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00:04

And welcome everyone to today's open floor hearing six for East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO offshore wind farms. This is the sixth open floor hearing in these examinations. Before we

00:16

deal with a few preliminary matters firstly to check with the case team that you can hear me at the recordings and live stream have started.

00:24

Good morning, Miss Powis. I can confirm we can hear and see you and the recordings and livestream have started.

00:30

Thank you very much, Mrs. Hopewell, so two introductions. I am Jessica Powis , a panel member for this examining authority, which is the examining authority to East Anglia, one North offshore wind farm application, and have another panel which is the examining authority for the East Anglia to offshore wind farm application. I am in the chair today, and I'll need the main elements of the second session of this hearing, which starts at midday. I will now ask my fellow panel members to introduce themselves starting with Caroline James.

01:00

Good morning, everyone. My name is Caroline Jones. And today I'm going to be leading on the main and main elements of session one once the introductions are complete.

01:14

Mr. Smith, you're on mute.

01:18

Apologies, ladies and gentlemen, one of these days we'll all learn how to do this. My name is Rynd Smith, I'm the lead member of these panels. I will be mainly observing and taking notes in this hearing this morning. But may I ask questions individually if they arise and I will also record any actions that arise.

01:37

Thanks, Mr. Smith. Those of you who have already been involved with or watched any of our previous hearings will note that the full panel is not here today. As you'll appreciate this so that they are free to work on the information that we have received during the issue specific hearings held this week. And to

prepare for our site inspections and further hearings next week. I'd also like to introduce our planning Inspectorate colleagues working with us on these examinations. And Ray Williams is the case manager for these applications. And he led the arrangements conference this morning. He's accompanied today by two case offices, KJ Johansson and Caroline Hopewell,

02:12

hopefully the agenda papers for these hearings provide a clear explanation of our and your reasons for being here this morning. And that is to hold open flow hearings, which are your opportunity to raise anything that's important and relevant and that you think we should know about and consider before we make any findings or our recommendations to the Secretary of State on either application for development consent. To date, we've held five open floor hearings, they took place in October and November. And there is one more open floor hearing, which is number seven planned for next Thursday, the 28th of January. Once that is complete, everyone who has requested to be heard and open floor hearing at the start of the examinations will have been heard. We're holding this hearing and two sessions are set out in the agenda which was published on our website on the 13th of January. If you're here now, then you'll be heard in session one broadly in the order shown in the list of speakers appended to the agenda. Once you've been heard, you don't have to stay in this meeting. If you leave, you can watch the rest of this session on the live stream. And you don't need to join the second session. Again, please use the live stream to watch this. Make sure there's nothing left. There's plenty of space in our computer systems

03:20

to make sure there's space for everybody who needs to be heard in session two.

03:24

Now you know who we are and why we're here. I will hand over to Miss Jones, who will lead our first session.

03:32

Thank you very much, Mrs. Powis . Just before I move on, and Mr. Armstrong, you have your camera still on at the moment. Would you mind turning that off, please?

03:42

Thank you.

03:44

Good morning, everyone. My name is Caroline Jones panel member. Shortly I'm going to be inviting attendees for session one to speak in the audit set out in our agenda. But before I do, there are just a few things to note. Today's hearing is being live streamed and recorded. The recordings that we make are retained and published. Therefore they form a public record that can contain your personal information and to which the general data protection regulation applies. Does anybody have any questions about the terms on which our digital recordings are made?

04:16

not seeing any hands raised so we'll move forward on the basis that that is all understood. I'm just going to raise three issues emerging from the current public health position. Participants in these hearings who have been involved in the examination since they started we'll be aware that the examination timetables were prepared, enabling flexibility so that if by New Year, we were in a position to plan for a return to physical hearings, then we could have done so. I think it is fair to observe that the Coronavirus situation remains difficult, perhaps more so than many would have anticipated. On that basis. The examining authorities consider that it is important that all interested parties are clear that we now consider it is most likely that all remaining hearings and these examinations will be virtual

05:00

Equally and for the same reason, the examining authorities have recently taken steps to significantly limit attendance at the site inspections timetable to be held next week. Only people whose attendance is essential will be now supported to attend them. It is important to place on record that the examining authorities consider that the site inspections must be delivered in this limited manner to enable them to be safe and compliant with public health controls. Finally, if you do consider that you cannot participate in these examinations in the manner to the extent that you deem necessary due to the current public health controls, and please write to us by deadline five setting out your concerns, the examining authorities will consider any such submissions in our planning for events programme for February and March, and for the remainder of the examinations as a whole.

05:47

So to returning to today's event, open floor hearings are an opportunity for individuals and community groups to speak directly to the examining authorities and are not about a particular location or topic. The topic of your representations today is therefore up to you. However, we may disregard representation if it is vexatious or frivolous.

06:07

You should know the order that I intend to take speakers in. However, we are aware that there are a few people on the phone today and in order to save telephone costs, we're going to hear from them first in the list. Please don't leave until you have had your turn to speak as if you do we won't be able to include you in a later session. Once you have spoken, we do ask you leave to ensure that there is enough capacity in the computer system for the latest speakers to join. And you can watch the remainder of the hearing on the live stream online. To ensure that everyone has their opportunity to speak, we will need to be strict in managing the timings this morning. So please don't be offended if I have to ask you to stop talking at the end of your allotted time. If you have more to say then you're very welcome to submit that in writing for deadline five, which is the third of February, as you said before written and oral contributions carry equal weight in this process.

06:59

Could I just check the name of the main speaker that we have representing the applicants today please?

07:08

Good morning, madam. My name is Colin and this month from the law firm of schefter Wedderburn and I appear on behalf of both applicants. I'm instructed by Fiona Kyle, divisional solicitor at scottishpower renewables. I'm also accompanied this morning in the room by Brian McGregor's offshore, onshore consensus manager for both projects, and Richard Morris, Senior Project Manager for both projects.

07:34

Good morning, Mr. Ennis, just to remind you, as we have done in the previous open floor hearings, that the main purpose of this morning is to hear from interested parties and that you are primarily here to listen before we close this hearing with his powers will give you a brief opportunity in session to to make sponding remarks on any matters that you consider must be drawn to our attention today. But please do combine these two five minutes any detailed responses you can submit to us in writing by deadline five.

08:02

Anyone who's speaking in this session, but not here after the break and watch the applicants response on the livestream. And if there was anything in that that you disagree with. Again, you can set that out in writing a deadline five.

08:13

Finally, remind everybody that this is an opportunity for everyone here to have their say in fairness, just as you would not want to be interrupted when you speak please do not interrupt the other speakers. If you agree with or disagree with what they say then you can make that clear to us in your own speaking time or in writing at deadline five, every speaker should be allowed to make full use of their time to speak today. If anybody does interrupt in a way that is unnecessary or disrupts the hearing Mrs. powers or I will warn them and ask them to allow the hearings continue. If the same person interrupts again, they will be warned again, repeated interruptions that lead to disruption can be viewed as unreasonable behaviour which an award of costs can be sought by other interested parties. If anybody does interrupt on a third occasion follow into warnings in the interest of fairness to all participants, which is power, so I will ask the case manager to exclude them from the hearing.

09:05

The introductions are now complete. So before we move on to the main business of session one, does anybody have any questions about how today's hearing will run?

09:17

seeing any hands or cameras going on, so I will assume that means we can move on to item two of our agenda and hear contributions from our speakers.

