

SIZEWELL C: Application for Development Consent Order

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[REDACTED] Hacheston [REDACTED]

We live at [REDACTED], Hacheston, which is situated within 500 metres of the proposed Southern Park and Ride site (SPR). Our property is a Grade II listed building and will be affected by the construction work of the SPR, and once constructed its continued operation. We will suffer from noise and light pollution, as well as it being visible from our property, and affecting our enjoyment of it.

The positioning of the SPR is such that it will cause a considerable amount of additional traffic both through the village, and at the five ways roundabout where the B1078 meets the B1116 and the slip roads from the A12. EDF have responded to concerns about additional traffic through the village of Hacheston by saying that there will only be a 2% increase in the volume of traffic. This we dispute, but we do not have the resources to provide alternative figures.

The construction of the SPR will not be completed until year 3, and until this happens the vehicles for which the Park and Ride sites are intended will presumably have to drive to the work site and find somewhere to park. This is more than likely to cause fly parking which has proved to be an issue at the Hinckley C site.

We do not understand why the SPR could not be sited further south at the Martlesham Park and Ride which is underused, and by siting it there this will remove hundreds of vehicles from the busiest section of the A12 around Woodbridge, which even now on occasions suffers from a heavy build up of traffic.

It is accepted by EDF that there will be considerable additional traffic passing through the village of Wickham Market both along the B1078, and along the B1438 which passes through the centre of the village itself. Whilst EDF are negotiating with the Wickham Market Parish Council to try and resolve the potential traffic problems that the siting of the SPR will cause due to parking along the roads in the village, we do not feel that this will be possible without seriously impacting access by the residents of the neighbourhood to the shops, medical centre and other facilities in and around the market square.

The development of Sizewell C as currently proposed will have a serious impact on the roads within Suffolk, causing more pollution and travelling difficulties. It will ruin the tranquility of the area, and will have a serious impact on tourism and consequently the economy of the local people who rely on tourists. Loss of tourism will also mean loss of jobs for those who work in the tourist industry.

If there are delays on the main route to Sizewell the lighter traffic, i.e. small vans, cars and LGVs, will tend to use the back roads which are narrow and many unsuitable for additional volumes of traffic. They will be creating rat-runs.

EDF have said that they may extend the beach landing facility and we fail to see why this facility could not be constructed to receive the main bulk of the materials needed for the development.

Notwithstanding the additional traffic which will be created by construction of Sizewell C there are eight other uncoordinated energy projects which are planned locally which will further stretch the road systems, and cause pollution and environmental damage.

EDF have said that the development will create jobs for the local people, when they define people as being local when they live within a 90 minute commuting zone, the extremes of which could hardly be termed 'local'. Whilst apprenticeships may arise, these will not be the majority of the jobs that will be available. Most other jobs will be skilled workmen, many imported from Hinckley C where they have acquired the necessary skills pertaining to a nuclear power station. Where local people are employed at the site they will be workers taken from existing local employers which will affect the viability and productivity of those employers.

We are concerned that EDF have failed to provide sufficient detail to their proposals despite having many years over which to prepare their case. All interested parties have criticized EDF for their failure to be transparent and address the many concerns that have been expressed in each of the consultation stages, and we feel that this seriously undermines their application.

The proposed site of the nuclear power station is inappropriate as it is too small for the setting and land available.

These are some of our concerns and we consider the proposal to construct the Sizewell C power station wholly inappropriate.

Stephen and Sarah Leach
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