

OFH 3 SESSION 1 Planning Inspectorate - East Anglia

Fri, 10/9 6:39AM • 1:30:52

00:04

Morning everyone, and welcome to today's open floor . Hearing three for East Anglia, one North and East Anglia to offshore wind farms is the third open floor hearing in these examinations. Before we introduce ourselves, I will deal with a few preliminary matters. Can I check with Mr. Williams that you can hear me and that the recordings in the live stream have started?

00:28

Hi, Mrs. Jones, I can confirm that the recording has started in the live stream is working.

00:33

Thank you.

00:35

I'm going to start by saying that we are aware that not everyone who has requested to be heard at these early openflow hearings has been able to speak on Wednesday, yesterday or today. If that is the case, and you are watching online or on the recording, we will hear you. There are more open floor hearings planned in October, but we're not listed to be heard. Then you are already at the top of our list for speakers for a new round of hearings in November. And you'll see the detail of those and the rule eight letters that we publish next week. We are holding this hearing in two sessions today. If you are here now then you'll be heard in this session in the order shown in Annex A on the agenda. Once you've been heard, you don't have to stay. If you leave, you can watch the rest of this session in the live stream. And if you don't, and you don't need to join the second session. Again, please use the live stream to watch this make sure that there's plenty of space in our computer systems for the speakers who would use a follow on in session two. And so two introductions. I am Caroline Jones, a member of a panel which is the examining authority for the East Anglia one North offshore wind farm application. And of another panel which is the examining authority for the East Anglia to offshore wind farm application. I am in the chair Today, I'd like to draw your attention to annex B of our most recent real six letter where you will find my brief biography and the explanation of the purpose of the examining authorities appointments. I made a declaration of interests at the preliminary meetings part one, and you can view that online if you wish. Excuse me, my fellow panel members will introduce themselves and I'll flag that lead to have brief biographies and the rule six letter and XP and may declarations other plenary meetings part one, I will start by introducing the panel lead wind Smith.

02:23

Good morning everybody. My name is Rynd Smith. I'm the lead member of this panel and I'll be leading on the main elements of the hearing today once the introductory session is over.

02:35

Good morning everybody. My name is John Hockley, a member of these panels. I will mainly be observing and taking notes this morning, but I may also ask questions if they arise. Thank you.

02:46

Good morning everybody. My name is Jessica Powis . I'm also a member of these panels. And I'll be mainly observing and taking notes this morning.

02:55

Hello, good morning everyone. Guy Rigby here. I may have questions, but my role today is primarily annotate notes. And if for any reason the internet fails us and disconnects any of us such that we're temporarily unable to participate. Our deputy will act for us. I'll hand you back now to Mrs. Jones. He was

03:19

also introduce our planning Inspectorate colleagues working with us on these examinations, some of whom you have already spoken to already. Emre Williams and having Jones are jointly the case managers leading the planning Inspectorate case team for these applications. And Marie Williams led the arrangements conference, and as managing the team today. They are accompanied today by two case officers, Paige Hanlon and Liam Fedden. Hopefully, the agenda papers for these hearings provided a clear explanation of our and your reasons for being here this morning to hold open floor hearings, which are your opportunity to raise anything that is important and relevant, and that you think we should know about and consider. Before we make any findings, or recommendations to the Secretary of State on either application for development consent, you will find information about the applications and documents produced for these examinations on the planning inspector its national infrastructure website. This has a landing page for both projects and further tabs and set out examination procedure, the timetable relevant representations and examination documents for each project separately. Our real six letters include the web addresses, please look at the website regularly because we are using it to communicate with you and to provide access to documents throughout both examinations. Now you know who we are and why we're here. I will now like to hand you over to Mr. Smith, who is going to lead the majority of this hearing.

04:45

Thank you very much Mrs. Jones. This is Rynd Smith again panel lead speaking now shortly I'll be asking the attendees for session one to speak in the order set out in annex serve the agenda, but just before I do a few final things to remember We told you in the agenda that today we're being live streamed and recorded. The recordings that we make are retained and published, and therefore they form a public record that contain the can contain personal information and to which the general data protection regulation applies. Does anybody have any questions about the terms on which our digital recordings are made, I'll just check to see if any hands raised or any cameras Come on.

05:26

I'll leave a little time.

05:29

And now I'm not seeing any requests. So on that basis, we'll move forward and take it that everybody has understood. My colleague Mr. Williams has provided me with the list of speakers who are confirmed for session one and the running order, as he has derived it from the arrangements conference. Open floor hearings are an opportunity for individuals and community groups to speak directly to us as the examiner or thora T's they're not confined to a particular locational topic, the topic of your representation is about the proposals is therefore up to yourself. However, we may disregard representation if it is vexatious or frivolous. Turning to this morning session, you should know the order that I intend to take speakers in. You have also seen the speaking time guides that we circulated with the agenda so you know roughly when you're likely to speak, please don't leave until you've had your turn, as if you do. We won't be able to include you in a later session, you'll be conscious that this is the last hearing and this week. Once you have spoken, we do ask you if possible to leave to ensure that there is enough capacity in our computer system for the latest speakers to join. You can watch the remainder of the hearing on the live stream that we have online, available from the national infrastructure planning website. I should also say this, I will need to be strict but fair in managing timings this morning due to the number of speakers that we have to ensure that everybody has their fair opportunity to speak. Please don't be offended if I have to ask you to stop talking at the end of your allotted time. If you have more to say that you didn't complete Remember, you're very welcome to submit additional material in writing for deadline one. And to do remember also written and oral contributions carry equal weight in these examinations. Now,

07:24

I'd like to just check that we have the applicant with us is Mr. Ennis speaking for the applicant today. Yes, good morning, sir. Thank you. Yes. Colin Ennis from Shepherd Wedderburn solicitors appearing on behalf of both applicants at this type of hearing. I'm also accompanied with a separate link by Stephanie Mill of my firm. We are in the collective instructed by Fiona coil of SPR legal. And I'm also accompanied this morning in the room by Rich Morris, senior Senior Project Manager, spr. And also Leslie Jamison, Project Manager for best pure.

08:04

Thank you very much, Mr. Ennis, now, as my colleagues have done in the previous open floor hearings, and as you are now, no doubt becoming accustomed, I will remind you that the main purpose of this morning is for us to hear from the interested parties who are here. So the applicant is here to listen in the main and not to speak. Before I close this hearing, I will provide the applicant with a brief opportunity in session to to make responding Mark's remarks on matters that you consider must be drawn to our attention, I would ask you to please confine those remarks to five minutes. Detailed responses can of course be provided in writing and deadline one. Anybody who is speaking in this session can watch the applicants response that will take place in session two on the live stream. Again, if there is anything that you hear them say that you disagree with, you can set that out in writing to at line one. I will remind everybody again, this is an opportunity for everybody here to have this say in fairness just as you when you're in the mid flight would not wish to be interrupted. And then please do not interrupt other speakers when they're in the midst of their presentations. If you agree with or disagree with what they say, you can make that clear to us in your own speaking time. Or if you've already spoken or watching on the live stream then again, please let us know your thoughts in writing a deadline one, every speaker should be allowed to make use of their full time to speak. Just a reminder,

