From:
To: East Anglia ONE North; East Anglia Two

Subject: EA1N EA2 Formal objection to the Examination extension

Date: 15 April 2021 09:30:00

Cc:

I am writing on behalf of Aldeburgh Business Association, to object to the sudden extension of the examination period for EA1N and EA2. This decision, with no notice or consultation, has caught us by complete surprise and made it extremely difficult to plan and manage this process on behalf of our members.

At the time of writing Covid restrictions for shops, pubs, restaurants, hotels and holiday homes are being lifted and members, having lost so many months of business, now need to focus on their work in order to meet the demands of an influx of visitors and make up some of the money that has been lost since the start of the pandemic. To suddenly announce an extension of the examination period puts an unreasonable strain on a group of volunteers that now need to focus on the future of their businesses and organisations.

Having watched, and taken part in, the hearings it appears that the decision to extend the process greatly benefits SPR because it gives them the opportunity to try to resolve the multitude of shortcomings in its own evidence that have emerged during the hearings while further testing the resolve and resources of the voluntary organisations that have put up such a sound and well-argued case against SPRs plans, particularly relating to cumulative impact and the advantages of alternative sites. Collecting further evidence and taking part in more hearings when there is a new and urgent need to meet pent up expectations from the public while complying with the safety demands of Covid is unreasonable.

We fully understand if the Examination panel need further time to examine the evidence but do not support an extension of the examination itself. If we had been asked if we required further time to the examination process, we would have said 'no'.

Furthermore, local organisations need to turn their attention to the planning process for Sizewell C and it is unreasonable to expect them to deal with both at the same time.

For the reasons outlined above, the view of the Aldeburgh Business Association is that the decision to extend the examination process is procedurally unfair.

Yours sincerely,

Aldeburgh Business Association