

Carol Fagg

██████████, Aldeburgh, ██████████

Submission regarding Sizewell C, Open Floor Hearing, Tuesday
18th May (afternoon)

I would like to declare myself to be an Interested Party in this matter. I was registered in the Consultation, but missed the information that I needed to register further – this was not made sufficiently clear by the applicant.

I am opposed to the development of Sizewell C on a number of grounds.

First of all it is increasingly evident that Sizewell C will not be as environmentally friendly as the applicant likes to suggest, when taking into consideration not only its construction but also its decommissioning and removal. This further leaves an unacceptable legacy for our children and grandchildren, which is totally unfair.

In addition to this there is still no adequate plan for the long term processing and storage of nuclear waste – again totally unfair on future generations.

The plans for the reactor are very ugly and will be a further blot on the landscape of our heritage coast, worthy of a soviet regime.

The Government has promised to protect the environment and wildlife of our country, and these proposals are very much at odds with this professed intention.

The effects of the development on the nature and wildlife of the area would be critically damaging in so many ways, admirably explained by many of the contributors to these open hearings. We have an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty which should be protected and preserved – as promised by the Government, for future generations, and for the sake of the very special wildlife of the area.

The effects of noise, light, and dust pollution would be devastating for Minsmere, for the RSPB reserve and the rest of the AONB. The additional traffic and industrial pollution would do untold damage to the nature and environment, and also to the tourism industry which is vital to this area. This would all be lost. A decision must be made which commits to preserving the environment and protecting vulnerable habitats.

As I have noted above, I live in Aldeburgh, and use the wider area a lot for recreation. I have been a regular participant in the Sizewell Parkrun, and value this greatly both for myself, and for the wider public health benefits which it confers. Events such as this must be maintained for the benefit of all of society, for improving the health of the nation. It is certain that this event would be impossible during the lengthy construction phase.

I am a recreational cyclist, and ride regularly around the area. I am very concerned about road safety issues. The Government are keen to encourage greener transport, and during the lockdowns increasing numbers of people have taken to their bikes, and taken up cycling. This is a real positive for public health and for the environment. However, people will not go by bike if they do not feel safe. I have been hoping to be able to start a local cycling group, for people new to cycling as well as those more experienced, but most people would be put off

from joining in something like this because of the excessive traffic which would be generated by this project.

The roads in this area are already unsuitable for the volume of traffic using them. They are narrow and in many places winding, creating poor visibility for drivers wanting to overtake, and making very dangerous road conditions. The volume of traffic, particularly regarding lorries would be vastly increased by this development if it is allowed to go ahead, effectively driving recreational users off the roads altogether. These roads are already risky for cyclists and pedestrians, with few footpaths, and no proper cycle paths, and would just become very much more dangerous. Vehicles pass too fast and too close, often in extremely dangerous locations on bends or hills, and causing danger to other road users.

I would like to invite members of the Planning Inspectorate or their representatives to join me on a bike ride around the area to experience for themselves how frightening and dangerous this can be, particularly for new and inexperienced cyclists, and for children and pedestrians.

It is known that the majority of cycling casualties occur on rural roads, and these plans could only contribute to worsening these statistics.

Finally, I understand that there could be Chinese investment in these plans and wish to express my extreme concern at this possibility. This is a serious security risk for a potentially dangerous and sabotageable project, with a regime such as China. Further to this it is a Human Rights issue. In the past few years there has been considerable public outcry regarding the evils of slavery in the past, and the involvement of our own country in this. We are right to denounce these practices in the past, but it is then ludicrous and totally unacceptable to tolerate them in the present, and indeed to collude with such

practices by involving ourselves in any transactions with a regime which has been identified by our own Government, as well as internationally, as engaging in genocide, and in enslaving the Uighur people in their own country. If we tolerate this we must bear guilt by association for these crimes against humanity. The British Government must be better than this.

For all these reasons, I totally oppose the development of Sizewell C and urge the Inspectorate to reject this application.