficult to manage.

Yours sincerely

Alison Downes
on behalf of Stop Sizewell C