From:
To: SizewellC
Cc:

Subject: Sizewell C Responses

Date: 16 May 2022 14:47:25

I am replying to the latest round of enquiries regarding the Sizewell C planning application which have been raised by BEIS.

I am not sure whether the government has already predetermined the outcome of the process with its commitment to nuclear or whether the Secretary of State's comment on The Today programme recently that you can't put things where people don't want them (albeit with regard to onshore windfarms) will apply.

My comments today focus on the new relief road about which BEIS have raised queries.

It is absolutely unbelievable, and frankly crazy, that this issue has still not been adequately addressed by EDF. That it hasn't is arguably testament to, at best, inadequate planning and, at worst, bad faith on their part.

I believe the Secretary of State, at the outset of their whole disjointed and dysfunctional application, asked EDF to carry the local communities with them. That they cannot produce a viable road scheme this late in the process is one of the reasons that they have so lamentably failed in living up to that exhortation.

The road proposal is an unviable mess. It is ridiculous that a far better route, what was known - amongst other things - as route W, was never considered properly.

As a result EDF are trying to cobble some means by which a relief road can be built instead of/alongside the B1122 and at every turn it is clear that the proposals are not thought through nor even complete.

If the proposed road is necessary, then it is only necessary because of the new power station at Sizewell C. The current road is perfectly adequate for current purposes.

Personally, if the new road is built solely to facilitate the construction of Sizewell C, I would like to see the requirement that EDF remove it once that project is complete and we can then revert to using the B1122 just as we previously did. The road is being built for no other reason, after all.

Nonetheless it therefore makes absolutely no sense to start building the power station, for a couple of years or so, without that new road. Again, the road is being built for no other reason, after all.

Of course, the very real risk is that having started to build the power station without a new road there will soon become no need for EDF to build that new road. Let's face it, two years into the project, what is the likelihood that building work on Sizewell C will be abandoned just because EDF decide a new road isn't necessary for them anymore and go hang those that live here.

This is just indicative of EDF's whole unprofessional approach which destroys any faith that I have that they have taken the planning process seriously. This cack-handed, not thought-through approach, is similarly reflected in the problems over water supply and anchoring the site.

Throughout they have had the view that they can build this thing (which in a practical sense they undoubtedly can) but they will do it on their terms and in their way. The niceties of showing consideration for the locality or the environment are not for them and they seem to defy the planning authorities to say otherwise.

The application is fundamentally flawed and, in my view, should be turned down.

Rob Piggott

Interested party registration20025626