09:27

Before I introduce our first speaker this morning, I will let you know that is our intention not to intervene in your submissions. As long as you remain relevant and within time, we will not interrupt you. We're gonna listen to you carefully. And if my colleagues or I have any questions, then we'll raise them at the end of your speaking time.

09:45

So the first speaker I have this morning, because she is on the telephone is Mrs. Dorsey Mrs. Dorsey, can you press star six to unmute yourself please?

09:57

Yes, I

10:02

Mrs. Dorothy, Hello. Good morning. Hello, Mrs. Darcy, I can hear you now. Now believe you're speaking on behalf of yourself and your husband, Steven Dorsey this morning. Is that correct? Yes, that's correct. Okay, then in that case, you will have the full 10 minutes, five minutes each. And what we'll do is we'll let you know, when you're halfway through at five minutes, and then again, I'll let you know when you've got one minute remaining.

10:30

Okay, so if you can just yet begin whenever you're ready.

10:36

All right. Well, first of all, I just like to say thank you to Emory for his patience this morning. I was trying to join through my smartphone and successfully Anyway,

10:48

good morning. My name is Patricia Dorothy, and my husband and I live next to the proposed cable routes

10:57

and how I would like to raise the following points.

11:01

The pre enabling works for the cable route, entail erecting fences. Once hedge rows are removed, and installing the whole road from main road access points. Obviously areas will be needed to store equipment to do this. Where will those areas be and how will they be accessed by the contractors, I am concerned that existing farm tracks will be used. And if that is the case, the temptation to continue to use these tracks throughout the build will be hard to stop.

11:41

The construction noise will have to be at a reasonable level. And I believe that scottishpower renewables sink 65 decibels is acceptable. I would like to know what that noise level sounds like. And as Mr. Rupert Forney, Taylor only had five minutes on which to speak to make his points. Through assessors, I sincerely hope that there will be a future opportunity for him to speak to enable me to understand more clearly exactly what the construction noise will entail.

12:17

To ensure the construction workers are aware of access points, relevant signs should be erected where access is not permitted. For example, no construction traffic access sign. The timing of these enabling works also need to come under the same ruling for construction activity regarding nesting and any other sensitive times to wildlife. The timescale for this work needs to be available and included in the overall time taken for the construction of the project as it will be of some duration. The impact communities while the enabling work takes place must be addressed noise, dust etc. I am mystified as to how scottishpower renewables are able to be so precise as to the length of time for the construction at landfall for this project, given the fact that so many obstacles weather conditions, but no one will stand in their way will penalties be put in place if that time fell over and

13:24

when removed live the whole road and construction site

13:28

takes place will the screening against dust and noise and visual intrusion be the last to be removed and equally the first to be erected. These construction consolidation sites are another major concern because exact location has yet to be announced and the impact they will have on residents and wildlife and noise and lighting fields will not be insignificant.

13:55

Reference has been made regarding the impact of these construction sites. And having heard of her knowledge of the disruption caused by these sites, I will take a lot of convincing that it will be negligible. It's mentioned in the outline construction traffic document parking and loading 2.25 quite loading areas designated on construction consolidation sites. Once the contractor has been appointed, detailed layouts for the construction consolidated science will be submitted to Suffolk County Council for approval. signs will be erected at all construction accesses.

14:34

Another problem will arise when the whole road is to be removed because it is actually individually landowners to decide whether to leave the road in situ, as apparently was the case along some of the cable route at Boise to Branford that means the blight on the area will remain. Also it would not be desirable if piles of the spoil is left on landowners farm lay down areas as was the case

15:00

When a stretch of temporary road surface was removed and stored at home farm in sidewalks remaining there to this day,

15:09

I must again voice my worry for the wildlife. The complete sighting sections may well see evidence of the deer movement and winter visiting birds. Obviously not the sum of the timbers, as the government intend to encourage rewilding and propose to offer farmers a chance to bid to receive funding a scheme for East Anglian farmers, which means winning bidders will have access to 320,000 pounds to save the turtle dove, which has faced declines since the 70s. Now East Anglia is one of the species few

remaining strongholds. So is it not ironic that this construction, if it goes ahead, will in fact, decimate what is a very well established site for birds removed?

16:00

Here, I'm referring to several points along the cable corridor. I would like to say that as I'm in full agreement of the summary that SLS made in deadline for and also highlighted on Wednesday afternoon, regarding unnecessary removal of hedgerows, I would like to add to these hedgerows that were highlighted. These are number 10 number 12. And number 13. The proposed entire removal of them needs explaining surely the purpose of renewable energy is to help with reducing the carbon footprint. wanton destruction of hedgerows unnecessarily and trees is not reducing that.

16:40

I'm also concerned that archaeological and geophysical works may start at the landfall site as early as February this year, once the agreement is made with the present landowner, be agreed purchase or compulsory. And access to that site,

17:00

as far as I can see, is going to have to mean using sizewell whole road, which is where I live off of and the state of that road is in a terrible state at the moment it's full of potholes, and any extra construction, traffic along there will be very degrading to it.

17:26

I must say at this point, I am sure many others in this community are becoming weary and somewhat disillusioned by what is unfolding throughout this procedure. The Suffolk council are deciding to adopt a neutral stance now. And although joint MPs are collectively backing outline proposals in the National Grid electricity systems operated consultation for a new accorded coordinated approach to offshore wind. We're a long way from this actually happening.

17:59

I heard Philip Watkins speaking on Thursday, and he reminded me of many a conversation I had with that gentleman. Once that was I asked why science well and not Lowestoft. The reason given was connection difficulties to the national grid system at Northridge.

18:20

I really don't know what to say after this because I will put any other thoughts I have in a written submission. There is just one point I will make that has come to light is that in fact, if the developers of offshore wind put their turbines on higher calories, and therefore elevate the rotors above 30 metres from sea level collision by birds with decreased significantly, apparently Vattenfall developers are Vanguard and Borealis wind farms are doing just that. I will stop what I'm talking about now, because we're probably running out of time. And thank you very much, and have a good day.

19:15

Thank you very much, Mrs. Dorsey. That was very helpful. And just when you were referring to noise, did you manage to watch any of our issues specific hearing for this week? Some of it? Yeah. Yeah, because we did deal with noise and that and we did also have submissions and requests

19:33

for further hearing time on noise. Whilst we haven't

19:40

we haven't made any decisions yet, but it was just to let you know that those submissions have been made to us and it is something that the examining authorities are carefully considering.

19:49

Marvin, marvellous, that's very helpful. Okay, thank you very much, if you could just either either leave and watch on the livestream or press star six to mute yourself again, please

20:00

Yes, I'll do that.

20:03

Thank you very much, Dorothy. Bye bye.

20:10

Just before we move on, I see that we now have Mr. And Mrs. Courage have managed to join us. Mr. Mrs. Coach, could I just ask that you turn your camera off please just for now until I call you in.

20:27

Thank you very much. So returned to our list and the next person I have is Alison Andrews for the old owner Association.

20:39

Oops.

20:41

The camera

20:46

couldn't hear anything we can hear. I can hear you but I can't see you Mrs. Andrews. On my machines is my cameras on

20:58

Can I just pull up my pen? My panel members see Mrs. Andrews?

