

29 November 2021

Gareth Leigh
Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Applications by East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO ('the Applicants') for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO Wind Farms and associated offshore and onshore infrastructure. (The East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO projects)

Your Refs: ENO10077 / ENO 10078

**Joint Responses of Simon Ive (Refs: 20023671 / 200233672)
and Mrs Christine Ive (Refs: 20023417 / 20023433)**

Dear Mr Leigh

Thank you for giving all Interested Parties the opportunity to respond to your letter of 2 November, 2021.

As Interested Parties and residents of Friston for 33 years, the approaching decision weighs heavily on our hearts and minds and those of our community.

We continue to express our opposition to the infrastructure proposed for Friston and that this should be considered as part of a wider review of how to manage more appropriately onshore transmission and its situation, whilst permitting the construction of the offshore development.

We start in a state of despair as our submissions and concerns lack sympathetic understanding by and are dismissed by the Applicants and other offshore wind farm developers and industry lobbyists such as East of England Energy Group as nimbyism.

Protecting our natural environment.

CoP 26 was as much about protecting our natural environment and not just green energy sources, including renewables (which we support but in a better coordinated planned manner than hitherto).

This has been the thrust of the submissions of local action groups, SASES, SEAS and Save our Sandlings and by individuals and our own Friston Parochial Church Council.

Accordingly, we emphasise our shared concerns for the preservation of our landscape which harbours so much flora and fauna of which

- badgers and great crested newts are just two of the species affected.

We share concerns for the offshore ornithology. As members of the RSPB, we fear the impact of all the energy projects on the nearby Minsmere Bird Reserve.

These fears and more have been exacerbated by the recent publication by BEIS of the OTNR Generation Map produced by The Crown Estate.

This dramatically sets out the enormity of the numbers and scale of offshore windfarm projects in various stages of gestation along the North Sea coastal areas of Norfolk and most notably East Suffolk (The Suffolk Heritage Coast).

If there are concerns for our natural environment and offshore ornithology in relation to these two SPR/NG applications, how on earth can these be reconciled with these other offshore developments? We note also that there is no mention of the National Grid Nautilus and Eurolink Interconnectors which will incur multiplying effects.

Flood Risk

As residents for 33 years, we have experience of flooding in the village, around the village hall, Church Road and Grove Road and through the centre of Friston. Low Road, Friston is designated as being within a flood plain.

We can confirm the increases in flooding highlighted by SASES in their submission of 18 November 2021.

These have been a constant source of frustration, not least being the uncertainty as to who is responsible and accountable for addressing, coordinating, planning and managing these issues and the requisite maintenance of the relief water course through the village - The Environment Agency and/or Suffolk County Council? To what extent are their respective concerns co-ordinated or in agreement?

We are not technical experts, but the gravity of the problems is such that SASES have engaged technical experts whose further submissions we support.

Cumulative and Societal Impacts

The publication of the OTNR Generation Map serves to highlight the shortcomings of overall planning within the 'energy sector' including government and regulators, particularly as it applies to the onshore consequences - the need for an onshore entry point and then cable corridors and substations to connect to the transmission network of National Grid.

Furthermore, the intermittent nature of wind power, notably exposed this year, raises the questions of storage which to our minds have not been addressed and potentially could require more local infrastructure?

The map shows a 'Clapham Junction' array of offshore windfarms, but no clear indication of the connecting points and consequences. The location of onshore substations is not clear for existing and offshore wind farm developments in gestation.

Are these destined for the 'blob' at Sizewell? This raises the unresolved issue of cumulative impacts

Nearby Sizewell C seems increasingly likely to be approved. This is a project which extends potentially over 10-12 years, requiring a workforce at peak of 7,500 and major disruption to the surrounding areas.

This coincides with the development of the offshore windfarms shown in the timetable of the OTNR Map on top of which are the NG Nautilus and Eurolink Interconnectors.

Just how is all this infrastructure construction to be planned and accommodated?

This has never been an area of high unemployment, albeit we acknowledge deprivation in some isolated rural communities and the need for regeneration at Lowestoft.

There are already shortages of labour and housing (especially affordable accommodation) which have been exacerbated by the consequences of Brexit and Covid-19. The trend for

country living away from urban life has already begun to have transformative effects on local communities and their economies. There is not the same degree of social engagement which is part and parcel of sustaining the local environment.

Do not dismiss the impacts of an ageing population, many of whom are retirees to the area. They have found fulfilment in bringing their various talents to support and sustain local institutions, organisations and countryside through their voluntary commitment.

We fear that this source is diminishing and being diluted and this will be accelerated by the influx of the workforce required for the infrastructure projects whose interests and capacity may not be aligned with the needs to maintain the nature and characteristics of the area.

Yours sincerely

Simon and Christine Ive

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