

From: [REDACTED]
To: [East Anglia ONE North; East Anglia Two](#)
Subject: Written Representation regarding East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two offshore windfarms
Date: 16 October 2020 12:51:55
Attachments: [Planning Inspectorate Written Representation Letter 16-10-2020.docx](#)

Dear sirs,

Please find attached an electronic version of our letter to you in which we cite our objections to the proposed developments.

Regards,

David & Andrea Horton



16 October 2020

Planning Inspectorate,
National Infrastructure Planning,
Temple Quay House,
2 The Square,
Bristol BS1 6PN

Dear Sirs,

Onshore substations relating to East Anglia One North & East Anglia Two offshore windfarms
PINS Refs: EN010077 EN010078
Our Refs: 20023062 and 20023063

Please accept this letter as our written representation regarding the above proposed developments.

We have owned a holiday home in the centre of Friston for the last 16 years. We chose Friston specifically because of its picturesque rural location and its proximity to the cultural centres of Snape and Aldeburgh, and we make regular use of our cottage.

We are completely dismayed by the proposal by Scottish Power to site their colossal electricity substations from their off-shore wind farms next to our village. Despite Scottish Power identifying 7 zones where they could site the substations in this particular part of Suffolk, they have chosen the site that is furthest away from the coast and the one with the least amount of existing infrastructure by way of access.

Please note that the use of the word 'substations' is somewhat of a misnomer in this context, as the proposed site would occupy and involve concreting over some 35 acres of agricultural land.

It would surely make most sense to locate the substations in an area that already has large electrical generating plants and already has all of the infrastructure in place to deal with further developments - i.e. Sizewell.

Sizewell is a vitally important electricity generating area with plans for a further nuclear power station. The Galloper wind farm substation has been completed in the fields just to the south-west of the nuclear power plant, leaving plenty of room on the other side of the road for Scottish Power's proposed development. Scottish Power's arguments for rejecting the sites close to Sizewell are at best questionable. In a reply to an email I sent them in 2018 they stated their reasons as follows:

- 1) Part of the Sizewell land is owned by EDF and they had serious concerns about any attempt to locate further substations within this area. These concerns were not only based on the lack of available land which is not already used or identified for mitigation, but also based on risks to the operational safety of the nuclear interest resulting from further works within the EDF landholding.

- 2) Another part of the Sizewell land is owned by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority and leased to Magnox Limited, who are tasked with the decommissioning of the Sizewell A site. There are complex nuclear decommissioning works ongoing at the site that make it unsuitable for substation construction/operation/maintenance activities. It is also unlikely that the Magnox site is in itself large enough to accommodate the substations without the use of EDF's land.

The proposed site of the power stations abuts our village and its many listed buildings. It will destroy the character of the whole area and it cuts right across the ancient public right of way where we take our daily walk.

The proposed site is on slightly elevated land and will be severely detrimental to the village's existing flood defences. The centre of the village, where our house is located, is already prone to flooding after heavy downpours, so it does not take much imagination to ascertain what will happen once 35 acres of land are concreted over.

We therefore ask that you reject Scottish Power's applications and allow common sense to prevail.

Why should the quiet, rural village of Friston suddenly become the site of giant electrical substations for offshore windfarms? Why build on perfectly good agricultural land at a time when feeding the population as a whole has taken on greater urgency? If Sizewell is out of the question as an option for their placement, why not insist that Scottish Power examine the use of brownfield sites rather than virgin agricultural land? And why not re-visit the use of Bramford (Ipswich) as the preferred site for the substations, as was the original plan agreed between Scottish Power and National Grid back in 2008, and which is already being used by Scottish Power for their East Anglia One substation?

National Grid originally suggested that Scottish Power use the Bawdsey to Bramford cable route for all of their East Anglia offshore developments in order to connect to the grid, and reiterated this decision as recently as 2016. However, Scottish Power realised that the power lines they had installed between Bawdsey and Bramford were insufficient for the power needs of their latest offshore developments, and for reasons that are quite obscure, National Grid then changed the suggested connection location from Bramford to the Sizewell/Leiston area. Scottish Power should upgrade the existing lines between Bawdsey and Bramford and keep the electrical substations in one place, rather than concreting over large swathes of agricultural land and spoiling an otherwise unspoilt landscape

Aside from the fact that Friston hardly falls into the definition of 'Sizewell/Leiston area' as a connection point to the grid, we would also point out that the road network here is totally unsuited to the inevitable heavy traffic associated with such a major building project. Considerable further work and expense would be required before construction could begin and the noise and traffic congestion would put an unbearable strain on village life.

Friston is a popular holiday destination, with many of the houses available for holiday rentals. The choice of Friston as the site for the substations would have a detrimental impact on the tourist trade which in turn would affect the money coming into the area, whereas the substations and their construction would bring no economic benefits to the residents of the village.

Our local action group – SASES - has worked tirelessly to show how flawed Scottish Power's plans are, and we fully support and endorse their own Written Representations. Our local MP, [REDACTED] and the East Suffolk Council's planning department are both against the choice of Friston as a suitable location, and we hope that you can see the merit of keeping these large building projects in one area rather than spreading them far and wide and spoiling ever more parts of this beautiful county.

We realise that most, if not all of these arguments have already been made by others, but with so many convincing arguments to reject the proposal, and with technology constantly changing, we do wonder why Scottish Power are so keen to proceed with their plans. It does beg the question as to whether there is a hidden agenda of which the Friston residents are, so far, unaware.

Yours faithfully,

David & Andrea Horton