

**FINAL SUBMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE REGARDING PLANNING
APPLICATIONS BY SCOTTISH POWER FOR SPR EA1N and EA2 PROJECTS**

Interested Party: Aldringham-cum-Thorpe Parish Council

PINS Refs: 20023110

The Parish and community that we represent will be greatly affected by the Planning Applications submitted by Scottish Power for their two Windfarm Projects - East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two. We feel that we must again voice our considerable concerns relating to the entry point and passage of its cable routes across our boundaries, as well as the future use of the same passageway by the many other energy projects that are planned to follow.

It has already been confirmed that there are five more schemes planned, and probably another three after those, each seeking to make their way to a vast substation site in Friston, which will then become the largest complex of energy infrastructure in the UK. While it is usually thought that these projects should be judged purely on their own merits, it is inescapable that all of the future works heading to the same terminus must be taken into account. We must therefore raise again the issue of the Cumulative Impact that this will have on our parish and our close neighbours sited along this corridor.

It seems that National Grid and Scottish Power have been reluctant to recognize the scale of these works and the length of time that the series of projects will occupy this beautiful and environmentally important area of Suffolk, with its AONB, SSSI and SPA status. From the outset there will be multiple landfalls to a small area of coastline of crumbling coralline crag, through sandy cliffs that are already disappearing through coastal erosion, then plough, time and time again, through the fragile and unique ecosystem of the River Hundred Vale through the lovely woods and walkways into the fields of Knodishall, to stamp a 100 acre 'boot-mark' outside the lovely village of Friston. How will the cumulative impact affect the health and wellbeing of our parishioners as they face unending upheaval over a period of at least a ten year timescale? How will our Tourist Industry, whose visitors are largely drawn to our area by the beauty of our landscape and wildlife, fare as diggers and dumpers criss-cross their way across once quiet footpaths and habitats? How will the wildlife cope with the levels of light, noise and dust pollution? To deny the effects of the Cumulative Impact of these projects is utter lunacy. Our parish and our neighbours' will be ruined forever.

There are other options. We, as a Parish Council are wholeheartedly in favour of Renewable Energy, and we know that the North Sea is an abundant source of wind energy, but we feel that little thought and co-ordination has gone into how this energy

makes its way to the rest of the country. Great store has been placed, by government after government, on the use of brown field sites; yet here we are trampling inately over delicate and pristine countryside. We agree with our Member of Parliament, Dr. Therese Coffey in the 'split decision' approach to this application which would grant consent to the offshore infrastructure but reject the onshore works for further sites to be sought. The two most obvious options are at the former industrialised sites at the Isle of Grain and Bradwell, both directly on the coast and much nearer to London. It really is a 'no-brainer', as they say.

Aldringham-cum-Thorpe Parish Council