21:02

No, no, no. Right now does sometimes take a few seconds for the video signal to to become generally available. What I would suggest is if we can hear Mrs. Andrews, that we just proceed and trust that the technology will do what it's intended to do.

21:22

No problem that Mrs. Andrews as a representative of a membership organisation, you have 10 minutes in which to make your points today, Mr. Williams will let you know the slide when you've got five minutes. And then one minute left. And if you could just introduce yourself when you begin your contribution. We're ready whenever you are. Thank you very much. I'm Allison Andrews. I'm chairman of the older North Association. And the association is here to preserve and protect the history and its banks for the benefit of the public. And it seeks to do this by assessing major policies or projects that are likely to impact on the well being of the area. This particular project today we're talking about is going to have a massive effect on the area as the many oral and written presentation show. As the old law Association. I just want to give an overview on a couple of matters and the context for these wind farm onshore developments. Although geographically the combined a wind farm onshore project is proposed is to be a few miles north of the ordinal restaurant it could impact substantially on the history area to the project is proposed to be in the middle of the unique Suffolk coast and his area of outstanding natural beauty, which consists of the Suffolk sendings country running south and containing the order and or area and areas further south. It is an area that has many visitors because of its exceptional peace and quiet and beauty. The first concern here is the coastline. bordering the entire area of outstanding natural beauty is the heritage coast, which was designated as such in 1979 and managed by the natural law by natural England. The coast is not a series of bite sized segments. It's a long, long, fragile Suffolk coastline is all of a piece and has a long integrated geomorphological history of natural evolution and change is subject to many continuing dynamic forces. It's principally wind wave sea surges and sea level change working on the young geology. The coast changes through history from dunnage. A few miles north of the EAA wind farm chose landfall site, which lost its port and then town to the sea, passing areas of losses and gains going south to the unique and very long awfulness shingle spit which forms the eastern bank of the ordinary history. At the specialist you hearing on Tuesday, I spoke in detail about the geology at the very fragile sector of the coast at which landfall using horizontal direct drilling is proposed for this project. I spoke because of the major concern about the unseen consequences of manmade interferences on a fragile part of the Suffolk heritage coast, resulting in accelerated Cliff collapses changing coastal dynamics impacting badly on the coast further south weather the vulnerable settlement of thought, but obrah and the ordinary history I won't repeat the geographical details, but I need to add an overview that with climate change, there are two further factors sea level rise is forecast to be by between point one and one metre a year by the year 2100. And there are and there are now and will be far greater frequency of storms, heavy storms, all of which will impact on the fragile coastline through which the horizontal direct development is proposed. I did ask at an open day. Why not minimum

25:00

The damage coming in via the AI coming in via the Gallup and Gabbard cables. The reply was, they were put in very badly and it would be very expensive.

25:11

So there is great concern for the continuity of the area. natural processes we know will cause the coast to move slowly inland, but such pressures are increasing with climate change, and any drilling or construction operations which might exacerbate the rate of change need to be avoided. The other concern related to the economic fallout of the consequences of access to the area being affected. The old iron ore area is a very popular one for visitors in 2013, the association 10 year economic study of the value of the old and or economy, which involve both depth studies and on the ground surveys and what people did valued and spent in the area reveal the local economy worth a minimum of 100 million pounds a year. And we know that was an underestimate and we're now seven years further on all of this tourism and related activities brought in about 79 million pounds. If access became difficult for visitors, even a 10% fall off would cost the area updating possibly for

26:20

updating figures, possibly eight to 10 million a year in lost revenue and all the related employment. And I should add that tourism is is not a summer only phenomenon in this part of the country with visitors throughout most months of the year. The reason why this concern is relevant here is that access to the St. Louis area is primarily from the a 12 by the a 109 for into obrah and via the B 196, which runs through Sunday, which at Wednesday's hearing was also identified as being a rat from from Woodbridge to escape the blockages on the 12th. It does that by running via the a 1152 which leads into the B 1069. Through Snape

27:06

Il a wind farm project would involve substantial extra amount of traffic including hgvs travelling particularly on the a 109 for for several years as travelling on the main access route to the ordinare area. Assessing impact using average figures of traffic does not work here in peak holiday season. And peak holiday season. At is at least two and a half months in the summer, and is pretty high the rest of the year. The local population is probably something like three to five times the normal levels, taking account the large amount of holiday accommodation. Further hgvs on our local roads are quite frightening at times, as they inevitably take up more than half the width of the local roads. The very narrow roads and even the a road has hidden depths which are very deceptive to normal local driving drivers and therefore dangerous

28:05

can easily become blocked a single incident in a summer before the COVID summer when a towed holiday caravan and each going one way and an HGTV going another way. The Game Jam together on the a 194 leading to a blockage of more than two hours and many cars having to turn around and find alternative routes. I was lucky it only took me 30 minutes to get to Snape instead of five I had another colleague going to the same meeting took them an hour.

28:37

These experiences can only increase with the substantial works traffic necessary for the EAA wind farm project. And it's very likely that some tourists will go elsewhere and as I've said in 10% makes a significant difference.

28:53

Further under the EAA wind farm onshore proposals, the orbital Easton road the B 1122 may be closed for some years. So an event in on the a 109. For blocking it would mean that people in obrah whether they are residents, tourists or indeed our emergency ambulances would only be able to leave opera by the very long route via thorpeness and ordering them and then turn around via an audition or lesson. So the compound effects small roads. Hugely substantial increase in works traffic in size and volume could severely discourage areas the areas main economic activity. This leaves aside Of course concern about accidents and pollution and noise. So to conclude, the consequences the area in which the project will be situated, there will also be a wider pool of economic and possibly environmental damage or disadvantage caused by the construction of these projects. These can only be exacerbated by the possibility of the construction works.

30:00

variously sizewell, and in later years by other power projects should they follow after the EA project. It seems that rather, as our local MP had said, this is simply not the right site for this type of

30:15

project. Thank you.

30:21

Thank you very much. Mrs. Andrews. I believe my colleague, Mr. Smith, would just like to make a few remarks.

30:29

Yes, thank you very much, Mrs. Jones. And very, very briefly,

30:34

what I did want to flag in relation to, particularly those elements of your submission addressing the landscape and geomorphological history of the coastline

30:46

is to draw attention to the fact that in the background, the examining authorities have been undertaking a substantial number of unaccompanied site inspections to the coastline. And if you look at her USI on a company site inspection notes that are published to the examination libraries, you'll see what we've already done, with the exception of one inspection, the note for which is still in preparation and has not yet been published. And that is to flag that on the seventh of January, we did inspect the author of NES Peninsula, we were able to gain access with the assistance of the National Trust and undertake a full day's inspection on foot on the Orford Ness peninsula. I just thought it would be useful that you are aware of that.

31:32

Thank you very much, Mrs. Jones.

31:37

Thank you. I'm going to move on to our next speaker who is Trevor Armstrong representing the Harwich harbour fishermen's Association.

31:50

Mr. Armstrong

31:53

Hello, Mr. Armstrong, as you're representing the fishermen's Association, you've got 10 minutes. This morning, Mr. Williams will let you know with a slide when you're halfway through and then again, when you've got one minute left, if you could just introduce yourself at the start. We're ready whenever you are.

32:10

Okay, good morning, everyone. My name is Trevor Armstrong. I'm secretary of heritage harbour fishermen's Association, which represents 19 boats, and they are all under.

32:26

Oh, Mr. Armstrong, you've I think you've accidentally muted yourself.