deadline one that critical day is the second of November 2020. So there is plenty of time available to submit your views in writing following this hearing. If anybody does interrupt in a way that is unnecessary or disrupts the hearing, then take notes. I will warn them and I will ask them to allow the hearing to continue in an orderly fashion. If the same person interrupts again, I will want them again. And do be aware, repeated interruptions that lead to disruption can be viewed as unreasonable behavior for which awards of costs can be sought by other interested parties. If anybody interrupts again, on the third occasion, following two warnings haven't been given, I will ask the case manager to exclude them from the hearing. So, hopefully the ground rules are clear. And the introductions are now complete. Before I move on to the main business of session one, does anybody have a burning question of an introductory or a preliminary nature that they need to ask for it to be resolved now because it will not arise under any of the remaining agenda items. Again, I will just check to see if there are any cameras coming up, or hands being raised. Ladies and gentlemen, I'm not seeing hands coming out or hands being raised or cameras coming on. So we will move now to agenda item to the speaker contributions. Before I introduce our first speaker this morning, I will say it's not our intention as an examining authority to intervene in your submissions either just as I've asked all of the other interested parties to respect your contribution, so to will we we will not interfere, you will have prepared what you have to say and you don't want to be interrupted whilst you're saying it. So we will be listening to you very carefully. And if my colleagues or I have questions, we will raise those at the end of your speaking time we reserve only the right to intervene if you cease to be relevant, or you run out of time. So can I turn to the first speaker that I have on my list as a confirmed attendee today? Who is Graham Murray representing the Anglian energy planning Alliance as a representative body? Mr. Murray, you have 10 minutes in which to make your points. Mr. Williams, the case manager will let you know with a slide when five minutes have expired. So you're halfway through. And then again, when you have one minute left, when you begin to make a contribution. Can you also please introduce yourself self by name, and we ask everybody to do this, so that it is clear to viewers on the live stream and the recording after the event Who is speaking? So we're ready. So whenever you are.

12:26

Good morning panel. Good morning, everyone. My name is Graham Murray, and I'm a resident of Snape, which is a place that scottishpower didn't seem to realize was on their supply route. So sadly, no consultation was given to our village. Although that our parish Council's request, we were treated to an information evening, more of which later, I'm not so sure asking to speak on the third day was now such a good idea as there been so many eloquent, informative and precise presentations in the first four sessions, hard acts to follow. So apologies if I sound a little bit like a crack record and places. I represent the Anglian energy planning Alliance at EPA. The Alliance was created at the start of 2019 with a view to providing some element of support to then existing campaign groups active in the matter of SPR, and their plans to infiltrate a major onshore hub for the distribution of offshore generated electricity by stealth into Friston our neighboring village. This national need just became much higher profile with the announcement this week that renewable offshore energy production will be accelerated and should provide a significant amount of if not, in fact all our electrical needs by 2030. An interesting and no doubt challenging target to have, as to date the UK wind industry has been fraught with indecision, no joined up forward planning, fence sitting, oodles of spin distortion of economics, poor consultation, non existent feedback, etc, etc. We are launching a bid to become world leaders in this field which I find rather extraordinary considering we are so far behind and just about every area, but

ambition is a good thing and who knows what can be achieved with the right measured approach. We have tried to be diligent in this matter by consulting not only politicians nationally and in to regional councils, but also local businesses lobby groups, enterprise bodies, such as the Anglian LDP, and recently town and parish councils in great numbers from whom we have written in return received a very loud message of concern, which we in turn have taken to the Suffolk association of local councils who have taken it further to the national body. So no doubt we have seen and heard a wide variety of thoughts about these applications. And it is clear the common view is they will completely destroy the countryside next to Friston and disrupt a lot Part of the East Suffolk heritage coast for a very considerable time. But all this apparently is in the name of green renewable energy. I say hi, when Claire Perry trumpeted in March 2019 that offshore wind power would bring 6000 jobs to the region. She was in Lowestoft at the time so firmly in East Anglia. It was picked up by the council's press, elite p, et al, and repeated ad nauseum to the general public. With some patient digging, we found that the wildly optimistic figure 6000 appears in a report written by the aura Innovation Center at Howe University in 2018. Which report now has strangely been removed from public view, it pertains to possible wind created job opportunities as far north as Humberside. Not exactly useful for the residents of the East Suffolk region, where it is generally accepted, there will be no permanent land base jobs derived from offshore wind generation. As has already been said, there is clear evidence that in fact, the proposal will lead to a significant reduction in income to the region from tourism, and a subsequent potential net loss in jobs, not what is needed in an area where tourism and agriculture are the main industries and which enjoys one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country. It is ridiculous that PR campaigns constantly proclaimed that these developments will be the economic savior of our region, does it really need saving, and yet when one takes just a slightly closer look, one finds that the money jobs economic boost, call it what you will just a fraction of a fraction of the investment being put into these various projects.

There is in fact no evidence that scottishpower intends to direct any significant investment into this area. We understand for this hearing that you cannot take into consideration other separate planning applications of a similar nature, whether they have been launched or impending. But therein lies the exact issue, the cumulative impact and I think you may have heard those words before of all these projects, and there are significant numbers still to have applications but forward eight more we believe is simply unsustainable, make no mistake, it will break the infrastructure. At some pinch points, the main access road of the 1894 is only 18 feet wide. So how on earth will so many large trucks be able to safely navigate the route and not cause on variable disruption to the local residential and farm traffic, and there are no plans to improve this road. Snake lies directly on the supply route in their village information even scottishpower revealed that the peak construction they expect the traffic on the 1094 would increase by 70%. Which figure they blandly said was not of any major significance. Our villages already jam during the seasons when the Maltings is busy, the farms are working hard the tourists come to visit, you can take 30 minutes to negotiate the church Crossroads with several hundred trucks thundering through in each direction. On a daily basis this will become gridlock them cause so much chaos that people will start to take risks, there will be accidents no doubt, just in case no one has mentioned this, the knock on effect will be felt all the way up and down the 12th. So this isn't just a localized issue. God forbid that we somehow face the perfect storm and all these plantings planning application including size will get approved. The scenario of ruined lives is facing 10s of thousands of people forever and will destroy the Anglian heritage coast as we know it. Electricity project applications

are inextricably connected. And if they're in the same area derived from the same source, even if the current planning law states they must be judged separately, it ought to be so simple for a country recognized as one of the forerunners of the civilized world to plan and execute this next phase of our power generation. Yet the rule is so disjointed it makes a mockery of the word planning. Just no wonder that people are vexed. And it appears they're about to be thrown under a bus. It is hard and extremely stressful for the general public to challenge anything in this process, particularly in this remote way. If something's worth doing, it's worth doing properly, which would mean halting this application, sending out a proper plan that transcends this box to tempt. In future years, we want our children's children to point out to see and say, Wow, look at those wind turbines. Aren't we lucky that people were so clever to harness the wind? What a great way to power our country and not then to look behind them and say, but why did it have to mean excuse me concreting over East Suffolk.

19:43

This used to be such a rare and beautiful place.

19:47

If and I apologize for the plagiarism. This means change then let us embrace that. But this change must be sustainable and provide the best balance of social, economic and and environmental benefits for people. So we hope the Inspectorate can find in its deliberations, the resolve to replicate the attitude of that fable boy, who was brave enough to point and say what he did about his Emperor, we need government to stand up, make a plan that is fit for all.

20:27

Thank you.

