From:

To: East Anglia ONE North; East Anglia Two

Subject: Written Representations-Ref nos. 20024139 & 20024142

Date: 02 November 2020 20:16:04

Dears Sirs,

Representation in respect of the East Anglia One North (EA1N) and East Anglia 2 (EA2) Windfarm Infrastructure (My references 20024139 & 20024142)

I make this representation as a resident of the parish of Aldringham cum Thorpe where, for over 30 years, I have had a property adjacent to the fens/marshes in the RSPB North Warren reserve, this area being fed by the River Hundred. These marshes are home and used as a foraging habitat by many common, as well as rare, species of flora and fauna eg species of bats, frogs, toads, newts, birds such as marsh harrier, bittern, hobbies and much more. I am a keen walker and bird watcher enjoying regular walks across the Sizewell Walks/ Thorpeness Cliffs and Beach. I would also add that I totally support renewable energy sources, especially offshore wind. The concerns I wish to express about these developments are:-

The cumulative impact that these projects, together with other infrastructure projects, will have on the well being of the residents and the natural environment of East Suffolk, and

The visual impact on and environmental damage to the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB (AONB), and

The environmental impact of works specifically affecting the Hundred River and thereby affecting North Warren fen, and

Insufficient attention has been given to considering alternative brown field sites outside the AONB for siting the substations required for these two projects

<u>Cumulative Impact of Infrastructure Projects</u>

There is the potential for EA1N and EA2 works occurring simultaneously with: Sizewell B [SZB] relocation works; Sizewell C [SZC] nuclear power station; The Nautilus Interconnector; The Eurolink Transmission Cable; Greater Gabbard Windfarm extension; Five Estuaries Offshore Windfarm: National Grid ESO's SCD1 and SCD2 HVDC links between Kent and Suffolk. All of these will involve adding construction activities, with its attendant noise, air, vibration, light and dust pollution, to a rural landscape, seriously negatively impacting the health, lives and livelihoods of East Suffolk residents. Construction of SZC, including the SZB relocation, will take 11-14 years (possibly longer if experience from building these reactors in Finland and France is replicated) with up to 12,000/13,000 vehicles daily. No other projects should run concurrently to SZC if SZC goes ahead.

The visual impact on and environmental damage to the AONB

The National Planning Policy Framework states that damage to an AONB should be avoided, unless a project is of national importance. Whilst there is a national need for clean electricity generation including that from offshore wind, there is no need for the onshore cables to be installed in the AONB. This may be the cheapest option for SPR and National Grid but does not mean that it has to take the route proposed (with all the damage that it will cause to the AONB) nor that the substations need to be built in a rural location at Friston. There needs to be a national review so that all the energy projects mentioned above are integrated into a UK plan so that as much infrastructure as possible is located offshore (use of an offshore ring-main or hub?) and best use of onshore brownfield sites is made.

While it is appreciated that the plan is to reinstate the landscape after the 60 metre+ trenches are installed, there will be inevitable damage to the biodiverse habitat, especially over the Sizewell Walks, with the removal of trees, hedgerows and the dislocation of wildlife from the landscape. Looking at the proposals, there would appear to be a Net

Biodiversity Loss during the 2020s.

The AONB status is a result of attributes such as tranquillity, landscape beauty and the resultant flora and fauna. This is a major reason that the area is so popular with visitors thereby supporting a successful and sustainable tourism industry. Work associated with EA1N and EA2 will negatively impact the aforementioned attributes and will therefore negatively impact the hospitality sector (especially when it will be recovering from the impacts of the pandemic).

The environmental impact of works specifically affecting the Hundred River and thereby affecting North Warren fen

I have concerns that construction of the trenches where they cross the River Hundred will:-

- Negatively impact the flora and fauna that have evolved in and around the river
- Introduce pollutants into the river affecting its environmental viability and that of the North Warren fens
- Restrict the flow of water in the river thereby negatively affecting the water table, therefore impacting the flora and fauna that reside and forage in the North Warren fen.

<u>Insufficient attention has been given to considering alternative brown field sites outside</u> the AONB for siting the substations required for these two projects

As mentioned above "There needs to be a national review so that all the energy projects mentioned above are integrated into a UK plan so that as much infrastructure as possible is located offshore (use of an offshore ring-main or hub?) and best use of onshore brownfield sites is made." The need for nature and retention and enhancement of biodiversity is more important than accepting a developer choosing the cheapest option for them.

Christopher Wilson