

JOINT WRITTEN REPRESENTATION

NATASHA GREEN AND ALEXANDER GREEN

TO: WRITTEN SUBMISSION TO INSPECTORS RE SPR DCO APPLICATIONS FOR WINDFARMS EAIN AND EA2

NATASHA GREEN reference EA1N 20023286/EA2 20023290
ALEXANDER GREEN reference EA1N 20024220/ EA2 20023289

1. We are writing to urge the committee to reject this application.
2. We have had a happy childhood growing up over the last 20 years in our much beloved family home, [REDACTED], which will directly border the proposed site.
3. We are writing this submission as young people, the group of people whose lives and futures will be most negatively affected by this development. This is why we want to make it known, that as young people, this project is not done in our names. This is not the kind of green energy that our generation wants to see, it does not provide a long-term sustainable solution to climate change.
4. We endorse all of the submissions of SASES and SEAS.

Impact on [REDACTED] and our family

5. We grew up walking through the beautiful countryside that would be destroyed by this project, walking our family dog down ancient paths from [REDACTED] to Friston, enjoying lunch at the pub and playing on the swings on the village green.
6. These happy memories have always made us hopeful that our children will one day enjoy those walks, that they will have the freedom to roam around the Suffolk countryside on their bikes, hear the owls at night and watch the deer in the fields behind our family home. We want our children to grow up enjoying the safe, peaceful haven around our family home, to learn to value the English countryside, and the animals and plants within it.
7. Hearing of Scottish Power's plans has been devastating for our family. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] will be blighted for years, and possibly decades, by noise, dust and pollution from construction of this project. Once that is finished, there will be a vast industrial infrastructure the boundary of which abuts and touches the perimeter fence of our home. Huge pieces of equipment will be only metres away from the garden.

8. [REDACTED] is one of the properties which will be isolated from Friston by the substation. Other properties include Little Moor Farm and Cloutings Farm. We will lose our access to the village, and the footpaths we regularly walk on and which connect us to the village, the church and our friends will be lost.
9. This development would take away that future we imagined for our children and deeply affect our family's lives. The massive site would encroach on our home. It would cut us off from Friston and destroy the beautiful countryside that has given us so much joy and could give joy to future generations. For 20 years we have enjoyed this amazing landscape and suddenly it will disappear.

The choice of site

10. Friston is the wrong choice of site. Furthermore, the way this project has been conducted so far has left many questions unanswered about why Friston has been chosen.
11. Of the small number of SPR sites considered, the majority were ruled out due to the weighting given to ANOB status in the RAG assessment. National Grid (NG) have clearly chosen the Friston site as the connection point for up to 8 other projects. It is not clear why the development is not happening on a brownfield site? How can a tightly constrained site, on the edge of a medieval village in the middle of the pristine countryside be appropriate for industrial construction on this vast scale?
12. Why is it necessary to despoil another huge area of rural East Suffolk and build a new NG substation when a connection point already exists at Bramford? Alternatively siting the substations at Bradwell or another brown field site would be less damaging to the environment.
13. SPR and NG have failed to provide answers as to why the Bawdsey to Bamford cable route is not being used as originally intended. No clear explanation has been given as to why the technology (AC/DC) was downgraded and indeed why available technology is not being used to connect EA1N and EA2 to the grid via this route.
14. SPR continue to push forward with these applications when these individual projects are unsustainable. The Government's laudable green targets cannot be met by the wide scale destruction of the countryside resulting from the excavation of huge numbers of cable routes.
15. What is needed is a national strategy incorporating offshore connection points. This technology exists. Developers, NG and government must act now to prevent unspoilt rural areas particularly of Suffolk and Norfolk being criss crossed with cable routes and blighted by unnecessary vast industrial complexes.

