

To the Planning Inspectorate team,

Observations and direct experiences of the applicants investigation work on the proposed sub-station site at Friston.

1. Response from SPR to their designated information request email are too slow and the information provided is not fit for purpose.

I am signed up for 'Investigation Works update' emails – which arrive randomly (for the purposes of this representation I am commenting on the Friston information only)

| Date arrived | Day | Comment: |
|--------------|-----------|---|
| 14.5.21 | Friday | Date on title is 11.5.21 but not sent out until 14 th |
| 19.5.21 | Wednesday | Information given was incorrect so revised information sent the next day. |
| 20.5.21 | Thursday | |
| 28.5.21 | Friday | |
| 03.6.21 | Thursday | |

I copied yourselves in on a request for further information using SPR's recommended email (advertised as the correct avenue for further information). Firstly I did not receive a reply for over a week (request made on 19.5.21 – reply received 25.5.21 – eight days late – FYI, I received a response from yourselves the very next day having Cc'd you in on my second request to SPR for the same information on the 20.5.21 – which was much appreciated as at least I felt that somebody cared).

Secondly the responses to my questions were wholly inadequate (see below – I have remarked in blue my reactions to SPR's comments) – no effort had been made to give me the detail required

Dear Ms Fulford

Apologies that we didn't respond to your email sooner. In response to your questions...

(eight days later)

When will the drilling actually start?

The drilling commenced the day the rig/s arrived onsite.

.... and what day was that?

What are the working hours (and days) of the rig?

Permitted working hours are between 7am and 7pm Monday to Friday and 7am to 1pm on Saturdays. No works will take place on Bank Holidays.

... these are the general hours agreed - they are NOT the hours actually worked by the drilling teams – which were more along the lines of 8:30/9:00 to 16:30/17:00.

What level of noise does a single working rig make? What level of noise does a combination of two rigs working in tandem make?

The level of noise that a rig makes isn't being monitored and is dependent on many factors such as the surrounding area, weather and ground conditions etc. The rig/s will make noise, mainly a 'chinking' when the drill piece is in contact with the ground. Acoustic barriers will be used in areas where any onshore site investigation works are within 100m of a residential dwelling and in specific locations (if any are found to be necessary) for ecological purposes.

... the only helpful piece of information here is of "a 'chinking'" noise otherwise completely unhelpful. Of course noise is subject to ground and weather conditions, I live here so am aware of what different conditions/time of day have on sound and its ability to travel. Why do they not know what noise their equipment makes (surely it

must be available from the manufactures of the equipment)?

Best Wishes

SPR are the ones who have chosen a site right next to my house and the village of Friston. Prior to their arrival for investigation works we enjoyed piece – if their works are to disturb this and we are meant to work together for the greater good – then the least SPR could do is facilitate us with the correct information swiftly and accurately so that we can make arrangements to enable us to avoid stress (to be somewhere else, or do jobs that are inside the house rather than in the garden or indeed buy some noise cancelling headphones should we need to be outside). To just quote the standard working hours granted, not even an approximation of the drilling (start and finish) or find out the noise their equipment makes is both lazy and missing the point – in order to manage stress it is well documented that you need to feel in some kind of control. SPR's slow of response and the quality of their responses (when they did eventually arrive) continued the narrative of everything being a box ticking exercise with no real empathy or understanding of the distress their proposed project is inflicting of the residents of Friston village.

2. Vehicle reversing beeps have polluted the working day.

In my verbal response (at an OFH) I specifically mention the vehicle reversing beeps.

Whilst walking my dog on the public footpath I observed that diggers with their cabs facing forward were still making vehicle reversing beep sounds (which went on all day and were clearly audible from my house) – the workmen/women seem indifferent to this noise and I was not about to frog march onto their site (with the dog) to ask why a digger traveling forward was emitting this sound– in addition, my experience is that the workmen/women keep their eyes down so there is never an opportunity to be able to engage in conversation – there clearly is no point in getting in touch with SPR as they do not respond for days – why have we not been given a phone number of someone to call to enable an immediate resolution of a problem?

3. Infiltration rates – how can these possibly be accurate given the archeological investigation works (footfall, cars/trucks and industrial machinery) that had already altered the provenance of the soil in the fields prior to the drills arriving?

How can the infiltration rates currently being taken be accurate when swathes of the site have either been dug up - or driven over by all types of vehicle thus compacting soil that would have been fields?

In addition - surely the infiltration rates will be dramatically altered by the time all the works have been done and the final proposed substation is left – the soil, if not covered by concrete or other will have been compressed irreversibly from the weight of traffic from the build...

Best wishes
Ning Fulford

EA1 (EN010077) Ref: 20023553 & EA2 (EN010078) Ref: 20023554

