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To: [East Anglia ONE North](#); [East Anglia Two](#)
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We would ask the planning inspectors to carefully consider the following aspects of these proposals submitted by Scottish Power Renewables:

Cumulative Impact: It is very clear that if permission is granted for the building of these substations the whole area around Friston will be turned into an industrialised zone. We know that National Grid are already pointing energy companies towards Friston and suggesting that they can use the area to site their infrastructure. The nature of the area will be changed beyond all recognition and the leisure, tourist and agricultural businesses which the area depends on and which has been built up over many years will be irreparably damaged. Jobs will be lost. Infrastructure plans from other energy companies are in the public domain and the cumulative impact of their construction must be taken into account.

Flawed RAG assessment: It is also clear that the RAG assessment which SPR used to choose the site at Friston was seriously flawed, our suspicion is that it was designed to come up with an answer that had already been decided on. It gave insufficient weight to the heritage of the surrounding area including the listed Church, buildings and houses which will be dramatically affected if this scheme goes ahead. The views across the fields towards Friston will be ruined, ancient public footpaths and pilgrim ways will be destroyed. From Clouting's Farm we will effectively be cut off from our village, unable to walk to St Mary's Church without a long detour along a road and then back right past the substations. The pleasant walk to the village hall and village pub will be destroyed. These are footpaths that have been used for hundreds of years and they should be preserved and protected completely

BEIS review and OFGEN proposals: You are aware of the review that has been called for by the Secretary of State into how, as a country, we resolve the issue of transporting power generated offshore to areas where the power is needed. It would be terrible to allow the wholesale destruction of this precious area because of an argument over timing. We understand the urgent need to generate and deliver carbon neutral power but this construction would certainly not be carbon neutral. We would like to suggest that permission could be granted for the construction of the offshore portion of the project, the wind turbines, but that the onshore connection be reviewed so that a better and less destructive option can be found. OFGEN have recommended that the distribution of offshore wind electricity generation be taken out of the hands of the privately owned National Grid due to a clear conflict of interest. This shows that, once again, a slight timing delay could be enough to save this area from irreparable damage. SPR's announcement during the hearings that they want to bring forward development to 2024 shows that they are desperate not to be included in the BEIS review, it is truly shocking that a company should be so keen to vandalise our countryside rather than join in the BEIS review that is bound to come up with a better and less damaging proposal. From the outset the plan was for the four EA projects to have a joint infrastructure plan for the distribution of power. SPR's incompetence with regard to the Bawdsey to Bramford cable route has resulted in this catastrophic plan to build a Wembley Stadium sized structure beside a medieval village. It must not be allowed to happen.

AONB: If the inspectors visited the proposed cable landing site at Thorpeness you will have seen the perilous state of the crumbling cliffs. The area is AONB land and this in

itself should be enough reason to throw the plan out. It is obviously a dangerous and unsuitable site that will cause terrible damage to a protected area. The testimony from Dr Gimson on behalf of the Warden's Trust was powerful and shows how many institutions and organisations in the area will be put at risk by these plans. SPR need to find a site outside AONB to land their cables. The unnecessarily wide trench will then be gouged through AONB land for at least 9km to get to Friston. Why does the trench need to be 62m wide? SPR have already said that they can reduce the width at "pinch points", if it can be narrower at pinch points why can't it be narrower the whole way? SPR must justify every meter of land that it proposes to dig up.

SPR behaviour: Throughout this whole sorry saga SPR have treated local people and local objections with contempt. From the start they tried to hide their plans by taking out advertisements in newspapers far away from the site (Lowestoft). We live very close to the proposed site and yet we received no notification from SPR until the search process was well under way. These facts were raised by us throughout the consultation phase and we never received a satisfactory answer. At a presentation in Friston Village Hall when questioned by a concerned resident of the likelihood of the project going ahead Ms Young from SPR was heard to say, "well I've never lost a project", as if the whole process was a game to be won or lost. This process has already devastated lives in the area, pushed some people to the brink of self-harm and caused serious mental health issues to many. This is not a game; these are real lives, and we are genuinely trying to save a protect a precious piece of land which should never have been considered for development. SPR's behaviour during the open floor hearings has given the inspectors a taste of what we have had to put up with for the past three years. Plans changed without notification and crucial details buried in reams of paperwork. The paltry "mitigation" that is on offer is a disgrace, a few spindly little trees cannot hide a development on this scale. SPR are now trying to pick off objectors one by one, they have persuaded East Suffolk Council to go "neutral" on the plans by offering some jobs in Lowestoft and a tiny amount of money for the area that will be wrecked. No one should be fooled by this attempt to placate objections that come from across the region including from our own MP.

Local objections: The planners have heard from numerous individuals, local organisations and businesses who all claim that this area will be irreparably damaged if these plans go ahead. This is not, as SPR claim, a case of NIMBY-ism, this is a loud and clear message from everyone in the area that these plans have no benefit to us at all, quite the opposite, they will take what is currently a peaceful but vibrant area and completely destroy it. The tourist industry here is not just based around the natural beauty of the area but also the music scene at Snape, the golf and sailing clubs in Aldeburgh and Thorpeness, food and drink festivals that take place, cycling events and many other things. All these events have been developed and nurtured over many years and of course have been badly hit by Covid-19 restrictions. We hope that 2021 will be a better year and give us a chance to rebuild, to reopen our splendid cafes and restaurants, welcome people to our world class concert hall, host events and encourage people to walk and run and sail and cycle in the area. Sadly, at the moment we are constantly reminded of the threat to all this by SPR's plans. If you watched the recent film about the discovery of the Anglo Saxon burial ship at Sutton Hoo you will note that not only is East Suffolk a beautiful part of England but it is home to precious relics of the past. SPR likes to call this "The Energy Coast", but this is not a title we want or recognise. The people of East Suffolk are being asked to sacrifice a lot to provide energy to the rest of the country, we already have two nuclear power stations nearby with the prospect of two more reactors, enough is enough. We are begging you, the planning inspectors, to reject these plans, tell SPR to build their wind turbines but working with National Grid find a proper solution to the distribution problem. We cannot go on carving up huge swathes of the countryside and building enormous substations and interconnectors on pristine land, land that we collectively have a duty to protect, not just

for ourselves, but for future generations. The government knows this, which is why the BEIS review has been called for, let EA1N and EA2 be part of this review and produce green energy that we can all be proud of.