32:35

Yeah, the para that you back? Yeah. Carry on that laptop crashed a minute ago, so transferred to the iPad. So I apologise for that. Yeah. So did you hear my introduction, though? Yes, we heard your introduction. I'll carry on from that. But I mean, the first thing I would like to say with regards to SPR is that during this whole process, they have fully engaged with the fishing community, and we've got a good working relationship.

33:03

And I'm quite confident that if planning permission is granted, we would have continued with that good working relationship and the documentation that's been provided would hopefully mitigate and reduce the disruption to our members.

33:21

In my submission, I haven't really got much more to say other than to just reinforce it.

33:27

The array site and wind farms, if any of our vessels leave heritage harbour, and as long as they're not going north because I run aground, they will confront a wind farm, it will be either gunfleet London ry, gala, pa COVID h dangling one and soon to be staying in three. So if we get granted permission reached angle one north, and he's dangling, too, that's another two. Now all these areas and the developer may say differently, become no go areas, and I'm talking about the array sites. because of the proximity of turbines, the risk to fishermen is just too great. Yes, on a very benign die, no toyed no wind, they can probably just operate. But that's only probably about a dozen times a year. Most of the time, the risk is too great, anything going wrong with a strong toyed, then sooner or later within minutes they would be on a turbine with either the gear or the vessel, and no Skipper will take that risk. So as

far as the fishing community is concerned for our fishing methods, those areas are no go. Let me come to the cables. I haven't got a full count of how many cables we have within our area.

34:54

Then but there's numerous every cable is it possible

35:00

hazard, we say way back when we were talking about each dangling one, that cables will not because of the shift in sandwich stay submerged, we've now got exposed exposed cables on the gunfleet. And the gathered, and how are they going to be resolved, we just don't know. But the other point is that every cable that gets permission for means there's going to be loads of crossings. Now every crossing can't be buried, it sits on the surface of the seabed. And the developer will probably say that it's fishable. And they will put suitable coverings on to enable fishing to continue. The point the fishermen will make is that is not as I see it, they see that as an additional hazard on the seabed. And again, they have to take the risk of whether they're going to tow over it, drift over it. And the risk of their gear, the ag is not insurable. You can't get insurance for gear, so they won't take the risk. So all 19 members have said to me, that's a no go area. Now, if you add that all together, what you're doing is confining the fishing areas on the east coast. And really, I'm not going to take any much more of your time. I want to say that sooner or later, the planning Inspectorate and the government must say, Enough is enough. And we've got plenty, far more than what we think is a fair share. So that's all I've got to say. Thanks for your time.

36:38

Thank you very much for those very helpful contributions. And just before you leave as Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Smith has some questions for you.

36:48

Thank you very much, Mr. Armstrong. And I guess the first just brief clarification that I wanted to make in relation to your submissions, is that and in relation to the enough is enough points, and I do take what you're telling us about, I guess the the accumulation of constraints as cable crossings, etc, remove what became effectively safe fishable areas from the sea?

37:17

Do I take it that you're putting that to us as a broader strategic point for consideration with future projects moving forward as much as a matter to be considered in detail in relation to these two projects? What Well, these two obviously the current ones, we can't do anything about the past ones, they we objected to all those but they have still been built. So that is yes, the future there must be some marine management, management's of the areas to ensure that, you know, it isn't just covered in in wind turbines. It's got to be and it isn't just winter and finds the planning Inspectorate deals with the aggregate dredging dump sites, if you look at what's happened around heritage, just lately, heritage haven have got an approval to create a new dump site that, again, is a no go area, it will be covered with soil. So it's ongoing issues. And then of course, there's the environment, things that fishermen like to support is the marine and mc zeds. They're going to come on stream, which again, is another areas that we know can't go about illegal commercial activities. Yeah, no, I, I hear what you're saying what I

would flag there is the very significant role of the marine management organisation as well as essentially now the almost the kind of county council for the sea, the local planning authority for the sea, and the value of your members continuing to have, you know, ongoing conversations with them as well around what goes for example, into marine plans. And there's just one other question that I wanted to check with you in relation to,

39:04

I guess, coexistence and the relationship that you had on day one, and potentially emerging on East Anglia. Three.

39:15

Have you been able to build and maintain a satisfactory working relationship with the applicants on either of those two projects? Yeah, the East Anglia. One, we worked with JIRA. That was great. We had a great working relationship, everything was in put in place. It was quite disappointed that Joe was taken off of that project, and a new person came in so then we had to start renegotiating some of those conditions. A standard in three hasn't really started yet. But But, but we're quite hopeful. And and this is sort of like praising up SPR is that they have

39:56

done far better than perhaps some other developers with regards to engagement.

40:00

This.

40:01

Okay, so in that respect in terms of the competence levels that we might have about

40:08

that delivery of that which they promised in terms of coexistence and fisheries liaison, your view is that we can be reasonably confident.

40:17

Yes. Yeah, I'll endorse that. Yes. Okay. Thank you very much for that assessment. That's, that's me concluded. So thank you very much, Mrs. Jones.

40:29

thank thank you. I'll now be leaving the meeting. Got some decorating to do. No problems.

40:35

Bye. Bye.

40:39

Okay, our next speaker this morning is Alan bouldard.

40:47

Morning, Mr. Ballard. Good morning, can you see me and hear me, I can see you and hear you. As an individual. You've got five minutes this morning in which to meet your clients. Mr. Williams will let you know when you've got one minute remaining. And when you begin your contribution, could you just introduce yourself, please? Thank you. Good morning, everybody. My name is Alan Boulard. I'm a professional composer of music and a resident of Reston.

41:15

And I think that I'm one of many composers, artists and writers who find real inspiration in the landscape of the Suffolk sanderlings and the coastline and its ancient buildings and its wildlife and its traditions. I recently wrote an orchestral piece called Kristen Moore, which you can hear on YouTube, but it's accompanied by images of the area.

41:40

It portrays in music one of my favourite walks to the area, just north of the 14th century for this church. It's a beautiful space, with wide skies ever changing crops, public footpaths, hedgerows and woodland, the Justice railway viaduct across hillsides. The electricity pylons that cross this landscape give a sense of perspective and hidden power, which I once found rather pleasing and exciting.

42:09

But things have changed. And now the pylons feel menacing, and frightening.

42:16

I always thought that green energy, wind farm energy was a really good thing. Because it avoided pollution it preserved the landscape. It avoided damage to wildlife or to humans. But that doesn't seem to be the case here. The proposal to build the substations on this side, and possibly to create an ever growing energy hub will completely wreck this farmland and will destroy the peaceful tranquillity of the village church and the village itself. Just imagine how this massive industrial complex with its noise and light pollution would completely change the character of this delightful place.

42:57

And justice concerning the construction process, which would take years is planned to repurpose ways right through the same links AONB, obliterating much of the sand links walk long distance footpath to the coast, with its trenches and its whole roads, and the landfall, destroying the dramatic coastal cliffs and their hinterland. And of course, alongside that, as we've heard, there'll be a massive increase in traffic, petrol and diesel fumes, and more.

43:29

Now, I'm at a real loss. To understand how this decision happened. We know that there are now better ways of channelling wind power from the sea to the users. But even if there weren't, why choose a non industrial area like this, rather than a brownfield site, it just doesn't make sense. It feels like a costly mistake.

