

Salient points are in bold, as are the additional points that I did not have time to make orally.

My name is **Mary Anne Woolf**. I have **lived in Leiston** for more than 30 years and was here when Sizewell B was being built. I am a town councilor but want to make it clear that what I say today is my personal view and does not represent the views of the town council.

You will be hearing evidence from experts on the need or not for this nuclear power plant in **the context of climate change** and weighing this **against the cost, the adverse impacts on environment, AONB, water, existing infrastructure and the wellbeing and livelihoods of people in the area**. I am **not an expert** but I have reached the conclusion there is no potential benefit from building SZC that can justify the long term and manifest detriment and destruction to the area it will cause and about which you have already heard many speak.

My main concerns are for the **environment** and for the problem of **nuclear waste disposal** these will have an effect on **generations to come** to whom we have an obligation.

When SZB was being planned I asked about the nuclear waste and was told not to worry because scientists would soon have found a solution for that. Forty years on **a site for a deep geological repository has not yet been agreed and this is not a solution just a safer way to store a problem**. The earliest it will be ready is 2040 and meanwhile waste from SZB is being stored on site and by the end of the life of SZC a further 3800 tonnes of uranium in EDF's estimate will also be stored on site. Can anyone convince me that this is safe?

I tried to read the non technical summary of the environmental impact report but my eyes kept filling with tears. I read about a hedgerow here a tree there and that any adverse impact for each of these was insignificant. I could visualize some of the trees and hedges. I thought that there is a point where quantitative becomes qualitative. I wonder too from what vantage point they're insignificant? Not from the point of view of a bird who feeds or lives in the hedgerow.

The community impact report concludes that there will be a positive impact on the **health and well-being of Leiston residents** because of the increase in economic prosperity of the town. I find this to be too simplistic an analysis. I hope you will examine this in more detail. For now, I want to say that there is at least one person for whom this will not be the case.

I love living where I do. I appreciate the unusual characteristic of Leiston a small town with an industrial heritage but which is essentially rural. The amenities of a town are at hand but I can walk up my road and within 5 minutes be in a country Lane with fields and a piece of ancient woodland. I can see the night sky away from the street lights, I can see bats at dusk, watch the wildflowers on the verges change with the seasons. I can hear owls at night from my bedroom.

I walk a lot alone and with friends(walks comprise a lot of my social life). Walking is my exercise but also gives me time to think and to appreciate the natural world. It keeps me healthy physically and mentally.

I started to list some of my favourite or most frequent walks - walking from my house along the quiet lanes or across the fields to Leiston abbey, Sizewell beach, Kenton Hills, Eastbridge to the Minsmere Sluice and back through Dunwich Heath. Most will be affected by SZC and the green rail route but towards Thorpeness the main effect will be from SPR development. There will be noise, dust, light pollution, traffic fewer plants and animals to see. Roads and footpaths will be blocked or diverted temporarily or permanently. There are two things which make this **loss of quality of life** harder to accept one is that it is for a project I do not think is for the greater good and the second is about timescale.

Many of these effects are temporary but **temporary means at least 15 years**. Fifteen years for a child born now means a whole childhood and for someone of my age potentially the rest of my life.

When I look at the stars it puts things into perspective. I know that my life is of little significance in the life of the universe. I know my quality of life is insignificant like that of the bird in the hedgerow when you are weighing up whether this project is justified so what **I am asking you is to consider the issue from a range of viewpoints and to remember a number of very small adverse impacts can add up to something that is significant.** Otherwise why do we bother to worry about the number of plastic bags we use.
Thank you for listening.

I did not have time to say that I endorse the views expressed by Together Against Sizewell C and Stop Sizewell C in the main and particularly on issues of need, carbon footprint, adequacy of arrangements for spent fuel rods and high level waste and the effect on the AONB, SSSI and the environment generally. Clearly these are the most important issues but I also empathized with the degree of personal suffering and dismay that was evident throughout the open floor hearings.

I am also concerned that safeguards built in at this stage may be disregarded in future and further encroachment on the AONB take place if unforeseen need for more land by EDF arises in the future.

The relationship between poverty and ill-health or prosperity and good health is well-documented but the precise mechanisms of causation (which might involve housing, education, access to health care and other services, absence of stress for example) are less clear. So I am not convinced by the assessment in the CIR that the effect on Leiston residents' health and well-being will be beneficial because of (unconfirmed) economic benefits.