

East Anglia One North (20023073) and East Anglia Two (20023074)

This Planning Enquiry should never have taken place as National Grid and Scottish Power Renewables should have kept to the agreed cable route from Bawdsey to Bramford.

We now know from information provided by National Grid that this proposal is a Trojan Horse which, if agreed, would open the flood gates for up to 8, and maybe more, further substations adjacent to the site with cable routes and construction being spread over the next 10 -15 years.

The attached map, using information published by National Grid last year shows how Friston would be completely surrounded by cable routes being constructed for years to come. We now know that many more substations and cable routes are planned around the village.

This Enquiry should be looking at National Grid's plans to develop a massive industrial site in unspoilt Suffolk countryside – using the SPR application as the Trojan horse.

Even without the threat of further developments the SPR proposal is ill considered and should never have been proposed for the following reasons:-

The proposed landfall at Thorpeness is quite unsuitable due to constant erosion of the cliffs. This erosion could well become worse as EDF have stated that their planned jetty for receiving material by sea for the construction of Sizewell C and D could increase erosion around Thorpeness.

The proposed cable route runs through areas of AONB and, badly affects communities at Sizewell, Aldringham and Knodishall as well as at Friston.

The cable route construction will cause considerable traffic problems for industry, farmers, the tourist industry and the local population. If SPR delay the laying of the cables for EA2 the disruption would last twice as long. Holiday bookings in the area would be badly hit for years to come.

The huge numbers of HGV trips – up to 360 trips per day - between 7am and 7pm to move material to and from the sites at Thorpeness, the cable routes and at Friston on busy, narrow and unsuitable roads would cause traffic chaos in the holiday season and severe problems for the rest of the year.

Road junctions such as at the A1094 and the A12 (despite promised improvement) , the crossroads at Snape and the A1094/B1069 junction would cause long delays and increase accidents. The plan to route the two heavy transformer loads through Grove Rd in Friston is completely impracticable due to the narrow carriageway , sharp bends and proximity to housing..

The proposed site would cover around 85 acres and sits in a natural basin with all drainage through the centre of Friston. The village already suffers from flooding. See the attached photo taken in October 2019. –

We have no confidence that SPRs planned receptors will be able to cope with the increasingly very heavy rain storms which would cause serious flooding in the Village to many houses and the pub..

The site is in an area of beautiful countryside with many foot paths enjoyed by residents and visitors. The Suffolk Preservation Society have written to SPR saying this land should be protected and not destroyed in this way.

Many residents would be subjected to an upsetting humming noise for 24 hours a day which would affect their health . SPR claim that there would be no noise problem but have advised nearby residents to install double glazing!

SPR state that their projects are unlikely to have a significant effect on the human health of the general population or vulnerable groups. Really! With 12 hour traffic every day, construction noise, dust etc many will suffer and will be stuck in their homes and be unable to exercise or have social contact.

The size of the proposed sub stations means that they would tower over our medieval church, listed houses and much of the Village. They would also be clearly visible from our village Green. See attached architects image.

This application must be refused and National Power should work with BEIS and Ofgem to develop a strategy to place these and other planned substations offshore or on suitable brownfield sites.

OFGEM's Decarbonisation states that "offshore connections should minimise the impact on consumers and coastal communities" . They also state that there should be offshore cable loops to minimise onshore construction and disruption

BEIS have commissioned an Offshore Transmission Review to report on the wind power industry including onshore problems which should include the problem of onshore substations. We look forward to the Enquiry considering their initial report due at the end of this year.

National Grid have set up their Offshore Coordination Project to examine offshore development but there is no mention of onshore developments.

All this is over 10 years after Denmark, Germany, Holland and Belgium developed a strategy for placing many of their substations and other buildings offshore.

There is an opportunity here for SPR and National Grid to develop the first UK offshore substations for EA 1N and EA2. They could be situated offshore from Sizewell and be capable of taking power from a number of fields and/or European links. The AC current could be taken straight to Sizewell where there are spare busbars – from the decommissioned Sizewell A –which provide a direct connection to the grid.

We then achieve - No new pylons, no long underground cables, no roads blocked, no farm land lost, no harm to communities, no damage to the tourist industry, assembly of substations on industrial land, and transport by sea.

The alternatives are :-

To reconsider the Bawdsey to Bramford cable route using up to date cable technology . Chris Wheeler has earlier explained how the use of more efficient high voltage DC technology could enable SPR to use the Bramford substations with little disturbance to the recently finished cable way. This must be the quickest and cheapest solution for SPR.