20:29

Thank you very much, Mr. Murray, I, I will just raise one matter of it that you brought before us there. And that is relation to taking other applications or projects into account, because I do make need to make clear that we can and we do deal with cumulative and in combination assessment. So that means that to the extent that there are pub there is publicly available information about projects on the basis of the best publicly available information, we will and to do take into account the cumulative and in combination effects of other projects. So, so complete with a reassurance on that point. I think planning that fails to do that would be distinctly awry. And I can assure you it is not that arizer. So the rest of that submission was very clear. And I'll just check briefly if any of my other colleagues have any other questions. I see no hands raised. So on that basis, can we then move on to our next contributors, and we now move to the second pair of speakers, Louise and Anthony Fincham. And as members of a household chat with a shared contribution, you have seven minutes in which to make your points and Mr. Williams will let you know when you have one minute remaining. And what I will do is remind you that we adopted a seven minute rule for members of common household. But if there are individual members of your household who have different points to raise different opinions, then you can still request to be heard at deadline one for the January hearings. So Louise and Anthony fiction.

22:21

Good morning, Louise and Anthony Fincham here, may we start by saying that we are not comfortable with a virtual hearing for this planning application. We saw the views of faces and seas and the other groups objecting to these proposals.

22:36

When we first heard about the plans to build substations in the fields beside Christian, there was a sense of incredulity that carries on today. How could it be the green energy which so many of us support could lead to the digging of a motorway white trench 15 kilometers inland to a site where 83 acres of beautiful and valuable land would be concreted over? There surely must be some mistake. I've kind of developed civilized democracy allows something like this to happen. We are shocked when the government in Brazil allows its precious rain forests to be cleared and burned. And yes, here in Britain, where we pride ourselves in protecting our countryside. We're proposing this monstrous development. If someone could explain that there is something unique about the lovely field around Friston makes them the only possible place to cite this infrastructure, we might be able to accept it. But we all know that this is not the case. The decision to represent and the towns and villages of this precious base of coastal Suffolk is the result of catastrophic decision making by local and national government, national grid and Scottish power. Others will delve into the detail of the downgrading of the 42 bramford cable route, the flawed review of land use near sizewell and the biased and skewed Wragge assessments, which were deliberately designed to show that the area around Friston was the most appropriate size. We want to focus on the personal impact of this proposal. Our little patch of Suffolk is a haven of tranquility. This is a haven for wildlife and is used by walkers, cyclists farmer's children during their cube Edinburgh hikes and tours.

The agricultural land is fertile and valuable. These are the fields and paths where our children could walk the dog without adult supervision, no routes to cross and wonderfully safe. These are the fields and paths where they spotted their first fallen out. Kick black reason slows and stare in wonder at the sight of a combine harvester gathered gathering in the crops. On a frosty Christmas Eve. We walk the path to the medieval church at frustum to 10, the first service of Christmas, the ancient footpath that is now simply called path six with footpath that we use every day will be permanently closed, and a new one created beside a road and within a 34 decibel range of the substation. The contrast with the sound of skylarks and buzzers that we enjoy at the moment could not be more stark. SPR have already ruined this walk for us as we cannot walk without feeling angry, depressed and frustrated that things have come to this, that this gorgeous area could be trashed in this way. The human impact of the whole proposal has been given new ways of vulnerable and aging population is being trampled on. Nowhere else in the country is a structure of this scale being planned so close to a rural village. This is a beautiful patch. And these patches need to be protected and safe for us and for future generations. Our children are getting a raw deal at the moment. their education is compromised and their jobs are evaporating. But here at least they can find solace. Villages up and down the East Coast are facing similar threats as power companies pick us off one by one. Local people have worked hard to speak giving giving their own time and money to defend the area. It's a David versus Goliath fight. Endless round of consultations on SPR never answered our question simply refer back to their website. National Grid redacting huge chunks of its reports as if we were investigating a state secret. And now a virtual hearing, which is disenfranchising so many people who want their voices heard. The hundreds of people who've signed petitions, written letters and filled in questionnaires. They don't understand the

technology and are afraid to speak into a screen. Many of them don't even use email. Not sure parish Council has been unable to meet since February 2020. Because some members have such poor port broadband or lack the right to vet technology to join a virtual meeting. But you can see from the list of groups who are objecting to this proposal that has no support whatsoever. No support from our elected representatives, our local council, our local MP, no support from business and tourism leaders who have devoted their lives to building viable businesses in the area that support thousands of jobs. The construction of these substations will have no benefit to the local area whatsoever. It will bring only destruction and misery. It will ruin our local tourist industry and turn our lovely Pete fields into an industrialized before that further explosion and additional connectors are made. Conscious power disingenuous when he when they described the project is two substations. The truth is far worse than this. The substations will require a massive amount of support infrastructure, and which is the cumulative effect of the building of income interconnectors, cable sealing ends and substations for other projects in the pipeline that needs to be considered. mitigation is impossible, you can't hide structures of this size. And even if you tried, it would take decades to have any effect and would destroy the Village. We're not talking about two years of construction. We're talking about decades, once the agricultural land has been turned into an industrial zone, this site would be deemed appropriate for every additional substation that is needed. It is no coincidence that the Friston site is the largest of the five that SPR considered, it is hard not to feel that the decision to build a Christian was made a long time before the consultation began. And all the consultation and drag assessments were simply designed to support a decision that has already been made.

We may not be able to hold the destruction of the rainforest in Brazil. But we can see the Suffolk these plans give green energy a bad name. You cannot build offshore wind farms without working out how to connect to the National Grid. without destroying the precious precious landscape. I'm sure the project needs to be green through and through. You cannot announce a review and then say sorry, we have to destroy first and first and then see if we could have done something better. Surely as a country, we are better than this national grid needs to live up to its name and act like a national company taking the decisions that make sense nationally, not hiding their infrastructure under individual power company planning applications that are trashing the countryside bit by bit. I'm sure that SPR with all the consultants and experts have managed to take all the necessary boxes and planners will pour over the documents and conclude that there is nothing to be done. But before you do that, I would like to invite each and every one of you to walk with me along the peaceful lanes around Kristen, walk around the fields and let me show you the beauty of the site. Let me take you to the fragile eroding cliffs of forgiveness. If you can do that, and look me in the eye and say sorry, this really is the best place to build a site the size of Wembley Stadium, I'd be amazed because it's simply not true. You have the power to stop this and we are pleading with you to do just that. We support green energy, but let's do it properly and use our collective wisdom wisdom to come up with a better solution. Thank you.

30:13

Thank you very much my suspension. Now a couple of basses just arising their foot firstly in relation to the holding of virtual events. Now, obviously, we are in a fairly tricky set of circumstances at present with as we've seen in the news in the last few weeks, quite substantially rising coronavirus, infection rates. And we have sadly taken the judgment that until Christmas, we must proceed virtually until it is clearer what's the emerging situation is we will monitor continuously and if we can return to physical

events, we will try and do so but at present that would seem to be unwise. However, what we have asked is that if there are people who are specifically unable to use or access digital equipment or have difficulties with the internet, they let us know by deadline one, so that we can look at the specific arrangements we might need to take in January to enable them as individuals to be engaged, even if we have to continue the main events of the examinations virtually. And secondly, I will flag and for those who may not be following this element for work that we are undertaking unaccompanied site inspections. And if you look at the project websites, and you type in USI, or under company site inspection, you'll see notes, all of the places that we have been, which will already have meant that we've taken extended visits to a number of the places that you did mention in your submission, we will continue to ensure that we carry out that work. And now my colleague Mr. Hockley had a question in relation to the historic public right of way and passing through the application site, Mr. Hartley.

