

Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)

**Development proposed within nationally designated landscapes**

5.9.9 National Parks, the Broads and AONBs have been confirmed by the Government as having the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty. Each of these designated areas has specific statutory purposes which help ensure their continued protection and which the IPC should have regard to in its decisions. The conservation of the natural beauty of the landscape and countryside should be given substantial weight by the IPC in deciding on applications for development consent in these areas

**Developments outside nationally designated areas which might affect them**

5.9.12 The duty to have regard to the purposes of nationally designated areas also applies when considering applications for projects outside the boundaries of these areas which may have impacts within them. The aim should be to avoid compromising the purposes of designation and such projects should be designed sensitively given the various siting, operational, and other relevant constraints.

**1.1** No, sufficient weight has not been given to the statutory purpose and need for protection of the landscape, character and special qualities of the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB both within and outside its boundary, in accordance with paragraphs 5.9.9 and 5.9.12 of NPS EN-1.

**1.2** The Parish of Kelsale-cum-Carlton has many connections to Minsmere and the AONBs, the adverse impact on all these areas will be significant. Further details on this is provided in our Written Representation on Community Impacts. In essence whilst noting that the premise of NPS EN-1 is that such a project would cause some harm, the sheer scale of it here means that it gives designations little or no protection and therefore approval should not be granted.

**1.3** The proposed route for the SLR and its design (of little or no merit) has a direct and profound impact on the setting of the ANOB and can only be described as incongruous with other routes leading further into the Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB. It is difficult to think of an uglier route to an AONB than the proposed SLR.

**1.4** The landscape here is rural and the proposed 'other developments' including a number of roundabouts with lighting outside of the main development, are urban in nature, and make no concession to the existing complementary landscape and setting.