43:50

I can see no financial advantages. The area relies heavily on tourism for employment, as we've heard this morning. The peaceful and calm beauty is what people come for. If that is destroyed, they won't come. The loss of the local economy will be immense. And the substations themselves will provide no local employment.

44:12

It's all just so sad. And the effect on the mental health of local people is immense. We can't turn back the clock of course. But if this proposal happens, what will our descendants our children and our grandchildren think of us when they see this wrecked landscape, a landscape no longer an inspiration to creative artists, no longer a beautiful place of recreation, no longer a haven for wildlife, no longer a real community?

44:41

Surely, the idea of green energy which I welcome is to preserve that beautiful countryside which is so important for us all, and not to destroy it.

44:52

So back to my orchestral piece, my personal response to this situation. My vision was a walk through the field.

45:00

Accompanied by the birds, the animals scurrying in the undergrowth, the land in the sky, the harm of the pylons and the threat of what may lead to come. And always there's the village church standing on the ancient pilgrims route which crosses the affected area. The threaten church, which today, as in the past, is the spiritual centre of the village.

45:25

And in the images that go with the music, you will see a landscape, which may never be the same again, I implore you to find a less destructive way to transmit this energy from the North Sea to our cities, towns and villages.

45:42

Thank you.

45:47

Thank you very much Mr. Barlow. Just before you go, can I just check that the photographs you've shown us today they are the same as the ones who you sent us a deadline one with your piece of music? Oh, yes. And Sophie, thank you very much for confirming that.

46:05

Okay, then I will move on to our next speaker this morning. Who is Bridget Chadwick Mrs. Chadwick? Good morning Mr. Chadwick.

46:16

as an individual, you have five minutes this morning in which to make your points again, Mr. Williams will let you know when you've got one minute remaining. And if you could just introduce yourself, when you start. We are ready whenever you are.

46:30

Thank you.

46:31

And Hello, my name is Bridget Chadwick. Um, I'm disappointed to hear that the site inspections are no longer able to include interested parties unless they are landowners. So local people and businesses who know the area best and have most to lose, again have no means of pointing out to the inspectors, all the environmental treasures that we know to be at risk from these potential projects. Have you ever encountered an adder sunning itself in a hedge or a slow worm on a path? Have you ever listened to the nightingales on a summit's night, also in glow worms in the dark.

47:12

I hadn't until I started coming here more than 20 years ago. And I was always a lover of nature and the outdoors.

47:20

Not you're likely to see others or glow worms or here nightingales this time of year. But we could have shown you the beautiful eastland where they are found and where bats fly and night jobs call in the dark. owls hunt and bird single day and the rare and fragile cervix and things are honed so much. But I'll come back to the site visits in a minute.

47:44

Like many other local people, I'm angry to read the stuff at Council is suddenly adopting a more neutral position on sprs when farmlands leaving us in our wonderful AONB high and dry again. Why this change position? Apparently it's due to SPR offering some mitigation and compensation, which includes 150,000 pound contribution for tourism.

48:08

That's peanuts.

48:10

We heard yesterday about serious losses to our tourism. And what other compensation I wonder, is the reality that we are being sold down the river in exchange for benefits elsewhere in the county.

48:22

Since we are no longer Suffolk coastal District Council, but now a minority in the larger East Suffolk Council, which includes Waverly, which has all the job benefits and none of the disadvantages is the AONB just being sacrificed in Australia.

48:37

Lately, I've also been shocked to hear about our local councillors being told to shut up with their objections and of bullying by a misogynistic cabal of other council members. So are we disenfranchised, and is our AONB just collateral damage.

48:53

Finally, returning to the site of inspections, I don't understand why these are being done. Now. I don't understand why they were not conducted at the very beginning, at the first suggestion of making landfall in the AONB and heritage coast, and building infrastructures on Greenfield sites, why it was not an immediate consideration to visit and asked two essential questions. One, is this location really a good one? And two, if not, why is it considered necessary?

49:24

The first is this location really a good one? What kind of impact will this have on this specially designated landscape and eroding coastline? Surely investigating those questions should have been asked back in 2018. or whenever it was first mooted rather than two and a half years later, after presumably spending millions on reports and procedures and hearings and presentations by SPR. And 1000s of letters 239 for different Secretaries of State for bass. This is important because I seriously wonder if there is any possibility of the planning Inspectorate just

50:00

Deciding at this point in the game of there being even allowed to consider that maybe it isn't the right location for this kind of industrial development

50:09

or these site visits in other words, all just about mitigation. When we know that the best mitigation can only be a sticking plaster on gaping wounds to a rare and fragile environment, the Suffolk samplings and to a lovely rural village and its inhabitants. And you may never know exactly where the night goes. And next, or where the deer roam, and the Badgers and foxes have dates, and the reptiles bask in the sun as we do.

50:39

So what are we to conclude as local interested parties that are all our love and passion which has led us to try and defend these treasures, the decades of local conservation groups improving the heathland environment, the days, months and years we've spent reading reports writing letters, and going to meetings, the sleepless nights, the depression, the ruination of our daily lives and our health, both physical and mental. It's not a paid job that is you.

51:12

After all, is a way to be left believing this is only a tick box exercise because you cannot conclude it is a totally unsuited patient suitable location for development.

51:24

Already worse than that, that despite knowing the location was not a good one. The second question, why is this considered necessary was never asked or answered. Of course, we need the support the

need for wind energy, but with so many wind farms coming ashore, they need a properly coordinated means of connection to the National Grid. Abdicating responsibility for creating this makes this whole learning exercise seem like a force of impossible mitigation. I questioned whether we are not all participating in the shroud.

51:58

I'm sad to say that Thank you.

52:01

Thank you very much. Mrs. Chadwick. I do we do understand that the strength of feeling in the community if I could just come back to you on the site inspections next week? We didn't really do the ones. We do understand that people are disappointed and frustrated that we can't carry out those site inspections next week in the way that we had originally planned. But unfortunately, you know, we can't set the record set aside the current public health controls on Coronavirus. And this is the only way that we under the current guidelines can continue with those site inspections at all possible to have additional ones so that local people can be represented. Well, what I would suggest to you is we did say at the beginning of this hearing that we are asking everybody to make submissions to us at deadline five if they feel that the current Coronavirus situation is causing people problems or if they have any opinions on how that affects the examination. So what I would suggest is if you could put that in writing to us at at deadline five, and it is something that the examining authorities will just have to take into consideration. And it's also fair to say that pretty much since the start of all of our appointments, we have made several other companies, sites, site inspections. And you can see a note of all of them on our website. Are the conclusions of those site inspections written up as well as there's a note of those site inspections written up not conclusions, because obviously we don't we're still in examination up at the moment and they are part of the examination. Thank you. Thanks very much. Thank you.

53:47

Mr. Chadwick.

53:49

Thank you. Again, you've got five minutes in which to make your points and we'll let you know when you've got one minute remaining. If you could just introduce yourself at the start. Please begin whenever you're ready. Yes, thank you. I'm Peter Chadwick. I'm a resident of the area and also chairman of the sandlings. And personally, I am very concerned that many of the local walks will be cut off and others may be totally uninviting, especially medium and long distance ones such as the sandlings walk, which is a tourist route that goes through this area of A and B. It passes all Breuer and Thorpeness. And then goes along the coast to Sizewell and is in common and then on to Minster. So it goes through what would be the landfall and the cable route, which is the width of a motorway and all the associated home roads. At present, we are

55:00

amazed when we walk the sandlings walk at the number of people who use it.