32:02

Thank you very much, Mr. Smith. And Thank you Mrs. Fincham for your submission, which is very useful. And I just had a quick question in your in your presentation, you raised the issue of footpath six and a note in your excuse me a note in your relevant representation. You've also raised that issue, including a description of an autobiography by a nature guard. And its status as a pilgrim way. I was just asking you if there was any more information on that subject that you had to hand or if anybody watching the live stream has any information on that subject as well. If we could have that before deadline one that would be very useful. Thank you. Thank you.

32:42

Thank you very much, Mr. Hockley. On that basis, I am then going to move forward but just before I do, I will deal with a couple of changes in arrangements because the next speaker that I will call on is Jill Hubbard, but the speaker following Gil Hubbard is David Jackson, who I understand from the case manager not to be able to attend today. And then we have a speaker substitution following David Jackson slot, which is the Georgina King will be speaking instead of Edward King who is listed on the agenda. So just so Georgina King is aware as soon as Jill Hubbard session is finished, Georgina King, I'll be calling upon you because David Jackson is absent. Okay. Let's then return to Agenda order. And I will call Jill Hubbard. You have five minutes.

33:44

Do have it. I you able to switch on your microphone?

33:48

Yes, it should be on now, I think.

33:50

Thank you very

33:54

good morning. My name is Jill Hubbard. And I'm now one of the older residents of Mill Hill in Oregon. My late husband and I moved here in the 60s to take up teaching posts at the local schools. And I've lived here on Mill Hill for all that last time, almost 50 years. In fact, during those years, I've seen many

changes to our village and to the countryside around it, not all of which enhanced the village. None of these changes however, have concerned me as much as the recent proposals by Scottish power. The proposals indicate that for an extended period of time, the road B one one to two will be cut into for trenching at what is known as the pinch point by Fiches Lane. Features lane and the surrounding woodland has always been an important area for us all. The Woods contain numerous foot bars, which are not only enjoyed by Ramblers, teenagers, dog walkers, and as part of a route chosen by those taking The Duke of Edinburgh award, but is used by residents to go from one part of the village to the next. And as a co fairgreen where there's a village shop. I'm sure that the tranquility and peace of a quiet walk through the woods is beneficial to everyone's physical and mental well being. It's an important route to for the village children to walk to school. years ago in the late 70s. a pathway was built along the north shore road for children to walk to the venue called fairgreen Primary School. But as the volume of traffic increased, more parents began to use the woodland paths. They have found this to be a much safer and enjoyable option.

In the morning The trees are full of Birdsong, and there is the possibility of spotting a monk jack or rabbits on the path. an idyllic place for children and adults alike, and a wonderful start to anybody stay. But of course, this will all change. If Scottish powered plans are accepted. The route to school will have to follow along diversion and the accompany not by birdsong. But by the sound of heavy machinery and dust clouds, the children will see trees, bushes, plants, the habitats of hundreds of creatures ripped out of the ground. It's hardly an example of the Conservation of Nature that they are very much aware of present time. At the beginning of features in between ordering and court and the land itself. There are trees which have a preservation order. There's also an ancient hedgerow between Suffolk Lodge and Cole fair, part of which will have to be ripped up braids and renamed ordering and court, including the trees themselves is a heritage asset. It was designed by sessile lay and the woodland beside the building down to fixtures Lane was part of his landscape design for the house. Ordering and court is now residential home for the elderly. These elderly people, as well as many residents in the village itself be devastated to see so many trees felled. It's interesting to note that lichen is growing on many of them, the growth of which is an indication of an area of low pollution. This will change when these trees are destroyed. As I understand it, the trench for the two sets of cables will be reduced here from 64 meters everywhere else along the cable route to 27 meters in width. This means that the noise and dust will be very close to the house. These frail elderly residents final years will be far from the peace and tranquility. They anticipated when they move there. The residents of ordering and court are not the only older people who will suffer. There are some who bought properties here for their retirement, and also residents living in Fiches Lane, and only over a road on it will be affected. But those living in Gypsy lane are possibly the worst in the worst position, because they houses back into the field onto the fields where cables are to be laid almost to their back gardens. The noise and dust particularly bad when the wind blows across the light soil of the sanderlings will be unbearable for many months, if not longer. And the noise from power drivers of the Friston and thorpness will have a detrimental mental effect on all our lives. I like most of my neighbors totally believe in renewable energy is the particular route that's been chosen that we find questionable. This route that scottishpower has chosen through the center of our lovely village will cause great and long lasting damage to the whole community.

38:41

Thank you very much for that very clear and helpful submission. Now we will obviously consider all the matters that you've raised with with care. Now my my colleague, Mr. Rigby, I believe had a question that he just wants to explore Mr. Rigby.

38:58

Yes, thank you, Miss Smith, thank you very much indeed for your submissions. I just had one thing I wanted to explore with you is is Harvard, more more of the applicant really. But you mentioned the crossing of fishes lanes being in trench, wondering whether the applicant might be really minded to give serious thought to using some kind of trenchless crossing methods such as horizontal directional drilling at this point, it strikes me that it might well alleviate an awful lot of the problems that you've described. Yeah, perhaps.

39:37

Yes, yes. Thank you.

39:39

That's Thank you very much, indeed are nice notes and perhaps come back to us at the outset at the end of this hearing. Thank you very much.

39:47

Thank you.

39:48

Excellent, thank thank you very much for that Mr. Rigby. Now, noting that david jackson, as I indicated before is not able to be with us today. I will briefly Next be moving on to Georgina King. But before I do, again, I will remind everybody in relation to the panel's unaccompanied site inspection work, and indeed the possibility of an accompanied site inspection later on in the examinations. There's a deadline one that magical day, on the second of November, one of the other contributions that we're asking people to make is to nominate specific locations that you would like us to visit. And if you're doing so, I would urge that you do, please read our unaccompanied site inspection notes available on the website, because you will see from their maps that show where we have already been critically, what we need to know from you now is other additional places that ought to be visited, or other particular features that need to be seen. And if that means that we might need to go back to some of the places that we have already visited to see specific features for particular purposes, then we will consider doing so. So that's an open opportunity for people by deadline one, to nominate places that we may need to inspect. Okay, I'm now going to move on and I'm going to ask Georgina King to speak for five minutes and again, as is now hopefully normal. Mr. Williams, the case manager will provide a slide when you have one minute of speaking Time remaining.

