

From: [REDACTED]
To: [SizewellC](#)
Subject: Final Statement to Planning Inquiry - David Watson Reg. ID 20025591
Date: 11 October 2021 17:06:27

I have followed this planning inquiry as much as time has allowed and have noted the wide ranging and erudite objections lodged by members of the public.

Much has centred on the devastating consequences for the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The AONB is land protected by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW act) which protects the land to conserve and enhance it's natural beauty. The proposed development clearly breaches this act.

It is also up to Natural England and the local authority to ensure that all decisions on development have regard for the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the AONB and must consider the potential effect it will have on the AONB and the land outside its boundary. Failure to object to Sizewell C by Natural England and East Suffolk Council would clearly not be upholding their statutory duties.

EDF have constantly advertised the job boost to the area that construction would bring. However, there is a shortage of labour in the area at all skill levels and this would be exacerbated by EDF recruiting labour from existing businesses. The reality is that EDF will bring in most of the skilled workforce from the Hinkley Point build, which is why the accommodation block at East Bridge is required, as well as a new caravan park at Leiston. Housing in the area is already in short supply and Sizewell C workers needing accommodation will only cause an increase in house prices, to rent or buy, for local people.

Updating the energy efficiency of new and existing buildings would create more long-term jobs and help to save on overall energy use.

The boom to bust nature of the nuclear industry's construction at the Sizewell site over the last half century does not appear to have endowed long term prosperity on the town of Leiston or Suffolk as a whole.

As the owner and manager of a caravan and campsite within four miles of the Sizewell site, I am seriously concerned with the effect of the proposal on the tourism industry. Our customers come here to enjoy the peace and tranquility of the area and see the clear night skies. The proposed park and ride at Darsham Station, 1 mile from our site would shatter this aura with light, noise, and traffic pollution.

The road infrastructure is clearly not up to the vast quantity of extra traffic, even allowing for 'improvements' to the roads. Road improvements and a new road will cause more loss of amenity and farmland.

It is 9 years since EDF first proposed building a twin EPR at Sizewell, many of the planning issues are still not resolved. This includes the crucial element of water supply to the site. It now transpires that Essex and Suffolk Water are unable to guarantee to supply the site in the short and longer term. A scheme to take water from the river Waveney is unlikely to happen due to environmental concerns. This is a low rainfall area and water is at a premium. Many farming businesses have had to reduce abstraction for irrigating crops to maintain flows on local rivers including the Minsmere. Each day's water requirements for Sizewell C would be enough to irrigate over 22 acres of crops with one acre inch.

To get so far in the planning stage without a guaranteed supply of fresh water seems complacent and negligent by EDF.

EDF maintains that Sizewell C is needed to provide low carbon energy to combat global warming. It is debatable whether Sizewell C would provide low carbon generation, and this certainly would not happen until 2035 at the earliest. Renewable construction costs per TWH are coming down, while new nuclear costs are increasing.

It also has to be remembered that there is still no active programme for the long-term storage of

nuclear waste, which will all be stored at the Sizewell site on an eroding coastline for an unknown period of time.

If nuclear has to feature in the energy mix, this still does not make the case to sacrifice the Coast and Heaths AONB to achieve that goal. The site is clearly too small to comfortably house the twin EPR reactors, particularly as EDF keep adding more items, such as the recently proposed de-salination plant, to try to justify the projects huge costs.

EDF is also looking at building a hydrogen plant and a direct air capture CO2 plant on the site. It is simply far too small, and I fear that further land would be needed to proceed with these other ventures. Also an EPR is yet to be commissioned in Europe, and a plant in China has been shut down due to problems.

In conclusion it makes no sense to build Sizewell C in an AONB, on an eroding coastline, in an area with low unemployment, without a secure source of fresh water, on a site much too small, using a technology which is not tried and tested.

If consent is given, we risk losing our precious Coast and Heaths to a project which will produce expensive electricity and a radioactive legacy, or maybe fail to work at all.

David Watson

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