55:07

Many of these will be tourists staying in the area who have come especially for this kind of experience, and local people who are at the moment able to enjoy their beautiful environment.

55:23

Some understandings Walker carrying binoculars or cameras, spotting birds or other wildlife, and may have decided to walk from obrah. To minsmere or even further,

55:38

I gather that the Heritage Lottery Fund was involved in creating the San links walk. And in 2400, people from local community groups took part in a relay of walks to celebrate this.

55:59

And then its management was handed over to Suffolk Wildlife Trust. But now just over 20 years later, the whole enjoyment of the sanderlings walk is under threat from this project.

56:17

This is just one example of the of the myriad of negative effects of the project. And also personally, I very much look forward to taking a break from work and and going out cycling or walking in the local area to relax and such as cycling off road from sizewell to home abroad. And I am and I am dismayed at the thought

56:47

of the difference of trying to do this if the project is allowed to go ahead.

56:53

And also how many other people, tourists and residents

56:59

would be deterred from visiting the area.

57:04

I live outside Leysin and I need to drive to go shopping or go to Ober or to Snape. And I'm concerned, especially if there are other projects happening at the same time.

57:20

I bet I would find it really difficult just to get out onto lovers lane

57:27

with all the heavy construction traffic, or that I've missed an appointment because of congestion on local roads.

57:37

And the jobs lost in tourism would be far more than any jobs created.

57:46

I feel on all levels that the negative effects of this project

57:52

outweigh the benefits and that the project has come about as a result of there being no proper plan for on short transmission of wind energy.

58:05

I echo very much what others have said in other hearings about the need to be having the highest level of protection and what is the point of this if it is not added to and given due weight to all concerned. It's especially Suffolk County Council and a Suffolk County Council and east of the council who have a duty in law to protect and enhance the AONB and in my opinion, they have not exhibited this duty at all in their attitude to these projects.

58:49

projects do not belong in this very special corner he suffered with its strip of a 0 and B the suffix and links and the heritage coast. They need to be on a brownfield site connection or delayed until an offshore ring main solution is available.

59:10

Thank you.

59:16

Thank you very much Mr. Chadwick. That was very helpful.

59:22

Okay, I'm going to move on to our next speaker this morning, which is Charles courage.

59:34

Mr. Chadwick. Could I just ask you to turn your camera off now please.

59:44

Thank you very much.

59:49

Mr. Courage. I'm afraid I can't. I can't hear you.

59:57

Can I just remind that it's dark

1:00:01

Yes.

1:00:05

Mr. Smith I believe the colleges have now Mr. Mrs. Coach have now joined us in the meeting.
Apologies.

1:00:17

I can hear I can hear you now Mr. Courage.

1:00:21

No, no, I'm afraid I can't again. You're here. Oh, I can hear you now. Yes, I can he.

1:00:31

Mr. Mrs. Coach, are you are you wishing to take your individual five minutes each? Are you wanting to share your 1010 minutes?

1:00:42

Now I'm afraid we're having problems with the sound at the moment.

1:00:50

Can you hear us now? I can hear you now.

1:00:53

I can hear you now.

1:00:55

Can you hear us? Yes, we only hear you can't hear me. Hello. Can you hear me now? Yes, I can hear you now Mr. Coach.

1:01:08

Okay. Okay. This is coach. Are you? Mr. Miss coach? Are you wanting to share the 10 minutes left? Are you wishing to take your individual files? We'll share it and I think I may find myself doing more speaking in the my husband. I just said we've had a nightmare to get here this morning because everything went wrong that could have gone wrong on trying to join you and trying to even do it by telephone was impossible. So it's orbit in a state rarely do we have you know, so that's good. Yeah. A bit lost.

1:01:40

And what we'll do is we'll let you know when you're at your five minute point and then again when you've got one minute remaining. Thank you. Okay, begin whenever you're ready. Thank you very much. We are residents of Cal Salle village nearby, and our regular worshippers at St. Mary's, Kristen. my godmother when these ashes are entered in the churchyard, our backgrounds are farming. And mine involves many years in the voluntary sector, especially with the witness service in the Crown Court at Basildon and holding the Office of high Sheriff of Essex.

1:02:15

But we moved here two and a half years ago because of the tranquil unspoiled countryside, the dark skies, the beautiful coastline, restaurants, local cinema, golf courses, beaches and unrivalled bird watching. In comparison to where we lived in Essex, the roads are empty and the pace of life welcome Lee slower.

1:02:41

We ask SPR to explain how services in St. Mary's and in particular interments in the churchyard, and the service remembrance will not be disturbed by the noise generated by firstly the construction of the substations which will take years and the roar of hgvs and Once completed, the constant humming and vibrating resulting in the disturbance of peaceful worship. This is not acceptable.

1:03:12

However, we support the use of wind power as a form of green energy, and the two wind farms proposed EA n one and EA two

1:03:23

but not the landfall at the fragile cliffs of thorpeness on na and OB land, the cable trenches so wide and certainly not the substations that Friston the harm hugely outweighs any benefit. As everyone who has spoken before has said it is certainly not green

1:03:47

SPS decision out of the blue to apply to dump what will be a number of substations yards from the church and the peaceful village of Preston has come as a dreadful shock. It is a nightmare for all of us locally. As you can tell.

1:04:05

Why did SPR decide it's such a beautiful unspoiled rural location with suitable SPR representative When asked why he had selected Kristen described the area as urban industrial.

1:04:20

Does that mean any farming community with ducks, pigs, cattle and crops should be aware they must no longer consider themselves rural.

1:04:32

How do they think that all construction vehicles, hundreds of hgvs coaches and the abnormal loads could ever be accommodated on the a 1094 and the many Nairobi roads and lanes without causing immense disruption. And as we heard yesterday, deterring tourists which is the area's main income.

1:04:55

many locals use the be double one to one

1:05:00

Through Friston coming from all bruh and the surrounding villages to travel to Saks mountain railway station, the free school and Waitrose and Tesco supermarkets or in reverse to orebro championship

golf course and all the facilities at obrah, which you have heard about on previous submissions yesterday

1:05:23

in May 2019 as Alison Andrews coded earlier, my husband saw the collision with the bus and the HTV travelling east along the straight stretch of the a 1094 Sachs London Road. In fact, the road was blocked for over four hours causing immense local disruption. This would be a regular event if this goes ahead.

1:05:46

Did SPR ever seriously consider using the railway? If not, why not?

1:05:53

We are shocked at the damage that will be inflicted on this area of EOB. The loss of hedges, farmland and woodland. A, O and B, as we know enjoys the highest protection by government that should only be breached by exceptional circumstances

1:06:12

and Why the hurry? Why not wait for the results of the Bayes review? future generations will be appalled if this decio is approved, more haste less speed, or we will all have to suffer the consequences.

1:06:27

We would like to ask SPR how they plan to mitigate the knock on effect to care in the community. Has the examine officer been given figures around ambulance movement and if not, have they approached the emergency services about the expected effects on traffic from Ipswich.

1:06:46

It won't be just emergency ambulances and fire engines, but there will be agricultural

1:06:55

vehicles which will struggle to do their daily business in the fields around here.

