From:
To: Sizewell

Cc:
Subject: Suffolk Building Preservation Trust re Pakenham Fen

Date: 12 October 2021 17:10:27

Sirs.

We understand from Suffolk County Council that SZC Co. have finally agreed to include a short statement in the most recent version of the draft Plan recognising the interest of Pakenham Watermill in the Fen and its supply of water. Whilst this gives the Trust some comfort, it does not go far enough.

Throughout the consultation period, SZC Co. have failed to engage meaningfully with the Trust over their plans for the Fen, paying mere lip service to the word. The Trust's offers to help with their research has been shunned. Indeed the applicant has demonstrated an unbelievable degree of technical arrogance in ignoring facts, which we have brought to their attention. Their monitoring of the surface and ground water levels within the fen area has not taken into account the breach* in the bank of Pakenham Stream, so any measurements taken are flawed. The proposal to lower the ground level of the fen should therefore not be granted permission until, amongst other considerations, more accurate and scientific measurements are taken once the breach is repaired.

The Trustees urge the Inspectorate to make it a condition that the Watermill's historical and statutory rights to water are fully recognised, and that SZC Co. engages meaningfully with the Trust when drawing up their plans for the Fen.

A watermill has stood in its present location and drawn its water supply from Pakenham Stream for over one thousand years. Now is not the time to jeopardise the operation of one of the county's finest historical assets

Piers Hart Chairman Suffolk Building Preservation Trust