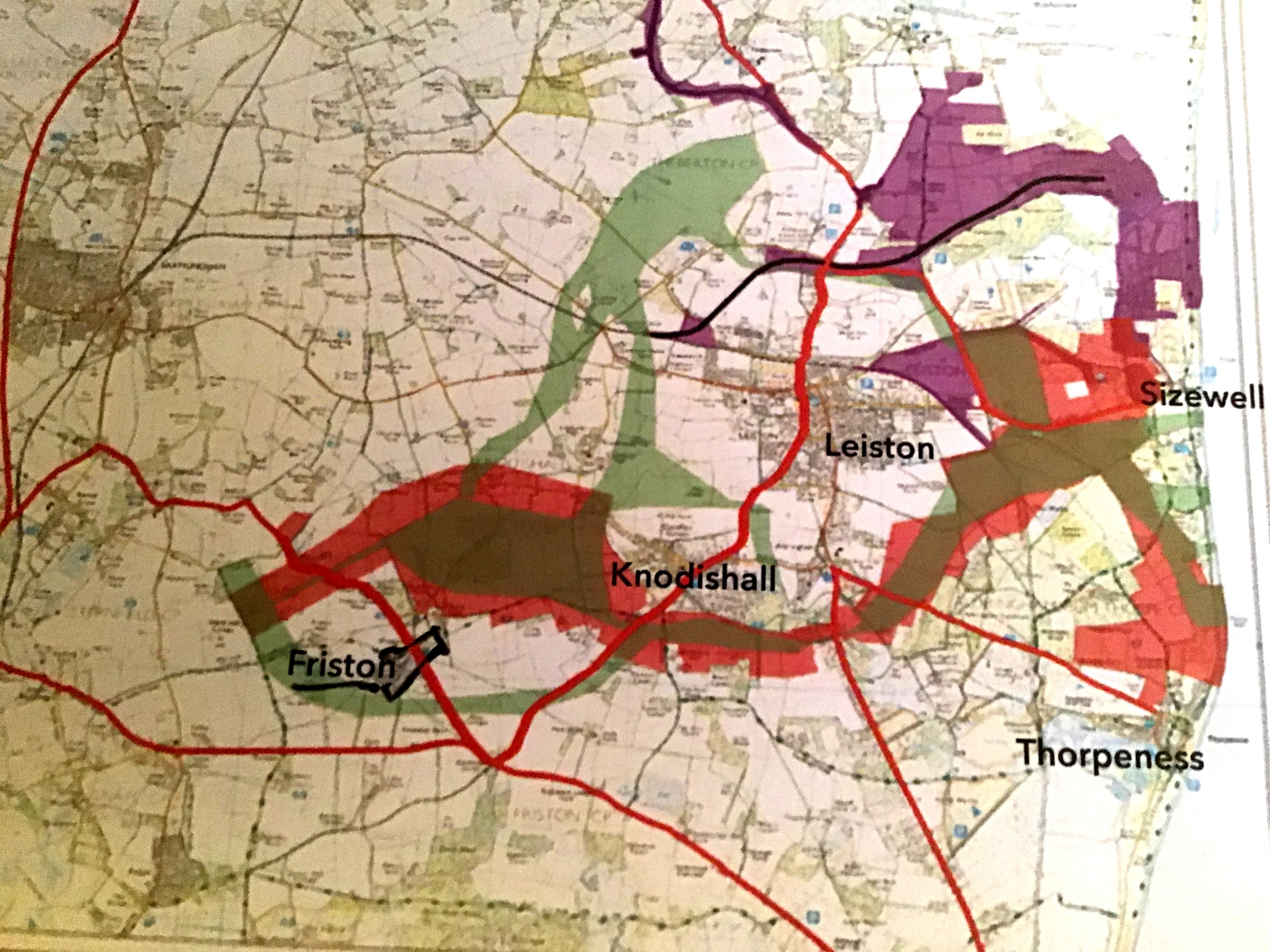
To develop the Bradwell site, as recommended by Therese Coffey, which has space for all the planned power lines and substations as well as a population which would welcome further renewable energy infrastructure. The overhead HT cabling would have to be upgraded for the proposed nuclear station in any event but the cost would then be spread over all the users of the site.

I fully support the representations made by SASES, SEAS, Therese Coffey and all who have protested against this flawed proposal. It is clearly designed by National Grid to act as a Trojan Horse to enable them to build an enormous industrial complex in the unspoilt Suffolk countryside and must be rejected.

Tony Morley,

Friston.

1.11.20



Sizewell

Leiston

Knodishall

Friston

Thorpeness