1:07:01

We would like to query the wisdom of sprs idea of mitigation for traffic lights at the junction with Friday Street and the 12 it may make it safer, but not ease traffic flow. All local to us this road can tell you it will cause huge delays and queues running back to miles would the only solution is a bypass we're famum and Stratford some town culminating in a roundabout. This will protect the excellent Friday street from shop as traffic lights would cause long queues and block the entrance damaging their business.

1:07:37

SPR has said that bramford and Kristen are similar. This is not correct. At the 2011 census population of Branford was 2303 compared to Friston of only 344. Branford is only three miles west of Ipswich, the

main county town, it has a large sports ground with clubs, a co op supermarket and a primary school and to churches.

1:08:05

The other question I have to the examining authority are you holding the national grid to account

1:08:15

this pandemic has made the local residents participation in this process much more difficult, as we have found this morning, as only virtual hearings have been possible. In our case, we were without the internet completely earlier on this year, which denied our involvement with your last hearing completely.

1:08:35

And on Wednesday, this is not helped because we were told we would have to hurry our submissions not mine but other people's as we are apparently according to yourself short of time. This is a massive potential development and should therefore be allowed all the time necessary for everyone to respond to the sometimes late submissions submitted by the applicant. These are frequently in writing. So we all have to trawl through hundreds of pages of written language is written in a language very difficult for the layman to understand. It's not an easy process for us.

1:09:15

I would like to say we endorse the comments made yesterday by Marian fellows and Michel Barnier in particular, and the Chadwicks. Today and Alison Andrews.

1:09:27

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to speak. Thank you.

1:09:35

And is Mr. COVID speaking today or have you spoken on behalf of both of you this morning, Mrs. Courage?

1:09:44

we've we've done a we've done our bit I think between us. Thank you. Okay, thank you very much for letting me know. Thank you very much for your contributions there this morning and I'm sorry that you've had so much trouble joining this this meeting.

1:09:59

Just

1:10:00

Before I move on, I know Mr. Griffith has agreed to speak in session one but we do still have some spare capacity in session one this morning so I was just wondering as we have them in the hearing would miss miss Fulford and Miss Gilmore

1:10:17

like to speak in session one this morning after I've come to Mrs. Fife.

1:10:24

nymphal So yes, I'm very happy to speak in that very grateful to miss Fulford I will come to you after after Miss faith in that case and Fiona Gilmore

1:10:38

I'm very happy to speak whenever you want lovely I'll come to you after Miss Fulford in that case then skill more Thank you.

1:10:47

Okay, and could we hear from Margaret face please?

1:11:01

Miss five.

1:11:13

Miss Fife Can you can you hear me?

1:11:20

Okay, and in that case, because we're getting it won't unmute. Oh, there we are. That I can hear you now Miss five, right.

1:11:30

Okay, yep, Miss five. You've got five minutes, which means your points this morning, will let you know when you've got one minute remaining.

1:11:38

Thank you.

1:11:41

Thank you.

1:11:44

Good morning. Please begin. Good morning. My name is Margaret Fife. And my husband and I have lived in Austin for about 18 years. All our married life we've lived in the country. And we chose Preston as a peaceful place for our retirement.

1:12:02

Villages very friendly and lively, with many activities in which we have participated and have always enjoyed.

1:12:11

Many events have been celebrated in style on the village green, ranging from classic cars, urban gardens, greens, Diamond Jubilee, and many more.

1:12:21

These events attract visitors from other local villages and tourists.

1:12:26

This is a very popular place for holiday makers. And there are many cottages in the village which cater for them.

1:12:33

This is a happy situation we were until recently.

1:12:38

With the threat of the construction and development of the proposed sub giant substation, there will be little to attract tourists or visitors.

1:12:48

People enjoy the wonderful work walks along footpaths travelling for centuries across far reaching fields and woodlands.

1:12:57

We are encouraged to and are experiencing the benefits of walking and appreciating the countryside. hedgerows in the spring here are bursting forth with flowers.

1:13:10

A wonderful one another wonderful spectacle is the night sky. There are very few lights in forest and and on a clear night. The night sky is magical.

1:13:22

With the proposed development comes the desecration of the countryside. The closing of footpaths together with lights from the substation substation buildings, it would be a tragedy to lose these wonderful natural sites.

1:13:39

Why is a colossal site industrial site being thought appropriate to be close to this area of natural beauty?

1:13:50

As you already know, our 12th century church is a great two star listed building. With many amazing historical artefacts inside

1:14:00

the graveyard is a beautiful peaceful place, the grace of many deceased villages, a war grave, and those are three Lord mayors of London.

1:14:11

On remembrance Sunday, the war memorial attracts families of those who lost their lives in the two world wars, and is indeed a very special day for Kristen.

1:14:23

During our summer, we had to pop up concerts in the churchyard organised by local residents. And these were much appreciated by many, many people.

1:14:35

A friend kindly took this photo from the top of the chip tower at St. Mary's Church, from which you can imagine the sight of the proposed substation.

1:14:49

On this photo

1:14:51

you did ancient footpath linking a couple of parishes to Friston is visible skirting fields

1:15:00

Looking north from inside the church through the plain glazed windows, the view would be entirely dominated by the proposed substation. Hardly a view to cherish

1:15:13

and during this, the piece of with a potential noise from the construction of the proposed substation would be something of a horror.

1:15:23

Again, why is it appropriate to build an industrial site here

1:15:30

my final point is the transport situation.

1:15:34

Kristen and its surrounding villages are reached from the a 12 by narrow meandering roads highly unsuitable for any large vehicle.

1:15:45

I was also one of those unfortunate to be on the a 109 for when the accident occurred between the caravan and the lorry, and only wished I'd taken a photograph.

1:15:58

Proper. Proper footpaths are in short supply. So dog water walkers, mothers with small children, school children and the elderly will be in danger every day from the additional traffic. How will ambulances doctors, police or fire engines be able to reach any point of danger in a hurry.

1:16:21

We love living in Friston but are aware that all this worry is causing many people anxiety and health problems. Please consider the effect of all of this is having on us. The people who live here despite negative comments. I'm in favour of green energy, but not at the expense of ruining the countryside. Thank you.

1:16:50

Thank you very much misfire that mishap. I'm not sure whether you're aware, but you actually had your camera off during during that and so unfortunately, we didn't see the photographs that you put to us. But Could I ask that you submit them at deadline five please with your post hearing submissions? Yes, I will. Thank you. Thank you very much.

1:17:14

Okay, I'm going to move on to our next speaker who is Nicola Fulford now.

1:17:24

Good morning, Miss Fulford and thank you for moving into session one for us. You have five minutes this morning in which to make your points and we'll let you know when you've got one minute remaining. Please begin whenever you're ready. My name is Nicola Fulford and I live in Boston with my husband. I also want to mention that the careless manner in which the applicant has treated the local community has caused and continues to cause exceptionally high levels of stress and anxiety. And in addition, there is a great deal of mistrust. I've been listening to the issue specific hearings over the past few days, and fully support representations made by CAC C's, save our sound links, counsellor fellows, and all the other independents that brought their wisdom to the process. Also thank you to them for all their efforts. It's greatly appreciated. There is not a single part of SPR onshore project that makes any sense to me. And this a company that is flying the flag of green energy, and continually promotes an environmentally friendly agenda. I believe the expression used to describe companies that behave in this way is willful blindness. At what point does common sense kickin just because you have the technology to force something to work doesn't necessarily mean that you should, and you certainly should not be embarking on a project, which is at the detriment of others. The End simply do not justify the means. The village of Friston sits in a completely rural setting, with no pre existing industrial buildings, the tallest building four miles the grade two star listed church. In addition to sharing curtilage with the church, the proposed substation site also shared the boundaries of Western house, a grade two listed building, meaning that the building is protected by law and must be maintained to a specific standard by its custodian, which at this point in time just happens to be my family.