41:24

Thank you very much. And good morning. My name is Georgina King. I am 22 years old. I have been a Suffolk energy action solution campaigner since the outset, I am a fierce supporter of the other campaigns seizes SOS and today I am speaking on behalf of my brother, my sister, my local friends, and the generations to come who will be the ones who suffer most from the devastating consequences

of the applicant's plans. As many other speakers have said, We are passionately in favor of wind energy. But believe me when I say my generation is looking on and asking, Is this really the best you can do? Don't do this in our name. This is not green by any definition that I know of the word This is deci energy. I would like to draw your attention to the a 1094 which represents the main arterial road into obrah. From the 12th. It is hard to think of a less adequate road for daily movements of industrial vehicles, as it is already clogged with agricultural

42:35

vehicles,

42:36

tourists, emergency vehicles and commuters. But seeing is yesterday, the speaker Raymond's gel outlines so passionately and coherently the issues and shortcomings surrounding the use of the road. I would like to only briefly echo his words. As Mr. gel pointed out, the cumulative increase of hgvs. Along this main arterial road, when combined with sizewell sees projected plans will be 134%. How can the applicant pretend that this is anything other than significance? I would like to show you a photograph I'm sorry if the definition isn't very good of the roads that I took in September this year. It shows a cyclist behind a tractor with another chapter coming in the opposite direction. This will be instantly recognizable for those of us who use the road frequently. And does it really look to you like the sort of road that is fit for industrialization. But if we imagine for a moment that the A 1094 is a suitable road, it is sufficiently wide enough for hgvs to pass and not exclusive arterial road for workers emergency services and tourists into obrah. The impacts on air quality alone makes the applicant's plans totally unacceptable. The highest recording for tropospheric ozone pollution in 2020 so far, was recorded at acceptance station, which is six miles from the 81094 812 Junction. This is the highest recording of tropospheric ozone pollution in the whole of the UK. Many will not be familiar with tropospheric ozone. It is the ozone that accumulates at ground level, it is a greenhouse gas and an air pollutant. The World Health Organization labels it a group one carcinogen, whose appearance is prompted by the combination of pollutants including nitrogen oxides, from vehicle and industry emissions, essentially from hdb's as 99% of HTV is run on diesel and breathing insert from diesel vehicles damages the lungs as much as smoking a pack of cigarettes every day for 15. So all this in mind when I tell you that findings at different monitoring station at Silverton show that ozone levels in this area Have sofic have already exceeded the government's target to maximum air quality breathing levels by 370% between the first of January and the 23rd of September 2020. Does the applicant feel comfortable adding to that appalling surplus of carcinogenic air pollutants. Just to complete the image that I'm trying to illustrate, I have a map that shows schools that are either located on or near to the a 1094. And the photograph here of a school bus stop. That is located in snake on the a 109 for

45:33

used by

45:34

four schools in the area. So this is potentially 10 to 12 years of schoolchildren breathing in toxic diesel particulates every morning, and every afternoon, as 134% increase of HDV. Thunder down this road, all I can say is thank goodness, this is all done in the name of green energy. I'm seeing as in

scottishpower, renewables traffic and transport environmental statement from October 2019. The words air pollution appear only once. And tropospheric zero times, I can only assume that either the applicant has not fully conducted research into the matter, or that they think additional add on diesel particulates in an area that already exceeds the government's breathing quality levels by 300. The maximum breathing quality levels by 370% is acceptable. So I would like to ask the applicant, is it negligence? Or is it arrogance? Thank you.

46:38

Thank you very much Georgina King. Now my colleague guy Rigby, again has a couple of questions that flow from that material. Thank you very much, Mr. Rigby.

46:51

So just getting my microphones switched back on. Thank you very much Miss King for that very useful submission. I would like it very much if you could make sure that you time and date stamp, the photograph and the other the other material that you you have there. Thanks very much. It's not so much a question as a pointer to the applicant to take on board what the points that have been made. I don't have any further questions per se at the moment. But thank you very much indeed me very useful.

47:26

Yeah, I mean, in in relation to the the air quality evidence that you submitted, and the the map showing the school locations, again, if those could be submitted formally at deadline one. And they'll then form part of the examination libraries for both of the examinations. And again, they then become the matters that we would seek and the applicants comments upon. So the questions that you have raised essentially then should move towards receiving answers. And it will then be for us to evaluate those answers and pursue the issues further if needs be. Thank you very much, though for for your submissions. Now, moving back, I believe to the order of the agenda as it was circulated publicly. And can I now ask if we have Margaret Knight with us and to indicate that we have a speaking time of five minutes for Margaret Knight and Mr. Williams in the normal way we'll place a warning when you have one minute remaining. So, Margaret night, the floor is yours.

48:35

Good morning ladies and gentlemen. My name is Margaret Knight. I've lived in Friston for 22 years and came here. Like many other residents to escape the noise, dust and pollution of a big city. The area offers peace, tranquility and beauty of the surrounding countryside, and most of all quality of life. The village of Friston has the wonderful local community and holds many events each year, including fundraising for the church and local charities, attracting a substantial number of tourists and visitors. I strongly object to the proposal submitted and agree with all the points mentioned by others including se C's, C's and the parish Council. I'm in favor of green energy, but the pros proposal is entirely inappropriate for the site chosen. It is totally baffling to me why the site selection is being proposed on the edge of Friston and situated right next to the church which is centuries old, a listed building and central to the local community. The vast area of fields behind it will be turned into an industrial eyesore of over 30 acres and probably more which will be like the landscape, the village and the heritage coast as well as local villages affected by the construction. This proposed industrial development will be Seen

from the village green and aspect which cannot be mitigated, a better solution must be found which should be an area well away from houses and local communities and reduce environmental impact. The need to bring the cables many miles inland from a wind farm in the sea, and the construction of huge haul roads devastating more of the landscape could be eradicated. The local roads in the area and specifically the ones from the 812 to the proposed site are too narrow for construction traffic. They are essential for local people to use for traveling to work shopping, etc. And also for emergency vehicles. They are too small for the volume and size of vehicles for the development, the traffic noise will be constant and sound carries a long way in this part of the country. Even though the proposed changes to the roads will not mitigate the problem and will cause even more chaos and congestion. The whole area of the heritage coast will be damaged as its beauty and tranquility will disappear.

Together with much of the wildlife things which many people visit the area to see and to visit the nature reserves the cumulative impact of other infrastructure projects projects such as sizewell C, and this development at Friston with the proposed addition of interconnectors would turn the area into what frankly would be an industrial wasteland. It's important being able to enjoy long walks something that has been invaluable this year. The proposed development will result in the loss of a number of footpaths surrounding the village. The most used one the circular walk will be lost forever. There are others connecting to villages such as Snape and not a short undertown of sex munden. I walk these footpaths as do many local people and tourists, and they are very well known walking groups for hikers. Noise will be a great concern during construction and long term. As sound travels along way due to the flatness of the terrain, like pollution, again is of great concern. I know most of these concerns that I've read already been aired, but this is evidence of how the proposal will affect the individual lives considerably. The problem is this. Although there have been several consultation events held by the applicants in the village hall. These concerns have never been addressed or commented on by the applicants and have basically been ignored. The information given at these meetings didn't address our concerns. The proposal has been hanging over us for two and a half years. And as time has gone on, more and more additions are being made. If it were not for the action groups, tireless work and research, much of this would still be unknown to us. This proposal has caused untold stress and illness to residents. A lot of people came to Friston to enjoy their retirement. This is not the case at the moment, nor will be this proposal goes ahead. In summary, there must be a better alternative found for the site. Because if not this historic village will be lost forever. Thank you.

53:28

Thank you very much. Now can I just check firstly with my colleagues, whether there are any questions arising and I see no hands. And now the next speakers are due to be Christine and Michael lash it. But I did understand that they were having trouble with their internet connection. Can I just check? You've managed to join us and you've got a reasonably stable connection? Are you content to speak now? Excellent. Well, you've got seven minutes as a combined submission from a household and the rule there is that you'll get a one minute flag when you're one minute away from the end of your seven minutes and caught up as a slide by Mr. Williams. So the floor is yours.

