

I hereby submit the written representation of my oral submission to the Planning Inspectorate on May 20th 2021.

Firstly I apologise if my text follows similar arguments to those made by fellow 'Interested Parties'. I 'finessed' my submission in a hurry as I was told my slot had been changed at the last minute from Wed 19th afternoon session to Tuesday morning's. This conflicted with a previous arrangement, and when I understood I could apply to have it changed I contacted the Case Team and it was re-arranged to Thursday afternoon. I do not know and have never met most of the other speakers and was not aware of what they would be saying, and anyway did not, by this time, want to change my text.

Secondly I would like to state that I have very limited experience/ knowledge of IT, having worked all my life with children at a time when this was neither necessary practice nor widely available.

All I know is self-taught - which is not a lot, especially when it comes to strict, rigorous undertakings such as dealing with the Planning Inspectorate! I know what I can do, but if anything 'goes wrong' I am usually at a loss to know how to correct it, if put on the spot. And panic.

It says a lot for anybody in my situation who did decide to go ahead and contribute, at the risk of humiliating themselves. I knew it could happen but went ahead anyway as I am so passionate about our cause. I believe that the prospect put off many people who otherwise might have wanted to have their say ie. stand up at a public meeting and speak 'from the heart', without having to grapple with technology.

Further to this I feel insufficiently competent to add files, links etc and subsequently spoke, and am writing 'from the heart'. I do not feel I should be penalised for this.

Original Submission:

When I sat down to think about what I wanted to say today regarding the proposed construction of Sizewell C/D, I couldn't get beyond one simple word: WHY?

You have heard all the reasons submitted to try to explain why giving this the go-ahead would be a dreadful decision on so many levels.

But I suppose if there were no alternative for our energy needs, we wouldn't have much of a case. We all need electricity, we agree, of course.

And if it were only going to take 2-3 years, we might grit our teeth and bear it.

If the country were destitute and this were a very cheap source of electricity that would get us out of a deep hole, maybe even then we might shrug and say: so be it.

But - there is an alternative! There are plenty! Renewables, of course, like wind turbines, which will be even more efficient and cheaper in 12+ years time. But there is also, for example, geo-thermally-sourced electricity, which Ecotricity, one of our great successes as a National Green electricity provider, is even now getting up and running with a company in Cornwall.

And it is not going to take only 2-3 years to build. It will be 12-14 years - and that's pretty optimistic if other infrastructure projects and EDF's own construction site at Flammanville is anything to go by.

12-14 years of misery.

Moreover this will not be a very cheap form of electricity that might get us out of the big hole being created by our expanding National Debt - unless the Government is still asking China for its backing - is this still a plan? I've lost track.

Next, what about the Government's other mantra in defence of this project: jobs?

Well, I imagine all the skilled, qualified engineers, technicians and scientists are going to be brought in from other EDF nuclear construction sites. Hence the need for the accommodation block for up to 3000 workers, at the end of my lane. For 12-14 years. Which would represent an entire childhood. And the final years of life for thousands of our older citizens - possibly including me.

And how many jobs in this area will already have been lost by then?

Who will be coming to East Suffolk if they are likely to spend hours in traffic jams caused by up to

900 lorry journeys a day - and the inevitable continuous road works due to this excessive use: has anyone factored in that inevitability to the equation?

Who will want to come for the peace, the tranquility, the unique nature of this AONB?

To visit priceless Minsmere and other SSSIs when it has all been damaged beyond repair?

(One little-known yet sobering bird fact: there are more Golden Eagles in the UK than there are Marsh Harriers).

After the Pandemic has taught, reminded, us all just how much we need nature, Wildlife, the countryside, to stay sane in this hectic modern world. It is not just me wittering on - WE ALL KNOW IT NOW, DON'T WE?

Why would anyone want to destroy all we have here?

And don't overlook our attractive, welcoming towns, where visitors young and old, regular and new come to relax, breathe deeply, explore and discover. What will happen to them?

As well as our superb natural resources of woodland, heath, rivers, sea and wide skies (if not always sun), we have enthusiastic, dedicated entrepreneurs like those who set up one of this country's great breweries: Adnams. What will happen to their pubs with a dearth of visitors? We have seen what the Pandemic has done to the brewery industry.

What will happen to all our wonderful connections to music? Benjamin Britten and The Red House in Aldeburgh? Pro-Corda at Leiston Abbey, and of course, Snape Maltings - a truly world-class music venue.

The History? Dunwich and its fine little museum telling the story of the once 4th largest port in the country (NB 2/3 of which swept away by tidal and storm surges in the C13th).

And of course Sutton Hoo - recognised internationally, and particularly after the film The Dig, which told its magnificent story. And where in Woodbridge, opposite, The Riverside Project is reconstructing a full-sized replica of the C 7th Burial ship.

Few visitors for 10+ years may really mean all this could be lost - all that we want to share with friends and visitors, from near and far, all that we want to pass on to future generations - all that we feel a duty of care for, that we feel custodians of.

Finally, I went for a walk along Sizewell beach yesterday. The shingle flora blooming right now makes the beach look like a wild flower meadow.

And, irony of ironies, a large area of dune in front of Sizewell B has been fenced off - to protect nesting Ringed Plovers and Little Terns.

I quote from the notices posted by EDF along the fence:

â€œ The adults, eggs and young chicks are well-camouflaged on the shingle, making them vulnerable. The temporary fence helps to protect these birds from disturbanceâ€•.

You couldn't make it up.

Additional points to my submission above, not made due to time-limits:

1. The dismissive, inaccurate reply by EDF to my question at an early public meeting, when I asked why it was responsible to build another nuclear power station on an unstable shingle shore in the era of Climate Change. â€œBecause it's being built on a rocky outcrop', their reply. This is incorrect. They are actually digging down tens of metres to the bedrock.

2. My experience of traffic jams on the A12 includes an incident when a poor solitary cyclist held up a long line of traffic between Farnham and Stratford St Andrew, approximately 1 1/2 miles. Numerous vehicles trailed behind me and several in front, where there is no possibility of overtaking safely on this narrow, winding road. Frustrating and time-consuming to us (patient) locals- but for a lorry driver working to a deadline? And of course dangerous and intimidating to the cyclist.

3. Roadkill. Travelling along the A14 between Woodbridge and Bury St Edmunds recently, I counted 2 dead Muntjac deer and 10 dead badgers. They were recently killed as they were still intact, and not bloating. Will this not inevitably be repeated on the single carriageways in this area when subjected to however many daily lorry journeys is the current reckoning?

4. Stability of the (huge) earth mounds. This soil is sandy, not sticky clay. The winds we experience here will surely cause dispersal and collapse - and we should therefore have a Soil

Scientist's report on the safety of this proposal.

5. To conclude I add my own experience of the mental health benefits of living in this beautiful unspoiled area. Embarrassment, humiliation and depression followed my negative experience of trying to speak at the Open Floor Hearing. Going for a walk afterwards along the quiet lanes with lovely wild flowers growing on the banks and the calming effect of no noise other than wind and birdsong helped calm my shattered nerves.

I wish to endorse the views expressed by RSPB Minsmere, Friends of the Earth, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Minsmere Levels, TASC, StopSizewellC, Aldeburgh and Ore Association and the many anti S/C speakers.