From:
To: SizewellC

Subject: Sizewell C - EN010012 - Halt the planning proposal and reconsider

Date: 12 October 2021 18:31:23

EN010012 - The Sizewell C Project

My reference: 20026764

As a resident of Aldeburgh, I have been actively monitoring and participating throughout the planning proposal process for Sizewell C. With the imminent closure of written representations to the Planning Inspectorate I have one final plea to you to halt the process and take the time and the initiative to reconsider the current EDF proposed solution with the view to requesting significant changes and reconsidering whether the plan is worthy of further investment of time and money given the ongoing changes to priorities, costs and approach within the energy industry and what the public deem to be acceptable way of generating electricity

My concerns are that, given the real economic and environmental crisis we face as a nation and as a respected voice in the worldwide community, we should not be embarking on this project. Given the current planned objective and the structured finance and approach that has been adopted by EDF, I cannot see how this significant infrastructure project can progress and derive any benefit for us.

I have repeated these concerns on a number of occasions when invited to during the planning process. In summary they are :

We can't afford the cost of Sizewell C, or afford the time to wait for it, so don't increase the financial pressures facing us all and waste our money and opportunity on something that would be obsolete before it was completed. The Government will find it increasingly difficult to "sell" the Sizewell C solution to a much more energy-savvy voting public given their stated promise to use our skills and ingenuity to build back faster and greener by supporting renewables, energy storage, clean heat and energy efficiency."

Sizewell C cannot fix the immediate crisis. It would be 12 years plus till before there was any power being generated. Meanwhile the industry moves on with more renewables being built and storage options developed. There are credible, affordable energy models (eg Energy Systems Catapult, Imperial, along with contributions from National Grid and the Climate Change Committee) that exclude Sizewell C.

- The £20 billion cost is only likely to rise, and there are limits both on the public purse and on consumers' ability (or willingness) to pay. Adding too great a financial burden on increasingly energy-savvy consumers could be a real vote loser. Financial investment companies and professionals do not want to be associated with proposals and do not the appear to be queuing up to invest and there is still the issue surrounding involvement of China in the project.
- Backing new nuclear does not have to mean backing Sizewell C. There are
 other options for the government, such as Small Modular Reactors that can
 be financed, built and operated in a more controlled and structured way to

- deliver a timely, cost-effective, less intrusive and scalable solution.
- There are significant problems with the Sizewell C proposals, especially a sustainable water supply. There is no guarantee Sizewell C would get planning consent. We maintain it is the wrong site for such a damaging project.
- The EPR reactor is still an unproven technology. There are only two completed reactors in the world, at Taishan in China, and one is shut down because of fuel failure, with very little information emerging as to the cause, or the implications for Olkiluoto, Flamanville, Hinkley C or Sizewell C.
- There are significant problems with the Sizewell C proposals, especially a sustainable water supply. There is no guarantee Sizewell C would get planning consent. Given the concern about the impacts of a water desalination plant during construction and uncertainty about coastal defence it must be can only be seen as the wrong site for such a damaging project.

On more general points that have been well made by local people and frequent visitors to our AONB, the Sizewell C Project brings its own disasterous impact and destruction of carefully nurtured and protected parts of our coastline and the local communities which, unlike others, survive and thrive against many challenges. There have been many repeated issues and representations made about the massive construction project that will ensue. The risks and impacts that this will bring have not be fully recognised or responded to by EDF, its specialist partners or advisors.

Issues such as

- Increased level of HGV and works traffic generating significant disruption along with real and extensive road safety concerns and considerations
- Adverse impact on local businesses, communities and a thriving tourism industry that has taken many years of works and much investment to create
- Adverse impact on a totally unique AONB, destruction and loss of rare environments, habitats and species which will never recover despite the weak plans put forwardto protect and make good any damage.
- Adverse impact on local public services and safety given the short-term population explosion with influx of workers as well as risks of available skilled and unskilled resources given current recruitment and staffing challenges across the economy.
- The industrialisation of our coastline environment when this project is taken in context with the proposals for East Anglia One and Two being driven hard by Scottish Power.

I request that the Planning Inspectorate fully investigate all aspects of the Sizewell C plan that has been put forward and rigorously test EDF's proposal and risk mitigation strategy to deliver what they promise to time and budget with a level of safety and security that such an undertaking requires.

The overall impact of the installation of Sizewell C in the proposed environment needs to be fully assessed independently and with an important emphasis on how it can be operated in a safe and secure manner over the coming years given the history of these type of nuclear reactors on a shifting coastline with climate change issues on sea level etc to contend with.

I also request the Planning Inspectorate look at the Sizewell C proposal with full acknowledgement and recognition of concurrent development and installation

plans from Scottish Power intiatives for East Anglia One and Two offshore and onshore construction projects

Regards
Thomas Sweet

Aldeburgh