1:19:23

As we all seem to think the impact on the house and its surroundings is negligible. Even though we share a curtilage the actual house is situated approximately 350 metres from the site boundary, with roughly just under 180 degrees frontage of exposure, yet no one from SPR asked to come for a visit

prior to the site being selected. The actual consequences for first in house are that it is unlikely to continue in the present form. Our field of 16 acres of agricultural land will have to be withdrawn to accommodate our own attempt mitigation to protect

1:20:00

prison house from the site, as there is currently no proposed integration by the applicant. The charm of the house is a combination of its heritage and the rural setting in which it sits. Once you take away its rural setting, it ceases to have the same value. It just becomes a financial liability. The house in its grounds will fall into disrepair as nobody in their right mind will be prepared to take on the financial responsibility required for its upkeep, its demise will inevitably impact on the character of the village. It is worth mentioning that all the other listed buildings that surround the site are equally jeopardised house sits on almost equal and opposite sides of the value to the proposed site. Due to its close proximity during the time the industrial build, the house will inevitably get covered by dust and pollutants from that site. As a human being living in the house, the noise alone being emitted from the site will be unbearable. This onslaught of sensors will have to be endured for 12 hours a day, over a six day working week for up to seven years, possibly more seven years. Hundreds of lorries per day with our relentless vehicle reversing beeps, a pitch chosen specifically because it demands an immediate human response. During the hours of darkness, there will be the noise from generators running all through the night and during the winter working days to enable the lights to shine on the site. These generators will also be belching out pollutants, both particulate form and in fumes. I say hours of darkness. But the truth is, there will be no darkness for seven years, possibly more.

1:21:45

How will we all live? More importantly, how will we sleep? What about the wildlife? Our current normal is living in a rural environment with clean, unpolluted air accompanied by peace and quiet, spending a great deal of our time outdoors and sleeping with our bedroom windows open. If this project is given the green light in order to replicate this will be condemned to having to wear noise cancelling headphones, maybe even respiratory mask, the dust and pollution are particularly overwhelming. It's going to be a living nightmare. I really do worry how we are going to cope. Finally, if we do indeed survive, there is no guarantee that we won't be left with a constant hum that will perpetually invade our lives. How is that a negligible impact? We keep being told this project is of national importance. But what seems to have been lost in the mix is that this area, the heritage coast, it's also of national importance, no more more than now. The influx of people seeking solace by the coast and walking the many public footpath since it within the SSR SS SSI AONB and beyond including Loki around villager Preston during the past year was extraordinary. The current headlines are all about the nation's mental health and well being staycations. With many of the UK seaside resorts already fully booked for this summer as a result of both Brexit and COVID mislaid, just as kita concrete

1:23:12

urge you to reject this application and redirect it to the brownfield site recommended by tourists coffee and representation. Thank you.

1:23:24

Thank you very much Miss Miss hillford for your contributions.

1:23:29

Can we move to our next speaker this morning, please. And that is Fiona Gilmore.

1:23:39

morning, Miss Gilmore.

1:23:42

Good morning inspectors. I prepared something burning the midnight or

1:23:51

most of the speakers who preceded me have probably covered 50% of what I was going to say. So I'm going to tear up a little bit of this. And I'm going to speak from the heart. I've had to speak all week. I must say I'm pretty drained. And

1:24:18

sorry.

1:24:21

It's all It's all right. If you need to take a moment please please do so. Bridget.

1:24:27

Bridget is very brave.

1:24:30

She has a lot of courage. Because she said things that most people couldn't say.

1:24:37

If we had accompanied you on the visits

1:24:43

we would have shown you

1:24:47

we would have shown you this.

1:24:49

This is a footpath

1:24:53

sign in Preston.

1:24:57

I don't live in Preston. But I

1:25:00

I walk there quite often with my dog because it's a very beautiful pilgrims path walk.

1:25:06

And that will no longer be relevant. It won't have any meaning.

1:25:15

This

1:25:17

is a photo of the sandlings

1:25:21

a beautiful walk, where we take our dog,

1:25:26

one of the most tranquil beautiful places on earth.

1:25:33

This

1:25:35

is a photo of the crumbling cliffs that thorpeness where a man died when they crumbled.

1:25:45

Over a year ago.

1:25:50

You have heard from some very, very articulate people this morning. For the first time, I don't feel quite so articulate. So instead of my

1:26:04

plan speech, I want to say the following.

1:26:10

You only need to look at the radio point two point road system

1:26:18

that we have because of our five asterisks. The geography explains so much about why this is the wrong site.

1:26:29

Those asterisks mean that our roads, our archery roads, main arterial routes, the a 1094. On the afternoon in September, at the time of the harvest, you have two tractors, five bicycles, and ambulances, ambulance trying to pass two white vans and HGTV

1:26:56

kids who are being sent back home after school. And it is, in a sense, a challenge for all of those different reasons. This road if you think about it, to have hgvs for the EA one and an EA two projects. On top of all of that, it is asking for trouble.

1:27:24

I want to just say that broad comparisons have been drawn during these examinations, and they are very dangerous. The reality is that the devil is in the detail.

1:27:39

Friston a tiny, beautiful rural, unspoiled mediaeval village of 353 people is not like for example bromford and yet in these hearings, we have heard them described as very similar. They are not

1:28:00

Branford is three miles west of Ipswich, a city of three quarters of a million people.

1:28:09

Preston is four miles from all bruh a beautiful seaside coastal town

1:28:18

of 2500 people.

1:28:22

So when we look at comparisons, look at the a 14 The road to Felixstowe and the port. It is just over a mile from the turnoff on the a 14, to Branford to get to Preston. You have to if you like Trek, across country lanes, and you have to manoeuvre your way through so many more issues and problems. As we heard the other day, the railway bridge on the a 1094 can't be strengthened can't be widened, nothing can be done.

1:29:01

I'd like to leave you with something that for me means an awful lot.

1:29:09

And that is that you consider very serious to me

1:29:15

rejecting the on site location for this substation, and interconnect a complex that could be the largest in Europe. And you accept in order to continue to meet our 40 gigawatt goals, the offshore wind farms please would you consider that inspectors as a positive and constructive way forward so that we ensure Miss Gilmore

1:29:51

and I've just finished my sentence and not at the unacceptable expense of people's well being

1:30:00

Health. I'm seriously their lives. Thank you for your attention. Thank you very much for your contributions from Skidmore and appreciate that you you stepped forward into session one for us there today.

1:30:14

What we've now reached the end of the list of speakers for session one, and I would like to thank everyone very much for your contributions, we will consider them all very carefully. Can I remind you that as you've already spoken, and we do need to make space in the system for the next round of speakers, could you now leave the hearing, but if you do want to carry on watching, you can switch over to the live stream which is available on the national infrastructure planning website. You can watch there without affecting the network capacity available for the speakers in the following session. The joining process for session two starts at 1150 and the session itself starts at midday. I will now adjourn this hearing to session two. Thank you