

12th October 2021

**Sizewell C, DCO Final Submissions
EN010012 – The Sizewell C Project**

IP: 20026661

On behalf of David, Sylvia, Nicholas, Kristian & Kimberley Thorp Beach View Holiday Park

Dear Examiners,

As a Suffolk tourism business it has been a very challenging period with the Coronavirus pandemic and an unprecedented period of trying to maintain and manage a tourism business in these times. It has been highly stressful and virtually impossible for us to invest sufficient time and resources into the examination process for Sizewell C DCO examination, let alone deal with Scottish Power's EA1N & EA2 DCO examinations and a flood of other proposals all on our doorstep. It truly is a sad time for our own business and the many other tourism/hospitality businesses here, we are simply being forgotten and cast aside in an unjust race to achieve the government's so-called 'net zero carbon' targets.

Since September we have tried to allocate some more time to delve into the vast raft of examination submissions. It is clear to us that EDFs application should be treated with extreme care and caution. The Suffolk Coast, whilst already the location for Sizewell A & B, is surely not a suitable location for new massive nuclear power development. Sizewell is in our opinion a completely inappropriate location for a further 2 new nuclear reactors.

We endorse representations and valuable submissions made by local action groups TEAGS, STOP Sizewell C, our MP Therese Coffey and other tourism businesses who have provided some essential scrutiny and criticism, where needed, of EDFs proposals.

Sizewell C Location Issues

The new development would virtually join and border RSPB Minsmere, a world renowned wetland habitat that will be irrevocably damaged from Sizewell C. If it ever recovers as a reserve it will never be the same as it is now. But it is down to EDF, the examination team and ministers at BEIS to decide if the need for new nuclear energy generation surpasses a need to preserve and protect one of our most unique and pristine East of England coastlines, & RSPB Minsmere SSSI, SAC, SPA and Ramsar Site, described on the Council of Europe's website as:

“...the most important bird reserve in the United Kingdom.”

EDFs proposal to effectively build two new nuclear power stations on a section of the East of England's most sensitive and vulnerable sand-cliff coastlines is for many in our local and business community an alarming, myopic vision, for the UK's energy needs for the coming generation. A prospect of rising temperatures and sea levels should pose questions of the safety of energy policy, procurement and generation. How is Sizewell C is a preferred choice for our energy future when this DCO lacks any vision, to provide an exemplary design, 'equal to or better than' existing Sizewell B, which was effectively bedded into its surroundings with the use of exterior colouring, boxed cladding and high perimeter banking.

EDF has taken backward steps, using already out of date technology, with plans to construct a huge mostly concrete development that will dominate the Suffolk coast landscape and skyline for decades during its 30-40 year working life and 100's of years thereafter.

Sizewell C Poor Vision For UK Energy Needs

Only in the UK and only in Suffolk would it be possible to even contemplate building Sizewell C within an AONB. For the proposals to get this far speaks much of the state of vision and energy policy in this country, that we have a French company proposing to build an out of date, over priced double nuclear reactor with Chinese money here on our wonderful coastline. At a time when the UK government has asked EDF to run the existing Sizewell B reactor at 50% capacity for an extended period. And when new technology is here for SMRs (Small Modular Reactors) which have emerged as a viable alternative that can be renewed easily at the end of their working life.

Sizewell C Construction & Tourism Impact

As we are a local tourism business less than a mile south of Sizewell, our guests at Beach View Holiday Park would be directly affected by construction disruption, noise and construction traffic. Getting here from the north & south is relatively easy, even though the local Suffolk road network is poor.

The A12 is single lane for large stretches, it barely copes at peak times with regular local traffic. With a build on the scale of Sizewell C the roads will not cope with the extra burden of construction traffic and 1400 separate daily HGV movements, especially during holiday periods. The meager road improvements are in no way sufficient to address the number of extra vehicles, up to 12,000 extra vehicles a day at the peak of construction.

In terms of the many day visitors we currently welcome to this part of the Suffolk Coast, significant local road disruption would mean many day visitors who make repeat monthly or weekly visits could choose to stop coming, especially if faced with traffic jams or congestion issues each visit. The Suffolk Coast DMO estimates that there are almost 4 million annual day trips annually, day trips potentially make up 90% of tourism visits, so a significant proportion of all visitors.

Currently our own visitors choosing to stay overnight at Beach View or passing often refer to Sizewell beach as: peaceful, tranquil, a natural beauty. Many of our regular guests say these features are some of the main reasons why they choose to visit, stay and return. All this is at risk of being damaged by a long construction, even more so, if there are lengthy construction extensions, which are likely based on the track record of EDF's other projects.

Mitigation Failure

The scale of the proposals set out in the DCO fail to provide necessary mitigation, if you can even call it that. More worryingly EDF's proposals at this late stage fail over and over again to provide even basic safeguards for the immediate surrounding area, for our AONB, its tourism attractions and facilities, or even our local communities and businesses.

If what we are told about Sizewell C is to be believed, the local area will benefit beyond everyones dreams. So, why are the benefits of Sizewell B (construction in the 1990s) nowhere to be seen? Leiston should be a beacon of the benefits of a relatively recent nuclear build, yet compared to other areas in Suffolk, Leiston has been recently described as one of the most deprived and in need. How will EDFs Sizewell C change this for the long term for future generations?

Sizewell C & Cumulative Impact

The cumulative effects of energy proposals on the Suffolk Coast are being ignored, there are eight projects including: EDF Sizewell C, Scottish Power EA1N & EA2 offshore wind farms, onshore

substations & cable landings, National Grids' own Nautilus & Eurolink cables and SCD1 & SCD2 proposals. National Grid, OFGEM, the energy companies and government ministers need to talk to each other, they need to take action before this part of the Suffolk Coast and AONB becomes one big industrial building site.

UK energy policy is fast becoming a scandal led by National Grids focus on one small part of Suffolk. The cumulative fall-out threatens the sustainability of the AONB, RSPB Minsmere and continued success and sustainability of our local tourism industry.

If DCOs move forward for projects the balance of the Suffolk Coast ultimately lies in the hands of one person, the Secretary of State at BEIS. The consequences for the Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB will be visible & tangible for decades and many generations.

At this time we are all increasingly aware that the UK needs to address the growing need to increase electricity generation. But we must all ask whether this should be at any cost?

The decisions made now will have consequences in both the short term and longer term. It is vital to question whether what is being asked now is right, whether it cannot be done better or differently.

Best regards,

David & Sylvia Thorp
on behalf of Beach View Holiday Park