The youth perspective on green energy

16. We do not deny that climate change is the most pressing issue of our time. Quite the opposite, it is our generation that are the ones driving change for the better, for our children and our grandchildren. But dealing with climate change and enacting effective green policy are two different things.
17. Building on this site destroys biodiversity, it concretes over countryside, it cuts down trees and it will destroy local community. This is not sustainable green energy; this is dirty green energy.
18. We welcome the Government's commitment to green energy and off-shore wind farms, but firmly believe that this must be done properly. We need proper government oversight and coordination to ensure that green energy, which should be a positive endeavor, is not turned dirty. We must not be left with further environmental issues and damage, because of ill-thought out government policies and procedures and an inability to create a joined-up approach across the country and the energy sector. Why create an industrial site in the middle of pristine Suffolk countryside, when there is absolutely no need? When technological advances and brownfield sites offer viable alternatives.
19. This project, and this choice of site, creates more environmental problems in the name of renewal energy. We believe that the green angle of this project is being used as an excuse for a lack of proper thought to how to create a truly environmentally friendly green energy project. When you think about bringing offshore energy onshore, by creating an industrial site in a medieval village community in the heart of the Suffolk countryside, how can you argue otherwise?
20. It is our firm belief that we need a holistic approach to green energy that preserves our English countryside, our English heritage, for the next generation and the generation after. Our generation wants to see green energy landing on brownfield sites that don't destroy local habitats. Our generation wants to see green energy that is green from root to branch, and this project is not - it is dirty green energy.
21. And ultimately it will be our generation, and our children and grandchildren, who will have to deal with the consequences of this ill thought out green energy project, so we urge you to listen to us. It's important to look beyond the headlines of this project - the wind turbines - and remember why we are doing this, to create sustainable green energy that creates clean jobs and reduces greenhouse emissions.
22. If this project was to go ahead, the long-term and short-term negative impacts for the young people in this area will be huge. This massive industrial site will drive people away, house prices will fall, footpaths connecting houses to the local

community will be destroyed, local businesses will be affected and, crucially, the mental wellbeing and future of the young people in this area will suffer.

Coronavirus and green space

23. Coronavirus has taught us many things over the last six months. Lockdown has meant that young people have been enjoying the English countryside more than ever before. One undeniable lesson our generation have learnt from this, is that we must value and act to protect and preserve nature, the environment, and biodiversity.
24. A survey of 8 to 15-year-old's conducted in August this year by Natural England¹ found 70% of children said that, in the future when things start to get back to normal after Coronavirus, they want to spend more time outdoors with friends,
25. Environmental concern was especially high among children in England. Eight in ten (82%) agreed that they would like to do more to protect the environment and 78% said protecting the environment was important to them. The survey found very little variation in levels of environmental concern when analysing by age, region, ethnicity, social grade or annual household income.
26. A similar report by Natural England², this time of adults, reported that between April and August there was an increase in adults in England spending time in green and natural spaces. In August, almost half the adult population (45%) said they were spending more time outside than before COVID-19.
27. Given this evidence, it seems completely out of kilter with this period of nationwide reflection on the value of green space, that we then desecrate the countryside with a hugely inappropriate and out of place project, such as this one.

Conclusions

28. The Prime Minister's commitment to become a world leader in clean wind energy provides an opportunity to get this right, to conduct a project the nation would be proud of. Not one that we will regret. It is blindingly obvious that future generations will look back on this project as a mistake - a mistake whose long-lasting negative effects on environment the young will be left with.
29. We urge you to reject this application, and allow our children and grandchildren to enjoy the same beautiful, pristine countryside that we have grown up in,

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-people-and-nature-survey-for-england-child-data-wave-1-experimental-statistics/the-people-and-nature-survey-for-england-childrens-survey-experimental-statistics>

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-people-and-nature-survey-for-england-monthly-interim-indicators-for-august-2020-experimental-statistics/the-people-and-nature-survey-for-england-monthly-interim-indicators-for-august-2020-experimental-statistics>

instead of leaving our generation, and future generations, with an even bigger mess to clean up.