54:17

Thank you. My name is Christine lashett and I live in ordering and good morning. I'm the chairperson of impact and informal group who seek to provide opportunities for village community activities. My father

wasn't inshore fishermen until the late 70s. And the natural world has always been important to us and indeed, his livelihood depended on it. 20 years ago, we came to live in order now I'm attracted by its rural nature walks and lovely countryside and a proximity to the sea. We support very strongly green energy we have our own photovoltaic panels and support many green initiatives and charities. Now we all know that Many of our brush insects, flora, fauna, and birds are seriously threatened with extinction. David Attenborough has made many memorable documentaries about the loss of habitat and the life It supports the most recent being extinction. His message is once these things have gone, they have gone forever, our grandchildren will only know them through books and technology. It is then quite shocking to find that this special part of East Anglia is to be destroyed, not very many, but by the clumsy method of linking the wind farms to the National Grid. The National biodiversity lists 876 observed species in 1000 meter circle around the bisection point of river hundred in oranium, where the trench will be placed. Many of them were listed such as otters clones, rare lichens, Nightingale Swift's woodcock, snakes, barnards, king fission and newts and a host of others. These were threatened species depend on the ecology of the river hundred, the location of the pinch point to shatter off the river and fill the surrounding woodland on both sides of the B 1122. will destroy this valuable ecosystem. And when we in the end for many of these species here, which rely on this ancient habitat, mitigation is not possible. A fragile ecosystem that has taken 100 years to evolve cannot be replaced a few hundred meters further downstream, the river hundred feet, the fen and the North Warren nature reserve, where business and Harriers breed. Boys effluent and disturbance from the workings will be carried by the river and pollute this fragile protected RSPB site. as it continues its journey through the thorpeness through the to the thought until finally it flows into the sea. In principle, in my opinion, this habitat is no less important

57:11

than the more well

57:12

known locations elsewhere in the world. It is in fact, our rain forest. We should be giving guardianship to these species and their habitats, so they survive for future generations. This is the time to pause and consider afresh the method of connecting wind power to the land. I'd like to leave you with a quote from fintan sly, the Executive Director of the National Grid of the necessity to facilitate netzero in a way that minimizes the impact of consumers and coastal

57:47

communities.

57:49

Other solutions may be more expensive for the applicant. But a green energy project which wipes out complete habitat defeats the object of the exercise. I urge you to go back to the developers to insist on a more responsible solution. Thank you.

58:08

Good morning. My name is Michael Lashett. I'm 100% favor of renewable energy but have concerns about its effects on the coastal perished, of ordering and consult with sizewell where we live. Firstly,

there is the lack of coordination of the multiple projects coming to our coast. Secondly, the impact on the local inhabitants and thirdly, the harm done to the wildlife from the dispersal in its waters. The Prime Minister has announced plans to make UK fully reliant on wind power by 2030. It is crucial that we do it right. Currently, we are not driving a nine kilometer long 550 meter wide cable corridor with origin thought Mr. Pfister already mo set a custom for all the piecemeal future projects destined for coast. disruption will be continuous for up to 15 years no serious attempts to be made to find an alternative route. The Heritage coast will be replaced by the energy coast. The shore and hinterland this part of the suffer case will be overwhelmed by wind, farm and nuclear projects. A radical policy of coordination is essential if permanent life is to be avoided. The cable routes were passed close to Oregon called residential home and be within 20 meters of several houses bordering the adjacent fishes Lane. The 24 hour noise and air and light pollution from construction will be insufferable. woodlands and hedgerows will be ripped on for access to various depots and works. This nature is undeserved countryside close to the coast is most important for the mental health and well being of those living here and the many visitors who enjoy holidays in this area. travel freely local people will be difficult and dangerous because the large number of hgvs on the narrow roads with randomly parked service vehicles. Traffic congestion will be unavoidable

. Do you To the inadequate infrastructure, the resulting stress will be the terrorists the affect the quality of life of many of the local inhabitants and holidaymakers. The crumbling cliffs and vulnerable sea better the suffering and literal will be damaged by the cables from the wind farms, sand machines nest and the cliffs said thorpeness. According to the Suffolk natural disk society's observations, four to 500 pairs of kitty wigs are being counted in winter, and 200 pairs in summer, passing the same cliffs for nesting and migration. They also colonize the derelict ring at size twice, well, the economy is size one, and this is anyone's read and suck. They will all be disrupted by the separate arrival for many years of multiple cables making them fall on the cliffs. As river farms are anchored in shallow waters, like those Dogger bank, which are sources of surface of sandeels, the steep food diet of the seabirds, they will compete with the kittiwakes threat threat in divers common additional terms and harbor purposes. For the sandeels which are also depleted by intensive fishing. The results of interference or land and sea will be catastrophic for sea bird and marine life, much of it already in decline. undersea cables linking brownfield sites in the Suffolk coast with others in the Thames district could be an all the energy from the North Sea without so seriously damaging the pristine surroundings area. planet is suffering from short sighted policies which always choose the cheaper option. a holistic approach is essential in this case.

1:01:37

Mr. laschett I'm afraid your your time is drawing to a close. So me now very briefly wrap up.

1:01:45

I'm wrapped up.

1:01:47

That's it. That was wonderful. We

1:01:50

don't bring it here.

1:01:54

Thank you. Thank you very much. Now, I'm in relation to briefly Mrs. Iashett it there was a quote from national grid that you referred us to? And is that something that you can provide us with a specific link to of some nature and a reference source? When you submit a deadline? One, please.

1:02:17

I'm sure I can. Thank

1:02:18

you very much. Excellent. Thank you very much for those very clear submissions. And obviously all of those matters again, will be given very careful consideration by the examining authorities. Right. Can we then move on, I will ask if we have Christopher Lewis present, I believe we do. And Christopher Lewis, you have five minutes and so you will receive a notification one minute before the end of your speaking time from the case manager. The floor is now yours. I'm

1:02:51

Christopher Lewis. I've lived in orebro for six years after Oxford among the academics. I valued this area enormously. And I when I should say we cycle and walk around it a lot. I'm on the town console. But I speak as an individual while agreeing with what our representative Marianne fellows has already said. For overtime console. I've got three short points. I had a strange experience way back last January, living all brand joining in the concern about this whole area I went to a session run by National Grid ventures. It was a well run friendly event. But gradually during it I and the others there came to realize that we had been badly misled by SPR. And maybe by national grid. SPR had not told us all the plans for Friston, certainly not the amount of space which will be taken up in Friston once there were National Grid adventures into connectors onto Etsy plus all their accompanying paraphernalia. It began to dawn on us but Friston far from being a limited plan, as announced was actually a kind of magnet and cover for a whole lot more to into to get those now, but more to come and we recommend they might breed multiply. I don't imagine that all this was the result of actual deception by SPI national grid. But the meeting raised the question to which we got no answer. Have they been planning all this for long behind closed doors? If so, why was it not public? We left the meeting way back in January with our mouths open in amazement. That's point one. Second point. It is the recent realization That's a massive expansion of Friston is maybe not what anybody other than SPR really wants after all, National Grid seems to think that instead of a radial system, what would really be best is for most of the connections converters and the like to be out at sea, along with national grids, interconnectors to other countries, multi purpose, interconnectors, they've even Of course, collected an acronym mpis. In other words, national grid and others and a lot of electrical engineers and other people as well. We'd like offshore connection hubs for green energy not unlike offshore remains. Third point is to say that we desperately need a rejection of the current plans, it would be a chance for SPR and national grid to sort out their plans in an open and sensible manner. Something which is absolutely plain has not happened, then, you never know but the government offshore transmission network review while might really come up with something Stranger Things than that have happened. A rejection would give time for the views of electrical engineers and other experts to be taken fully into account. Knowing that they the experts

