

My name is Margaret Fife and my husband and I have lived in Friston for about fifteen years. All our married life we have lived in the country and we chose Friston as a peaceful place for our retirement. The village is very friendly and lively with many activities in which we have participated and have always enjoyed. Many events have been celebrated in style on the Village Green, ranging from Classic Cars, Open Gardens, The Queen's Diamond Jubilee and many more. These events attract visitors from other local villages and tourists. This is a very popular place for holiday-makers and there are many cottages in the village which cater for them. This is the happy situation we were in until recently. With the threat of the construction and development of the proposed giant substation, there will be little to attract tourists or visitors. People enjoy the wonderful walks along footpaths trodden for centuries across far reaching fields and woodlands. 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. Another wonderful spectacle is the night sky. There are very few lights in Friston and on a clear night the sky is magical. With the proposed development comes the desecration of the countryside, the closing of footpaths, together with lights from the substation buildings. It would be a tragedy to lose these wonderful natural sights.

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

As you already know our 12<sup>th</sup> Century Church is a Grade II\* listed building with many amazing historical artefacts inside. The graveyard is also a beautiful, peaceful place with graves of many deceased villagers, a War Grave and those of three Lord Mayors of London. 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 Friston. During last summer we had two outdoor "Pop up" concerts in the Churchyard, organised by local residents and these were much appreciated by many people. A friend kindly took this photo from the top of the tower at St Mary's Church which shows only too clearly the site of the development of the proposed substation. On this photo the ancient footpath linking a couple of parishes to Friston is visible, skirting fields. 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 or peace to find with the potential noise during the construction of the proposed substation.

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

My final point is the transport situation. Friston and its surrounding villages are reached from the A12 by narrow, meandering roads. Highly unsuitable for any large vehicle. I was also one of those unfortunate to be on the A1094 when the caravan and large vehicle “came together” and only wished I had taken a photograph. Proper footpaths are in short supply here so dog 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? Those who will work at the site, either during the construction or later at the substation, may be tempted to take a short cut through the village which could be seriously dangerous as these roads are not designed for this degree of increase in traffic. This must be seriously discouraged as it could be highly dangerous for Friston residents with potentially additional traffic.

We love living in Friston, but are aware that all this worry is causing many people anxiety and health problems. Please consider the effect all this is having on us, the people who live here. Despite my negative comments, I am in favour of Green Energy but NOT at the expense of ruining the countryside.



Figure 1. A view from the stone wall and tower at the site of the Roman fort of Vindonissa, Switzerland.

If there are any problems please contact me.

Kind regards,

Margaret Hill