

From: [JENRICK, Robert](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Paul Spendlove - Electricity Substation in Friston - PINS
Date: 25 September 2019 17:36:12

From: Paul Spendlove [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 September 2019 16:43
To: JENRICK, Robert <jenrickr@parliament.uk>
Subject: Electricity Substation in Friston, Suffolk
[REDACTED]

To: Minister of Housing, Communities & Local Government

From: Paul Spendlove, 26th September, 2019.

Dear Mr Jenrick,

Scottish Power Renewables Proposals EA1N / EA2 Substations

I live in Friston and have done since 1992. I was a Councillor in Colchester for 20 years. I served on the Planning Committee and was Mayor in 1991/92. In all my local authority experience, I have never seen such a monstrous and devastating proposal. Residents in Thorpeness, Aldringham, Knodishall and Friston (as well as Leiston, Aldeburgh, Snape, Sternfield, Benhall, Farnham and other communities affected by the totally unsuitable and unacceptable access proposals) increasingly find it hard to believe that these applications could possibly be submitted with any degree of seriousness.

Set aside for a moment the cumulative effects of the National Grid Ventures, offshore windfarm expansion and EDF's proposals for Sizewell C Nuclear Power Station. These SPR proposals come onshore at Thorpeness, turn north towards Sizewell, and then follow the existing overhead power line close to Leiston, Aldringham and Knodishall, and finish up on the very edge of Friston with a 35-acre substation development and associated revisions to the overhead cables. Cable trenches require construction corridors of 50-60m and will cross three main B roads. The distance? Over 10 kilometres! Years of visual, noise, light pollution having a hugely detrimental effect on the amenities of nearby residents and road users. Ten kilometres of cable trenches! That's starting at the Houses of Parliament and trenching all the way to Hampstead Heath. That's just less than TEN KILOMETRES. And the COST? Have you looked at the proposals? You should. Have you visited the sites? You must.

The cable reaches the 35-acre development site just north of Friston, a site which wraps itself around dozens of homes and their gardens. It's a greenfield site to be filled with concrete and tarmac and developed with huge, 18-metre-high constructions in a concrete and metal industrial compound. The 20-year construction period and the lifetime of operation giving light pollution at night and continuous noise pollution and the constant risk of flooding, will destroy the whole village of Friston, and blight and devastate our lives forever. Have you looked at the proposals for Friston? You should. Have you visited the site? You must.

Consider the damage to the environment and its ecology, including the fragile yet beautiful cliffs (one of my very favourite dog walks) right beside Thorpeness houses (and not too far from Sizewell A & B); the damage to human mental and physical health especially in Friston; the massive increase in traffic and the introduction of HGV and Abnormal Load traffic on country B roads that barely cope now with our cars, bicycles, busses and farm vehicles; and so many other aspects that rational planning would not believe possible. Maybe the National Grid does?

If these destructive proposals become reality, it will be a travesty of the real world and natural justice. If the Secretary of State allows it, then it will surely demonstrate that there is a presumption in favour of ruining, at massive expense, the lives of many hundreds of people, for an otherwise laudable need to increase renewable energy.

With best wishes,
Paul Spendlove.

PS Perhaps not the best of parliamentary days to be sending you this!

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