are much in favor of the offshore option or injection also, which would give time to search for brownfield sites in much more suitable places than Friston. So three points, the horror of discovering a Friston plan is far bigger than we had been told. Then the strange fact that radial systems may be old hat, then the desperate need for rejection of the plans so that new enlightened plans can be made for fit for future purposes. Whatever happens I can see no reason why the whole project should stagger along on the track, which is currently proposed by SPR. It's ridiculous to rush into an uncoordinated and outdated project. Now is the time for real joint planning. Put together with all the splendid local feedback which you are receiving. There's very little evidence of that coordinated planning having been done, but it could begin now. That's it.

1:07:45

Thank you very much, Mr. Lewis. Now, moving on the next speakers I have on my list. And who again, the case team indicates is with us is Michael Lewis. And you will have five minutes with again the case team providing you with a one minute warning. So do we have Michael Lewis? If you are here, the floor is yours.

1:08:16

Now Okay, can I just check I did see what looked as though the commencement of a contribution by Michael Lewis, but the line then cut. Can I just ask one more time? Do we have Michael Lewis present? I am present. Excellent. Thank you very much. And are you able to put yourself on camera or do you prefer to speak without camera?

1:08:41

I don't mind camera.

1:08:43

Camera is useful because it enables us to, to just see that you're that you're in the ring with us. Thank you very much.

1:08:53

The floor is yours. Our minutes.

1:08:57

I'm just checking. I'm on camera. Yes, I think I am. Right. My name is Mike Lewis. I'm a resident of Friston. I'm a private individual and I act alone bank nation and by habit. So I oppose the application proposals by SP to build an industrial complex. substation interesting. I feel the siting of this complex is inappropriate and unwise. My main interest is flooding, as it affects me personally and as it affects the wider community, the latter being more important than how it affects me, but I'll just run through how it affects me. scottishpower shown an interest in the verges of my property on a Church Road. Sorry, church lane. This apparently isn't on adopted road but it is a thoroughfare. They want can role and permanent rights over the over this road to the halfway point. So, I am as I am the apparently the assumed owner of half this road and it's some soil does that give me the right to close this road? Or at least half of it? What is the legal position? odd if scottishpower achieve their objective of having permanent rights Can They Sell it on to somebody else? And what avenue of appeal would that be to

anybody individual or public body that wish to make an objection? Leaving that that's gone on to the the the flooding situation generally, it has relevance right. Following the flooding, severe flooding of last October, the county council commissioned a hydrology report this report is quite interesting. It was almost impossible for a layperson to understand full of jargon be referred to the Friston River. bewildered I am as most people on the village we don't have a river does not take into account the sewage system nor the cross contamination issues of foul and surface water. It did not take into account the substation water issue, it could not because the substation doesn't exist. The topography, Christina village which is situated in a bit like a large plate on oblong, over noble nature, I have one here. One end, the higher end, which is to the north is an area where the Friston substation site is planned. So therefore any water from there, because water does not tend to absorb in concrete will actually go into what system, a water system we have. The system or the river that does not exist, appears to be a series of contracts, dug up contracts to form ditches, culverts through the center of the village and ditches again into an area to the south of Kristen. And we're there the water will pan because it was threatening. The a goodness knows whatever it is

1:13:07

the first time to override a culvert was dug. But what happens to the water after that? Now, this is an area where there's considerable archaeology and that should be investigated and examine if we do not have a stable system, and if we do not know how much water is running to the system, then problems arise. I over actually manufactured a new phrase. And it's this. We've heard of the carbon footprint. What about the concrete footprint, the concrete footprint of this developmental industrial site? We do not know this. And we should actually demand that scottishpower say what is the size of this complex? Thank you. There's lots of points that I could make in

1:14:09

it. What I will ask asking you to do Mr. Lewis alongside everybody else who's spoken. If there are matters that you didn't get to in your allotted time, then please do put them in in writing a deadline. And again, to re emphasize that anything that comes in writing is of equal weight.

1:14:31

Anything that has been

1:14:35

now, there's just one other observations I needed to make and you spoke briefly about the rights position in relation to the road of joining your property. What I'm going to ask you to do is firstly to contact the applicants whose land agent should be able to give you a clear explanation of the rules that apply relations of roads, there's what's referred to as the ad medium file and rule, which is a rule for dealing with the circumstances where the ownership of land that is beneath the road is not clear. And, and that appears to be applicable in your case, but I would ask you to contact them so they can explain the situation to you. And perhaps even seek your own advice. If you need to raise that matter in more detail with us we are holding and policy acquisition hearing to which is where people who object specifically to the taking of land or rights land, and can come and have a separate conversation with us about those particular matters because it appeals to our potential affected for us and I just thought I would raise that potential opportunity with you. But it's certainly worth chasing down the situation with

the applicants land agent, if you can do so before then. Okay, ladies and gentlemen, I'm then going to move on and ask if we'll have the reference Mark Lauder, with us. And again, I understand that the Reverend lavell will be speaking for five minutes. So Mr. Williams will put up the customer one minute warning. And when there's one minute of speaking time left, Reverend louder.

1:16:26

Am I visible to you all?

1:16:27

I'm afraid not. We can hear you perfectly well, but at press

1:16:37

camera is on.

1:16:45

Brand new currently muted. If you wanted to add something.

1:16:51

No, I was if the Reverend lowther is visible to us, and now wishes to speak The floor is yours.

1:17:01

Thank you very much indeed. Hello, my name is Mark Lowther. And I'm the rector of the old sanderlings benefis. That's made up of the parishes of oldbury oldringham Friston. Sure, all four of the parishes will be affected by the proposed development by SPR. But Friston will of course be by far the most seriously disturbed. Either you've heard from people much better qualified than I am to speak about technical matters, and in bad environmental matters. But when I was licensed by our Bishop to be the incumbent of the poor, four parishes five years ago, I promised to share with him the cure of souls of everyone living their cure means care. And I really mean of everyone, not just those who come to church, that's the joy and the responsibility of being the Church of England parish priest. So I'm here to talk specifically about people and the effect that the development will have on them and their everyday lives. In preparation for this submission, I opened the local Ordnance Survey map and looked at the distance between Friston village and the coast. It's almost six kilometers as the crow flies. I looked at the length of the proposed cable corridor, which is of course considerably longer. And I looked at the proximity of the proposed development to Friston village, the corner of the huge proposed substation would be about 400 meters from Kristen's grade to stylistic church, and the houses in Church Road. And the past live land allocated for development considerably closer as little as 100 meters from the churchyard, and at the end of some people's gardens. And the more I looked, the less sense it all made. Yes, I've heard all of the technical explanations about why the site makes sense to scottishpower renewables. But I simply don't think the people of Friston in particular have been taken into account in anything like the way that they deserve. I'm afraid the expression, collateral damage came to mind. The population of Friston is predominantly on the older side, with many having chosen to retire there, as we've heard, investments, and I absolutely don't just mean financial investments, investments have been made in the village and its community. those investments will suffer irreparable harm should this development Go ahead. And if the development itself is bad, then its construction will

