

My name is Bill Turnbull. I live in Theberton, and am deeply opposed to the plans to build Sizewell C.

But I am speaking to you today more in sorrow than protest. For I fear this beautiful, precious corner of Suffolk will fall victim to the most awful devastation.

That is what is promised by the development of Sizewell C.

You've been hearing a great deal about the enormous disruption to business and livelihoods posed by EdF's plans. They are surely reason enough to stop the project going ahead.

But I want to talk to you about the devastation faced by those who have no voice, and who can reap no benefit whatsoever. Only danger and destruction.

The rare and abundant wildlife that inhabits the land around Sizewell.

My wife and I live two and a half miles from the construction site, as the crow flies. And even here the wildlife is extraordinary. We hear the song of skylarks from early spring.

We are blessed to see marsh harriers flying over the fields next to us, sometimes even over our garden. Owls roost in the trees next to our house, and even on it.

A bittern set up camp for a while across the road from us last year. It is wonderful.

So what will happen if the DCO is granted? Well, when they build the Sizewell link road with its bypass around Theberton village, in the fields adjacent to our property, the marsh harriers are not going to hang around. I'm not sure the owls will bear all the construction noise either. And the same will go for the skylarks.

Repeat this picture along the route of the link road and you have a highway of destruction. And that's before we even get to the main site.

If you were to take a walk today from the Eel's Foot in Eastbridge to the sluice on the beach, you will be almost guaranteed to hear one if not two cuckoos.

They won't be there if Sizewell C is built...because the spot where they make their home every year is just a few hundred yards from the proposed reservoir and the borrow pits.

Down Sandy Lane, there's a lovely quiet walk in the woods round the back of the current power station, which is just beautiful. In the field in front of Keepers Cottage, you can hear nightingales at the moment. Imagine how precious that is. But that spot, where they are now, is within the perimeter of the construction site. The nightingales will be no more.

I know you've heard a lot already about the threat to our national treasure, RSPB Minsmere. But let me just say this – possibly the largest construction site in Europe, with lights visible for 10 miles, next door to Britain's best known and best loved nature reserve? Has the world gone that mad?

I'd like to say a word or two about the behaviour of EdF. I was disappointed to discover that on June 26th last year, they included me on what you might call a naughty list on twitter – a collection of what they termed “prominent anti-groups to be aware of”. I know this, because they accidentally published it...on twitter (see attached file). It was reported in the Times.

Then, at a Westminster Energy, Environment and Transport Forum in January this year, Julia Pyke, SZC Director of Financing, gave a

presentation to an online audience from private industry and several government departments.

One of her slides was a photograph of a Stop Sizewell C poster, defaced with the slogan - “Jobs Not Snobs”.

This is what Ms Pyke had to say about it: *“A lot of the debate about Sizewell C is encapsulated in that poster...I think this particular one is outside Bill Turnbull's house, on his fence. - and you can see that a group of people who are pro Sizewell C have put a piece of quite nicely rhyming graffiti on top of the poster.”*

Jobs not snobs.

This was completely untrue, for two reasons. It totally misrepresents a campaign which has been conducted by local people, calmly and with dignity.

And on a personal level, I've never had a poster of any kind outside my house. Ms Pyke chose to single me out, in front of an audience of high powered, influential people, some of them in government. Why would she do that? Why does EdF allow these things to happen?

One more point. EdF want to build Sizewell C in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. One of just **34** in England.

Two years ago, the Glover inquiry recommended strengthening AONBs with a greater voice on development.

What message would it send, then, to build a twin nuclear reactor in the middle of one? It would be simply this, you can forget about the protection of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. If Sizewell C gets the go ahead, then nowhere is safe.

Thank you.



14:52



## Anti-Groups

Prominent anti-groups to be aware of



**Sizewell C** @sizewellc

4 Members

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