

Summary of Dowley Written Submission for Deadline 2 on 2.6.21

We submit this summary since our Written Submission (“WS”), which is attached along with answers to the Inspectors’ earlier written questions, is longer than 1,500 words due to the many issues relating to our business, house and agricultural estate which the SZC Proposals raise. Also attached as Attachments 1 and 2 are relevant maps and as Attachment 3 is an email relating to a recent saline incursion from the Secretary of Aldeburgh Golf Club.

Our WS highlights the effects of the Proposals on our integrated farming estate. They involve the taking of some 12% of our arable acreage, either for the Main Site Roundabout (MDS19) or for the Borrow Pits (MDS14 and MDS15). This will threaten the viability of the arable enterprise, partly because of the shrinkage in irrigated land; partly because of the risks of saline incursion to the bore hole from which we extract irrigation water; and partly because of the dust (and possible leaching) pollution to the surrounding acreage from the working of the Borrow Pits.

The Proposals threaten our marshes which border the RSPB reserve at Minsmere. We use those marshes to graze our 220 head Simmental beef suckler herd during the summer and to take hay and grass silage for their winter feed. The water levels are currently controlled by a finely balanced drainage system which will be at risk from any rise in levels (which EDF has acknowledged is possible, albeit only marginally). In addition, saline incursion to the marshes resulting from further coastal erosion will render the marshes useless for grazing purposes.

In environmental terms, these threats have serious implications for the biodiversity and special nature of these SSSI marshes.

Two other parts of our estate business are threatened by the Proposals. We run a small commercial shoot which would have to be shut due to disturbance from the Roundabout and the Borrow Pits; and from the destruction of a wood alongside the B1122. We also run a camp site at Eastbridge Farm, too close to survive the working of the Borrow Pits and the proximity of the Accommodation Campus.

We would have to make redundant 3 full time employees (all of whom have worked for us for more than 20 years) as well as 4 part time employees.

The Proposals will have a material adverse effect on our house, as well as on several other properties on the estate. The main house has a Grade II* Listing and contains a Grade I staircase. It is in an historic setting with its original stables, walled garden and entrance gates, all of which are Grade II Listed, surrounded by eighteenth century parkland. Of the 45 Listed Buildings shown in the Heritage Assessment relating to the Sizewell Relief Road produced by Richard Hoggett Heritage in March 2019, 11 are on our property. The historic setting of the house will be seriously and irreversibly harmed by the Proposed SLR, the Roundabout at the Main Site Entrance and the Borrow Pits.

More detail on each of these adverse effects on our business, estate and house can be found in our WS. So material are the effects that it is staggering that for almost 9 years, despite regular efforts on our part to get them to do so, EDF have failed to engage with us, consult with us and to suggest any mitigating actions. The history of EDF’s lack of engagement with us since July 2012 when they first threatened us with compulsory purchase is also set out in our WS.

This behaviour by EDF is in breach of guidance and case law, as well as Article 8 of the European Convention of Human Rights and the First Protocol to the Convention, no negotiations having (yet) taken place alongside any formal procedures for compulsory purchase. Moreover, EDF has not

discussed with us any assessment of impact (including in an Environmental Impact Assessment), nor of proposed mitigation. As the Inspectors will know, adverse effects on homes, family life and property are addressed in Article 8.

This summary has been kept short in the hope that the main WS will be of interest to the Inspectors.

Justin and Emma Dowley

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28th May 2021