

**Patricia Dowding – Written submission Following Verbal Presentation at OFH 5 –
Unique Number 20026233**

1. That a new Nuclear Power Station would seriously be considered to be built in such a sensitive and fragile protected landscape classified as AONB and SSSI, on an eroding coast, is beyond me. I fear that decision makers do not understand and recognise that this site is so important to our natural world for all, as well as those of us living here for the same reasons.
2. From my research reviewing respected energy experts views on the energy market and future needs I do not believe there is a need for another Nuclear Power station in the UK let alone one that is out of date, extremely costly, takes so long to build and will have a devastating effect on a beautiful, quiet area that is one of 34 best natural sites for wildlife across the world and impact many communities in Suffolk. In Jonathon Porritt's recent Report '*Net Zero Without Nuclear*' he reminds us that EDF's reactor design for Hinkley Point and Sizewell C, the EPR, was first approved more than 20 years ago, and has only been upgraded since then to take account either of excessive cost issues or new safety features required by regulators after the Fukushima disaster in 2011. He is convinced that Net Zero can be achieved with new technology and changes in our behaviour. Please read his report if you have not already done so.
3. Just because two nuclear power stations were built here in the past, when we knew no better, is no reason to build another two in the same place or anywhere in the UK for that matter. We all know that technology is moving fast to produce relatively inexpensive non-nuclear renewable energy alongside major improvements in electricity storage.
4. It is extremely worrying that Secretary of State for BEIS, Kwasi Kwarteng believes another EPR is the answer to our energy needs by including it in the mix. We assume he does not know this area and know that not long ago he turned down an invitation to visit - so essentially it would seem that he does not care about the environment, rural communities, our existing economies. He and his energy Minister, The Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP, have both implied that Sizewell C will go ahead – what happened to due process?
5. EDF have astounded us for at least 10 years with their arrogance and blatant disregard for our communities, our views, our existing local economy and the impact on the lives of the people who have live in this special place that is East Suffolk, which will be altered forever if this project goes ahead. Kwasi Kwarteng was on TV 'He thinks EDF are nice people to deal with'. They might be nice to him; is he naïve? They have shown little respect for us. They dismiss the ideas of expert people who live in the area; later we find out that some of these may appear in a revised plan/consultation but only because it becomes clear that their own plans are unworkable, usually something we pointed out several years previously.
6. Examiners, this cannot be a tick box exercise on your part. Please ensure you fully understand East Suffolk - the challenges of travelling to it (by road, rail and sea), the communities up and down the A12 and those also affected by the impact on local roads, rail proposals, and particularly those who live within the area that will be affected by noise, loss

of amenities and all types of pollution including light, and the impact on local businesses if this mega project is given the go-ahead. We need you to spend the required amount of time to see for yourselves the problems posed by the building of this project.

7. People matter and we implore you to take into account the softer, passionate attachment and respect for this area that was so evident in the OFH sessions that people who live and visit East Suffolk, specifically the Coast and Heaths area, hold. RSPB Minsmere, Suffolk Marshes, Fen land, Heaths, the coast are vital to us and even more important to the wildlife that comes here, breeds here and re-establishes a colony of their breed having risked extinction.
8. Given my concerns regarding the scale and complexity of the task facing the examiners in the time available to complete a thorough examination in the given time period, I was pleased during Session 4 of the OFH to hear our MP support an extended timeline, which many of us asked of you at the Preliminary Hearings. There are so many outstanding questions that EDF need to answer, many different specific issues raised by our community that need to be resolved and key organisations such as the Environment Agency and the Regulator for the Nuclear Industry having to play catch-up on work that is required, mostly due to the inadequacy of EDF to provide detailed evidence for their proposals (in some cases, just suggestions that have not been thought through).
9. Project evaluation is compounded by the Applicant seemingly using the 'Rochdale Envelope' as a convenient hiding place for issues and the level of their impact that they have been unable to resolve or even give serious consideration to. The 'Rochdale Envelope' should only be used sparingly to identify the impact of 'worse case scenarios'. Please review EDFs use of this facility and take issue if you feel it is flawed or being abused.
10. EDF's choice of route for the SLR is a travesty. It creates more problems than it solves. There is a route that we all know about that is considered by experts and many in the community to be far more suitable – what was known as the D2. Why was that rejected by EDF? It should be back on the table.
11. The supposed **number of jobs** on this project quoted by EDF, Government and Unions is up to 10,000 people, many currently working at Hinkley, who would come to this area during the build programme. That will do little for the employment of our local population let alone the impact on social behaviour. We need apprenticeships based on new technology not an out of date nuclear power station. Please seriously consider the implications for residents and our economy (heavily reliant on agriculture and tourism) if thousands of workers come in to this area. Natural capital is what we have and continue to need to build our long term economy, we do not need mega projects that will destroy this.
12. In Suffolk we have really invested in tourism and we do not want to lose that investment due to visitors being deterred by the 10+ years build programme and the destruction of important habits and tourist amenities – the beaches, footpaths and the remainder of our natural capital. We cannot afford to lose the skilled tourism workforce, many of whom are likely to lose their jobs and have to take up menial jobs at Sizewell C.

13. The EPR will take far too long to build, will potentially suffer delays such as those experienced at Hinkley and elsewhere in Europe, will undoubtedly take a long time to be Carbon Neutral, if ever. It certainly won't achieve the latter within the Government's requisite timescale. We should be focusing on real renewable technology and not nuclear which brings with it long term hazardous waste problems.
14. Finally, Sizewell C is a **potential National Disaster** not only from the environment, ecology and safety perspective but also financially. EDF is essentially broke, other investors walk away. It cannot afford to pay for what is likely to be a white elephant, relying on finance from other organisations and/or the State (i.e. the tax payer and consumer) to balance its books. This project should not be their cash cow and a burden that we are leaving for our descendants. Please watch the French produced documentary 'The Nuclear Trap' which left us wondering how our Government had been persuaded to allow EDF to build nuclear power stations in the UK given the level of debt it holds. What is additionally worrying is Boris Johnson's desire to boost his reputation via giving the 'green' light for mega projects; this one would surely backfire.

Everyone who will be impacted by this application needs reassurance you can do a thorough examination that we can all understand and trust. Many of us moved here for the quiet, the dark skies, the wildlife on our doorstep, a different way of life from previous and if this goes ahead our lives will be traumatised by the impact on our way of life, our surroundings, our peace of mind for what I see to be no benefit to our community and our country's energy needs and leaves a seriously dangerous waste issue to our children and future generations. I ask you to take all the above into account. Thank you.

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