be even worse. It's all very well to say that in time things will come down again, construction roads will be removed, the impacts will be reduced, etc, etc. But that doesn't help someone in their retirement years, who will not have to live through the worst of it all. People matter. No amount of money can adequately compensate a life turned upside down by a home taken away. I'm already aware of people who are so worried and frightened by what might happen, that their health is becoming affected. One further matter for concern tourism. Again, others will have gone into detail about the tourist industry. But I think primarily of the people working in that industry, battered by all of the recent losses caused by COVID-19. And who knows what still to come on that score. And now looking at a future where well, think about it. If you were looking for somewhere to rent a holiday cottage for a week or two, would you choose somewhere where the local area of outstanding natural beauty was being dug up to build a cable run for a substation? Where does that leave those whose income depends on those tourists? Not just those who own cottages, but those who work in the local pubs and restaurants? In my word, they've suffered enough recently, wouldn't you think? Those who work in the shops that depend on visitors for their trade, and they've had a pretty hard time to recently, haven't they? And once those tourists have gone elsewhere, there's no guarantee that they'll ever come back, more lives ruined. Once again, people matter.

1:21:17

I'd also like to add my voice to those who've been critical of the timing of this proposed development. The government's ongoing offshore transmission network review is a vital importance to the way offshore power. And the Prime Minister's recent pledge in 10 years time, all homes will be powered by offshore wind generated electricity goes ahead. Surely it makes sense to put the brakes on SPS proposals until the outcome of this review is available. Finally, and I know that others will have covered this in much more detail. It's not that there are no alternatives. It absolutely doesn't have to be this way. solutions are available, that would mean that less people suffer. And surely if that's the case, then alternatives to a scheme that will really, really hurt people must be looked at.

1:22:09

Thank you for listening.

1:22:11

Thank you very much Reverend Lowther. Now my colleague, Mr. Jonathan Hockley has a brief question, Mr. Hockley.

1:22:17

Thank you, Mr. Smith. And thank you, Reverend now for for your very interesting submission. Now, it's just a brief question really is if you have any more information on history or the architecture of some Mary's Church in Friston, then that would be very useful to the panel.

1:22:34

Fine, you can so that will that will be duly submitted. Thank you very much indeed.

1:22:38

That's excellent. Thank you very much.

1:22:41

Thank you. So we are now going to move to mya Manakides, who I believe is to be the final speaker in this first session this morning. And do we have my money kiddies?

1:22:55

No, good morning.

1:22:56

Good morning. So again, you should now know the drill. You have five minutes of speaking time and the case team will provide you with a warning at one minute prior to the expiry of that the floor is now yours. Please speak when you're ready.

1:23:13

Thank you. My name is mya Manakides and I am a first and resident. In preparation for today's meeting, I was afraid of sounding like a NIMBY. However, having reviewed my notes, I can now say with confidence that the adverse effect of locating the world's largest substation for offshore wind power in the rural village of Friston outweighs any benefits. We all know the history of each of the EA one project and how when SBR took sole possession of that project, it managed to reduce its output by 41%, simultaneously wiping out the future proofing capacity of its cable corridor. In the spring of 2016, SPR commenced its conversation with the planning Inspectorate for EA one and an EA two sprs routing strategy for these projects was to follow those of EA one. However, in September 2017, everything changed in our nightmare began. National Grid for their own reasons change the connection point for both projects from board z to size. Well, I believe that SPR chose the Friston site for three reasons. One, its proximity to the existing pylons, to the availability of a parcel of land that could be obtained without compulsory purchase, and three and most importantly, the potential for expansion of the site. The substation proposal sits between the pylons and the village Grove would actually enclose the public oze within the village, however, the area to the other side of the pylons is vast. And as such, with National Grid infrastructure in place, there would be potential for Friston for the first insight to expand and expand. This is something that must be understood in order to evaluate the choice of site and the current proposals.

1:25:31

Hope you can see that SPR provided us with this image of the substations from the village

1:25:36

listed slightly so that there we go.

1:25:42

Okay, spr provided us with this image of the substations from the village green. You can see how the substations loom over Friston. SPR has not been able to diminish our concerns and any attempts to do so have been duplicitous to glitches or concerns include the cat the change in character to the village and the incompatibility of such a development in the area. The harm to home surrounding the site, the desecration of views to and from the grade two listed Church Night noise and light pollution traffic

losses to the local economy, security well being loss of footpaths and rights of ways in ability to achieve meaningful mitigation, flooding harm to the environment, and of course, the cumulative impact of all other projects. This harm, the harm that will be caused at thorpeness. The sand links along the cable route and to Friston is obvious. Every aspect of this project adversely affects the greater community and will cause considerable and irreparable harm to all borough Snape thorpeness in our environment, we will be losing the meaning and significance of our locale. As a village and a community, we have learned a lot. Fundamentally, we're not alone in the challenges we face. Numerous other coastal communities and rural landscapes are under threat from similar projects. We all know that the demand for offshore wind power is continuing to grow. And that now both industry and government are finally beginning to react to the consequences of this. I refer to the national grid's recent publication, unlocking offshore wind and the upcoming Bayes review, there has been one good thing that has come out of this process. And that is that I've gotten to know my neighbors better. And these are really, really good people. And if it meant keeping the lights on, if this was the only way these people would take the hit for that, but this is not true. This project is out of date, I first generation solution, and it is not green, and it is not sustainable. We do not want in the end to be living like this.

1:28:17

Thank you.

1:28:21

Thank you very much mya Manakides. And you refer that to a national grid publication. If in your deadline one written submission, you could give us the citation for that. And I will just flag in relation to any of the speakers where we have raised that point. citations are best given to a fixed physical version of the document or a PDF file, if that's possible to be submitted, because that can then be entered into the examination libraries for both examinations. And as distinct from sending a hyperlink to something because of course, a hyperlink cannot itself be directly asserted to be the particular document to which you referred. So the PDF please. And this holds good for anybody who were asking to submit such documents, the PDF please, not necessarily the hyperlink because the hyperlink can be changed by the body that owns the website. Okay. And ladies and gentlemen, we have now reached the end of the listed speakers for agenda items to hear and have reached the end of session one. So I will thank on behalf of my colleagues, everyone very much for your contributions that I have indicated we will consider with great care. And can I remind you that as you have already spoken and we need to make space in the computer system for the next round of speakers. And can you now leave the hearing you can carry on watching it of course by switching over to the live stream available from the national infrastructure planning website. And you can watch that without affecting the network capacity available for speakers in the following sessions. Whilst we're on the subject of the live stream at four People who have already been watching it and they're likely to continue watching it after the break, I'll let you know that you may need to refresh your live stream on the browser that you're using at the start of the next session, reload the web page and that will ensure that you see the live stream start sometimes if you don't do that the live stream sticks at the end of the first session. Okay, then Ladies and gentlemen, let us wrap up now. The joining process for session two starts shortly at 11:40am. And the session itself will start at midday where I will welcome the next list of speakers. So I will now adjourn this hearing to midday and the start of session two. Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen.