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00:00

Good afternoon, everyone. And welcome back to today's issue specific hearings 10 for East Anglia, one North and East Anglia to offshore wind farms. Just before we move on to item four of the agenda, Can I check with the case team that you can hear me, and that the recordings, live streams and live captions have started.

00:22

Good afternoon, Caroline, I can confirm that the recordings have started and the live stream is running along with the captions.

00:28

Thank you very much Emery. Just before when we do move on, I think it is likely that we will get through item four of the agenda in the next session, even if that means slightly extending this session just before our normal break of one for lunch. Does anybody have any problems with that if we do that, now, okay. In that case, I will move on, as you will have seen from the agenda item four provides an opportunity for interested parties to present their submissions on health and social wellbeing, as well as comment on any matters raised by the applicant in agenda item three, this morning, there are a number of subjects overlaps with other topics, and issue specific hearings. And we are particularly interested during this hearing to hear on matters of mental health, including anxiety and stress, as well as any local knowledge of demographics. That being said, interested parties are welcome to raise any matters relating to health and social well being that they consider relevant. What I would like to do is run through through the parties in order and then return to the applicant at the end of this session. And so if we could hear from Suffolk County Council, in the first instance.

02:01

Sorry, I just got rid my technology though.

02:04

No problem.

02:04

So, yes, I mean, I think I'm gonna reserve our position. I think in terms of answering any questions that the XA in particular wants to raise. we'd prefer to do that in a written deadline, if that's okay, yourself, because obviously, we didn't have anybody attend from public health, unfortunately, today?

02:27

Nope, that's absolutely fine. What would probably suggest then, is just to listen, obviously, listen to what the applicants have to say. And then obviously, listen to the rest of the parties this afternoon. And

then if you do have anything you'd like to comment, or elaborate on, then do that at deadline eight.
Okay,

02:44

thank you very much.

02:45

Thank you. Okay. Would aesthetic council like to make their submissions on this agenda item? Thank you,

02:58

Naomi, go the Suffolk Council. So as it's been stated, there's obviously a lot of crossover with other issues, circuit hearings and topic matters. So then we've we've made representation, and there has been hearings covering these matters. So I'll give a sort of a brief overview of our position on some of that is better so. So in terms of air quality, where obviously there are links between air quality and the health we've the applicants have done, it demonstrates our satisfaction, that the emissions from from the whole rates would not have a significant impact on air quality. And then then we've accepted those. And we've also been in discussion with the applicants in relation to a commitment to 70% of the ACB meeting the Euro six standard. So they are seeing matters in relation to air quality. And there's also we feel there's sufficient measures being committed to within the outline code of construction practice to deal with dust management. So we've also had extensive representations submitted in relation to noise and operational noise. And obviously, there's a hearing this week to discuss, discuss those those matters further. So I won't go into all the all those elements now. But obviously, we welcome the updates the outline code of construction practice and the additional measures the applicant has committed to in relation to specific sensitive areas where properties and sensitive receptors are in close proximity to the cable route and construction works. So we're still obviously reviewing the outline code of construction practice, but we certainly wanted to highlight that, you know, we welcome those, those commitments that the applicant has made and also we Welcome to the community liaison structure. So the code of construction practice secures the stakeholder communications plan. And we see that that the importance and recognise the importance of this continued engagement with the local communities and stakeholders through the Pope, pre construction, and obviously, through the construction works to keeping people informed. We, as I mentioned, and as the applicants have mentioned, that they're providing a community liaison officer as a single point of contact for the community and say this is welcomed. And in relation to our experience of East Anglia. One, this mechanism has has worked well with providing the community this point of contacts, and providing us obviously a point of contact them as well. So and in terms of of the what the applicants have said, in relation to their pre construction events and their information events during and ahead of any sort of significant construction activities. That's fully supported by us. And we, I suppose, one of the other matters which we have made representation through the statement of Common Ground process and related to land contamination, which obviously there are links there, as well to human health. And we recognise that they outline and code of construction practice, we believe that provides sufficient information and control for this element. And obviously, this, the lank termination is also controlled through separate legislation as well, in terms of I know, that this obviously hearing is, is you're interested, specifically in representaciones, in relation to mental health, and we haven't, as a council made any specific representations on that today.

And we'll be deferring to other public health bodies in relation to matters of, of the public health and anxiety and, and stress and those elements. So I don't really have any further representations to make on that element. Thank you.

07:20

Thank you very much. And just if I could ask a quick question in my school just before you if you go. Is it miss school? Do we still have you?

07:32

Yes. Volunteers?

07:35

And is it your experience that the East Anglia, one communications strategy, assisted to reduce issues around community anxiety in relation to East Anglia? Three.

07:51

So my personal experience was through the latter stages of the construction works. So I can speak from that perspective. And certainly, it's assisted us from the District Council perspective as being able to provide people and inform people that, you know, there's this mechanism in place. And it also allowed us to liaise with the community liaison officer to understand any issues which were going on and and try and get these issues addressed. And then we can take this back to the applicants. And so they this was sort of one element of the structure, but we also had an implementation meeting, and other measures, which assisted with the continued engagement. But certainly, from my personal perspective, I believe that the community liaison structure was helpful to members of the community in helping to provide them that that routes of contact back to the applicants.

08:54

Thank you. It's very helpful. Thank you, Miss school counsellor fellows for algebra, town council, please.

09:06

Thank you, Miss Jones. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen, Marion fellows representing over town council. I had some particular questions which I'll come to for the applicant. But in terms of, of our representation to this agenda item. The use of the word receptor, as we know means an organ or a cell which is able to respond or is affected by something. And so every single person animal habitat, is a receptor in the area to a lesser or greater degree, and is going to absorb that harm. My concern is that there's been no interviews and therefore no independent evidence before you have people who've already been harmed. At briston and In the adjacent areas, by the first the consultation stages, and then this application examination stage, and the applicant could have done that. They haven't spoken to anyone. They haven't quantified or done questionnaires. And I don't believe they've done so of four previous applications which have been consented, have they? And if they have all they publish them, please. The other difficulty is, it feels like there's just too polarised positions on a continuum line, there's the applicant telling you, it's okay. It won't cause long term harm, or the harm will be over in a period of time. And then on the other end of the line, we're saying, but that's not true. And, you know, there's no

independent person in the middle telling you, there is harm to health, there isn't harm to health. And I think we are really disadvantaged today, with this examination taking place during the COVID pandemic, because I've tried to get colleagues and health professionals to engage. And as you've heard Public Health England, local hospitals, they can't they can't This is not on their priority list today. But I know in other terms, it would be. So I do say to you, there is a gap. There's a disconnection that we need to Trump somehow try to, to bridge. And I'm not going to be the one to do that. But I certainly have some questions, I think you as the examining authority should follow up. So, have you interviewed anyone at Branford? Have you interviewed anyone yet? At first? And have you got evidence of that? Yes, a policies either to avoid the harm to mitigate the harm or compensate the harm. And let's be honest, we're not going to avoid it, if this gets consent is going to be extremely difficult to mitigate some of the things and the compensation that actually is going to be offered is not going to be what is going to compensate people. And to do that, I think SBR would have a big shock, and would actually agree that this is not a viable project to do here, if they actually compensated to the level that is required. This might be called a standard process by the applicant, which I thought was a bit offensive actually, um, and Rochdale envelope is not comforting, because although the applicants can say, well, it will never be as bad as this. In fact, it could be because he rushed out envelope approaches to to include the worst case scenario as being potential. I'd like to remind Mr. pasola. The open trenching may be less noisy. But in fact, there's several bits of the application where we're told open trenching can't be used. And HDD is the preferable and the only option, for example, on the cliff, Landon lander, you know, landing point. And I'd like to ask Mr. persona. First of all, he mentioned that there'd been measures for those living in close proximity. So my first question is, what are those measures? Okay, so So for example, if I live in close proximity, how can I use my outdoor space? How can I garden without having impact? How can I have my windows open at night and still sleep? How can I live my normal daily life? for 12 years? For example, how can I walk past the area? How can I go my normal footpath walks without being impacted? Because that's what we need to know what are these measures that would totally enable me still to do those.

14:04

And then going on to some of the information that Miss young currently provided the 59 events that she's proud of, of delivering, we're all to point really where we didn't have full understanding. And I apologise terribly that a lot of us were a bit slow to pick up on some things. But it wasn't completely transparent. I went to one of the first presentations at the oboe Jubilee Hall in 2017. And a lot of it was focused on the array and on renewable energy, and we were very much in favour of that very much in favour of Yes, renewable energy using the coast here and the wind to generate that. There was hardly any talk of cable runs substations, and I consider myself and I'm not not boasting here, but I consider myself somebody who's able to perhaps read a technical document. Although I'm not technical, and actually understand the impact, I didn't understand the impact. In fact, Freston was not involved in stage one or stage two, there were no posters in Preston, Preston parish Council was not contacted in stage one, or stage two of the actual consultation, there was nothing in snipe was nothing interesting. It was all Oprah with the coast and the array. That's the whole focus of those early stages. There were no visits offered to view Brantford at the construction stage. Okay, we're offered it now, come and see how wonderful it all looks when it's finished. There should have been videos made that could have been shown to us now of the worst, we should have been able to visit when the big delivery was would instead of taking quarter of an hour, two hours took four days to go through a section of road. That's

when we should have been made available that information. just telling us how the harm is going to happen. For example, you know, wonderful to see the HDD machine. And I thought again, it was a bit insulting to say, Well, some engineers were really quite excited about that, as if the rest of us who don't come from from an engineering background, the somehow, you know, people who worry about things unnecessarily. That's, you know, that's a technology argument put forward by developers, without understanding the hearts and minds of real people. The language that she used at these events is also spins down, consciously or unconsciously, because the people delivering the information are the applicant. So when Miss young goes through an event and stands up and starts speaking, what you forget what we all forget, is you can never speak as someone again, who doesn't know or doesn't experience your own framework. So she's speaking from a framework today, Mr. And Mrs. Everyone is Mr. persona is from their framework. And they believe that it's not harmful, therefore, they're not empathetic. They're not they don't understand the concerns of other people. And if you're hearing a presentation that says, well, normal, people will realise that you shouldn't be worried about this, who's going to be brave enough, like the little boy in the crowd, put their hand up and say, Well, actually, I'm worried about this. Because it makes you it's like your problem, you don't understand how wonderful this engineering project is. So events need to be put on by independent neutral people. And otherwise, you won't actually get the true response from the public. Now, talking about people are not neutral. I must just mention the applicant mentioned the East of England energy group. They're actually funded by them. And so they're funded by the industry, they're not neutral. And they actually wrote out to members recently asking them as a PR exercise to write to the planning Inspectorate and say they approved s SPR projects, which I thought was very helpful. And I'm sorry, but the jobs issue again raised by Miss young in terms of it's a benefit to health to get these jobs is again another red herring because these jobs in the construction industry and the maintenance of wind turbines would happen any work. They're not just dependent on the location up for a

19:00

job loss in tourism, though is and thank you for reminding Miss Miss Shan I'd forgotten about the harm of actually the threat of losing your job if you work in the tourism industry locally. mischung agreed that this project is worse because it's in a compact area is not stretched out like Branford is. So the impact is actually might be on a less number of people. But it's within a smaller geographic area. And I disagree that mental health issues were not present to previous projects. I would say that here at Suffolk, perhaps we're ballsy, not perhaps a bit tenacious here on the coast. Perhaps people there didn't just come forward. Perhaps they felt it was a done deal, a bitter pill that they just had to swallow and except for the good of everything they've been told for the good of the climate. For the good of the economy, for the good of people having fuel at a price they can afford. Over the last few weeks, I've actually spoken to some people that were impacted by previous projects. And they said that they were completely shocked when the project started, even though they'd gone to the events, even though they'd seen the demonstrations taken pass in examining authority, period and, and then the events that happened post consent. Everything exceeded their worst nightmare. They accepted it, they said, for the good of the benefit they've sold, you know, to the wider, wider world, but they wish they hadn't. And remember, examining authority please don't keep comparing Friston to Branford. I hope you've had the chance to visit Branford to actually look at that in comparison. But remember, there was already a national grid substation there. This project builds the substation as well, there is no substation in Preston, there is no industrial development in Friston. So we need to start by comparing to what there

is now. So you can't compare here to Branford the East suffer comments on air quality, not being an impact, as a little bit disappointed about that on mental health. Because if you just took one walk, and it happened to be a day that there was a lot of dust, that could have huge impact on you. the demographics of this area, which you wanted us to look at, do mean i think that the impact is greater. The demographics is more sensitive here, we have in stuff at this part of Salford, coastal, got a larger number of older people that come here to retire, we do have a rural community that are more isolated. And we do have pockets of deprivation, where families don't get the support they need that they would do in a city environment. Isolation builds resilience. But it also means you don't have the supporting networks that you might have in the outskirts of Ipswich. I also disagree with the applicant that the focus should be on the information coming posts consent, I think the information should be there, or we should be meeting with people now to express our concerns, or prior to the examining authority starting the examination. And that hasn't happened. The project should be measured against what is normal for people here in this area.

23:02

with very limited, as I say at the moment because of the pandemic of getting independent advice from public England. And I hope that will come over the next few weeks. But in conclusion, I'd like to say on a scale of someone who's just visits the area once or somebody like me, who doesn't think about it every day, but thinks about these issues perhaps once or twice a week, along to someone who every day, from the minute they wake up until the minute they tried to go to sleep at first. And there's no doubt that these projects will have a huge impact on their mental health and well being. And I'm not sure how we can ever quantify that. As the applicant has said it's emerging work that we need to try to understand the impact. Gone are the days where only a year ago we would say, Well, yeah, it's go go somewhere. I'll have to put up with it. No, those are not the days anymore. We are not going to accept this. There's no mitigation, and there's no compensation can put this right. So my question is to the applicant, what are you actually going to do to allow me to do specific things in my day, the examples I gave you. And would you please publish the notes in minutes of all the meetings of the community liaison officer with the public in the past at the previous projects, so we can see that? Would you also publish the letters of complaint you've received emails or complaints, redacted? Of course, we don't want to have personal information. But we want to actually see the evidence of what the problems have been. And we do think that interviews independently interview is not done. By the applicant not done by us, but by somebody independent should occur, because that's the only way the examining authority will have the evidence they need to say, Is this an acceptable level of harm to put these people through for 12 years? And then please remember it is the community the impact. If this if these projects are consented, the new national grip substation has already offered connections to other projects. So we not just measuring the impact of VA one North VA two, and size, we'll see we are measuring the impact of the other projects will follow to this area, if you do give approval. Thank you.

25:51

Thank you very much cancer fellows. Now, obviously, you did raise quite a number of questions there. And I'm going to hear from everybody first, and then come back to the applicants. But I will just note at this point that I will expect the applicants to respond to some of the questions and the points that you've raised that at the end of this at the end of this item. Just something else that you raised. That was when you asked if we had visited Branford, yes, and some of the members of the panel have visited bumping

and you'll be able to look at our unaccompanied site visit notes site inspection notes on the website just to see when when we did that. Okay, then, I am going to ask to hear from Christian parochial church Council, please next.

26:47

Can you hear me You're like,

26:49

Yes, I can hear you fine. Mr. Eisenstein,

26:52

my name is Simon I'm a natural facts. I'm speaking not just for Houston parochial church Council, but also for Justin parish Council, but also cc's. So I can see

27:03

you doing it, you're getting a combined submission for

27:06

rolling this back at the end to talk about specifically first and then Good afternoon, sir. First of all, we emphasise very much how we appreciate that the panel have become extremely sensitive to the very deeply felt stress and anxieties expressed in the submissions and hearing so far. And as a result, you've dedicated a specific hearing to understand these better, all of us are full of a sense of loss of our freedom, our quality of life, and a great sense of foreboding of what lies ahead. And that's because the greatest impact of the proposals bearing on our mental health and well being is uncertainty. And I think that's already been acknowledged by the applicant, if not the extent that all these developments will bring social and economic harm to the south Suffolk heritage coast. levelling down might be an apt term. Please remember that we were first alerted to these proposals only in the spring of 2018. Nobody has had any understanding or knowledge of cable corridors and three industrial substations invading their space and communities. They have been quite understandably devastated by the scale of the proposals. The consultation coastside was lamentable, and indeed was subject to the critical report lodged with yourselves by cc's and all it did was exacerbate people's fears and uncertainties. We only further direct communication with the applicant was with Kristen parish Council in July 2019. When those issues were raised, which clearly will not follow through and remain unresolved. Meanwhile, discussions have been going on the statutory consultees but these have largely excluded any dialogue with parish councils or the communities affected. So, here we are towards the end of the examination, reading through 240 pages of statements of common ground, we know many outstanding issues of disagreement, many of which to the non expert might properly have been addressed at the site selection stage. One emerging major way which I've been asked to bring to your attention is that given the range, scale and duration of pre construction works, these should be included as part of the overall Construction Code of Conduct. These are major areas of anxiety within the within our community. Meanwhile, here we are having endured three years of uncertainty such that we've lost all trust in the applicants understanding of Stuff like heritage coast, and consequently the ability to deliver the projects in a timely, efficient and sympathetic manner and having to wait until October to ascertain our fate. We then face a peer to peer construction works of uncertain scale and then duration before the start of the

formal construction period. In effect, we will have faced some seven to 10 years of uncertainty. But that is not all. The following have come out in just the last two weeks. The rule six letter advising the commencement of the public examination of size we'll see on the 23rd of March 2021. That is even before our own examination has been completed, and when common statutory council keys and community groups have to address the huge issues arising from both examinations, not least there are overlapping issues and cumulative impacts. Once again, we emphasise the overwhelming effect of the size for developments on the separate coasts, communities and infrastructure. requested them How can it be possible to consider further energy projects in this area? And then National Grid interconnector holdings made a presentation to parish councils and community groups on the first of March about their proposals for developing the Nautilus interconnector. This was first aired in the oil early autumn of 2019. They are embarking on the public consultations, leading to presenting its decio early in 2022 and the project completion date of 2028. We've already had discussions with local authorities. The latest briefing paper accompanying the presentation and available on the National Grid website is quite specific that the connecting point will be at distance

32:04

if you're willing to partner with other projects in the pipeline, where does all this fit in with the various review the government's energy white paper and its desire to streamline the transmission infrastructure? Leave aside for the moment the individual incumbents have questions arising. How on earth are we as human beings expected to respond to these developments and the processes. The present examination has been gruelling for all those most affected and that is not just Justin, but extends to communities across the Suffolk heritage coast. We now move into succession of similar processes demanding huge physical, mental and financial resources beyond reasonable means. We need to be properly engaged with these processes so that we can understand and gauge the impacts on our lives. When our cultural heritage, land and seascapes, environment, health and prosperity are at stake. And certainty then is our first and major concern. But our second point is the spall over the Suffolk heritage coast. The applicant continues to argue that the size of their development footprint is relatively small, but it is not in relation to the limits of the heritage coast. Extending concise well. Now we have the clearest evidence that person is in visits as a hub for future energy projects, with cabling following similar paths across the same landscape. However, wider concerns do not arise from nimbyism, but from the cumulative impacts elsewhere. That sprawl is being accompanied by an increasing industrialization and urbanisation have suffered arising from energy linkages elsewhere, but most importantly, its own economic expansion. Its deadline five submission, Justin PCCW sought to highlight the scale and range of investment across just the East Suffolk coast. Since then, the budget gave approval for the 650 million pounds. Three port developments at three Felixstowe inherits the a 14 count Commodore is being filled with warehouses and housing developments. There was a multi million pound expansion of our desktop park at martlesham and housing developments across the suffer for total in excess of 5300 homes. To the north, the lake loading bridge will further open up load of stuff in the use of the age 12. And this leads into our third point that whilst This makes the jobs outlook very bright, the increasing urbanisation produces its own social stirrings. The potential for increasing income inequalities and deprivation and the state living with few compensator II amenities. We have sought to obtain thickness which might explain the substantial burden of the social care budget, and the numbers in care and the causes and reasons. Despite being a well balanced economy with low unemployment, it has long been a concern that there should be such numbers in care. When we have pivoted to live in

such a rewarding environment. The need to preserve our environment is now established in government policies and guidelines to maintain access to green spaces, free from the worst of pollution for the relief and appreciation by all as a means of enhancing physical health and well being that needs to be recognised and absorbed into a vision of how Suffolk should be developed. And how much that access is valued is reflected in how the cultural life is developed alongside the visitor economy, and how much that contributes to well being and jobs. So our fourth point is that these energy products are not in remote parts. But at the heart of the rich cultural and scenic environment. It really is sad how the cut applicant seeks to undermine the credibility of the Suffolk dmo research and completely fails to understand the interconnectivity of all that happens in the stretch of coast. What is important is that these numbers of visitors and more continue to be able to come and enjoy and ensure the future so much that happens here.

36:47

The submission of the older business association that deadline five and accompanying video encapsulates how the local economy and community into the relate how the cultural attraction of the area spreads out into a diverse raft of events and festivals, making the area almost a year round destination. To add substance to that Britain pairs arts has published its annual review of the year 1919 to 2019 2020. A year before the pandemic took hold. its own budget is 5 million pounds. And since the majority of that is spent in the area, there will be an economic multiplier benefit. And remember, that is not just a magnet for visitors, but it has a substantial outreach programme of activities. Which community team works to improve the well being of people across Suffolk and beyond. in a variety of settings. There's programmes for young musicians of residential and inspiring surroundings with accommodation provided locally. They play a significant role in creative health. The surrounding communities are hugely protective of its industrial and artistic heritage, the latter being based around the ethos of its founders bitten. Snape Maltings is located just two and a half miles away from testing. And the proposed developments is a 10 minute drive away, or 14 minute walk. There was no point in arguing semantics of all these energy projects are to progress. There are bound to be adverse effects on the attractions of the area. Its accessibility, the quality of life, leading to a following of numbers, and hence the benefits of income and employment within the service and hospitality sectors. Never mind a diminution of the quality of life for those who enjoy its rich cultural mix. Justin is physically and emotionally at the heart of this area. And I'm now going to ask movies back to talk about that if you can. My cola movie.

39:22

Thank you, Simon. Yes. Oh, sorry. Thank you. Thank you, Simon for that. Thank you, Madam for the opportunity to speak this afternoon and thank you to for Councillor fellows who speaks so well on our behalf. And I make no apologies if I repeat some of her points. I speak today not any sort of medical background but purely as a resident of Friston and therefore I'm somewhat emotionally involved because I am being harmed by the projects. I'd like to firstly don't go back to some of the points from session three. Mr. Smith alluded to the fact that people generally Really a positive in their view on wind farms. And I think most people would agree with that. What people are less happy with though is that when they find out about the infrastructure behind the wind farms, and I'm referring to onshore substances, then we find out is anything but green, and they're not very happy at all. This young referred to the work of the applicant during construction of the EAA one, but I must remind you, as has

been said, that was a very, very different project. There was already a substation there, and it certainly wasn't as close to a village as we're finding with these projects, whose site boundaries still as we speak, creeping closer and closer to the village. She spoke at some length about how people appreciated the information they received during the construction of EA one. And of course, we have only her word for that. It would be interesting to hear as Councillor fellow said, from people of the area who were affected by the construction, what would they say about living near the construction area. Moving on to consultation of AIA one north in AIA to which he spoke about at some length. I'm afraid our experience of meeting the applicants representatives at consultation events has not allayed any fears in the past. Why should we think that meetings during the consent consultation period would be any different. As mentioned earlier, being told something is going to happen does not result in less fear being told you have or may have a serious illness does not take the fear of that illness away. Although the applicant might consider that their consultation for EA one north and EA two projects was effective, just because people attended events just because people showed interest does not mean that it meant people were less fearful. You can yourselves look at the application applicants consultation report. If you do you will understand that pre phase one and phase one consultation was purely about the onshore development. Residents of Friston knew nothing about it. So to phase two consultation, although there wasn't any public information event at Friston, there were meetings with Frischmann parish Council. It wasn't until made August 2018. At phase three consultation. That system parish briefing was followed by public information day on the 29th of June. These days were conducted as part of the applicants consultation were felt by villagers to be merely a tick box exercise. They were at best a PR exercise. The experience of villagers was that there were too few experts to give real information. SPR represents representatives did not have answers to questions. There was a lack of knowledge of the local area by the representatives. And the photo montages that were produced to the proposed developments didn't even show where the village was in relation to the proposed site.

42:56

In the consultation, 3.5 events where there were public meetings that local towns and villages the applicant confirm their choices Friston for the proposed substation based on their Wragge assessment, which is you know, Stacy's has considered somewhat flawed. When it came to phase four consultation with the extensive written volumes of materials that were produced, and included USB drives to help people there were information days and a variety of locations. And it's only at this point that people were really coming to understand what was actually going to be reached on us. Of course, it wasn't helped at one event on the 18th of February 2019, when one SR SPR representative was overheard to say, it's not good news to be living in Friston. But that's history. I'd like to talk about the effects on the village of Friston at what's actually happening at the moment. To give you a brief context demographics there are 190 residential properties in the catchment area most affected by the applicants proposals under the 35 village residences 21 weekend holiday homes 31 investment hardly less than three vacant the population split over 65 is 137 people, which is 56% of the population three of whom are 90 plus those people under 65 107 people which is 44% of the population, of which 30 which is 12% live alone and 34 14% are deemed vulnerable. And of course, we have got to census to march 2021, which will give us a much more accurate picture of the current demographic of the village. But the expectation clearly is that during the consent construction period of EIA, one north or near two projects should they be consented more residents will move into the vulnerable category. Through our villages for whom, like myself Krishna has been their home for some it's the whole of their lives for me was a rural escape

a reward for years of work. Friston is a desirable location both to live and visit, going to its central position close to the towns of Orah, Saxmundham and Leiston with their shops and facilities, the International art centres Snape Maltings, and the villages accessibility to the many and diverse recreational facilities and unique landscape of the East Suffolk coast. Local estate agents describe Friston as a tranquil village line close to the AONB. It's Nate Warren. The current permanent residents of Friston include families with young children, people of working age, and a large number of people of mature age who have retired from work first and attracts irregular flow of inward residents and as it's more affordable, it doesn't come with a price tag of a coastal town nor that of a trendy location. You residents engage in the local community and provide inward investment through refurbishing existing properties and infill buildings. Kristen has no shops, no Leisure Centre, no tennis courts, no golf course. It doesn't even have its own village green. This is leased to the parish council by a local landowner. The only pavement in the village runs alongside the village green, so people walk through the village on its narrow lanes. For instance, only facilities are the local pub, the old checkers, a garriage, which can service and repair cars. The village hall which holds a twice weekly exercise class about the untapped dance class for children. It hosts village events for example, quiz nights the annual Christmas fair and provides refreshment facilities for community events and the services at the church. St Mary the virgin the grade two listed three grade two star listed mediaeval church is the spiritual hub of the village and the source of many fundraising events for Eastern Baptist Church provides an additional place of worship. The only outdoor exercise facility in the villages the footpaths, which give access to outline homes and villages, and connect Friston to other parts of the coastal region. The vital connection that the footpaths bring to the local schools and metres and villages cannot be underestimated. The village population is cohesive, as well as independently minded. This has been most evidence in the response to COVID-19 which has led to the establishment of the village helpline, a village newsletter the swift delivered by volunteers, and has ensured the sustainability of village institutions. I'd like to refer briefly to the east Suffolk local plan policy s s CLP. Four point 10 Town Centre environments. This is a document which we believe is at the heart of what we want for the village of Friston. Faced with the loss of freedom which has existed here for over 1000 years. We respectfully ask that these basics which are acknowledged as necessary for visitors should be preserved for those of us who live here and on which the sustainability of the village realise.

47:48

The plan states that and I quote, development will encourage people spend more time enjoy and participate and where the plan includes the words town centres we of course with substitute village. It will do this by supporting opportunities for social interaction, ensuring safe pedestrian access to link up with and enhance existing pavements, pedestrian spaces, routes and focal points, improving access for cyclists, people with limited mobility and people with other disabilities. Enabling physical linkages so that pedestrians can move easily and safely between parts of the village and providing environmental improvements that make the most of historic environments and heritage features. Simply put the villages of Friston wants to be able to live and even see out their lives in safety, comfort and dignity whilst ensuring that the village continues to thrive and develop. Excuse me. Safety is written representation on human health at deadline one. This is a range of health and well being impacts that were being which were considered not to have been given due attention by the applicant. These included fear of the unknown, lack of trust, air quality, fluid, landscape and paths ecology and onshore ornithology archaeology and cultural heritage, noise, traffic and transport, safety, proximity to the village

impact on village sustainability, potential for mitigation, preserving community life and cumulative impacts. We thank the examining authority for holding hearings on many of these topics. Today we wish to draw your attention to the ongoing causes of anxiety, stress and uncertainty. Today the applicant has shown a complete lack of respect to the residence of Friston with insufficient comprehensive consideration being given to flooding noise, air quality, etc. Especially during the construction period. The applicant has sought to defend their position as we've heard already by dismissing the concerns of the communities. They support sorry, which demonstrates how poorly they have communicated with local population. They talk with perception. To support this they have produced vast quantities of documentation, the contents of which treat every concern as a negligible impact. Imagine how that feels to a resident. The applicants extensive documents acknowledge that in general existing environment of proposed works, there exists a high proportion of retirement age people. Despite it statement that I quote, people who spend extended periods at home may experience greater noise exposure durations than those who are absent during normal working hours. The applicant refuses to restrict working hours at the construction site from 7am to 7pm. weekends, sorry weekdays and 7am to 1pm on Saturdays. I further worrying development is that the applicant has recently spoken of the 24 hour working periods for HDD during at some locations. The applicants documentation written by consultants and authors with limited knowledge of the area or concern for the local environment contains inconsistencies and errors. on tourism it noted people are attracted to the area because of its sandy beaches, not a feature of obrah thought Nestle sighs one annoys one early document produced data suggesting that post construction the area around the substation site would be quieter and quieter than it is currently, where there's only farmland. How can that be? Nowhere in its documentation has the applicant illustrated a single benefit to the village of Friston or other local communities. Should the examining authority see fit to grant consent for the project we ask that a robust construction plan which includes pre construction work be agreed amongst all parties, including provision for monitoring. Currently, villages face the prospect of 10 years of construction. Preschool pre construction plans recently revealed mean that there will be even more years of disruption as works are brought forward prior to the actual construction start date. At this point, this is not including the cumulative impacts of the projects. It's important to remember that for some people 10 years is the remaining years of their lives, it is not temporary. Furthermore, the applicant's plans keep changing. Even during the course of this examination site boundaries are creeping closer to the village. There is still disagreements from experts over sound and tonality over the risk of flooding. How will these impact on the lives of villagers imagine how this feels not knowing is uncertain.

52:32

Around the proposed substation site, there are listed buildings, including the church which cannot instal double glazing, or these homes just homeowners just metres away from the substation site really not going to be affected by no noise. Friston regularly experiences flooding, not only in its narrow lanes, but also on the main road running through the village. The applicant has failed to assure residents that their homes will not be affected by water from fields covered in concrete. Older people are generally recognised as being less active. villages and tourists rely on the football path network for exercise. There are known physical and mental health benefits from being in the fresh air in the natural world. This has never been more evident than in the current pandemic. This will be taken away with the planned closure of footpaths. The village is home to dog owners indeed high levels of dog ownership is more common with older people. They rely on footpaths to walk their dogs that proposed plans which

will divert the footpath that currently runs north of the village to forest and more onto Grove road and will circle the substation site will not be the safe tranquil walk it is today. But its proximity to the pre construction traffic of Grove road and construction activities on the fields. The applicant suggesting that residents can quote get into their cars and go elsewhere to walk is unhelpful and far from a green alternative in terms of car emissions and climate change. The nearest alternative walking area to Friston is snake Warren three miles away with limited parking for about six cars. If people do have to drive in order to exercise, this could well result in more accidents on the roads. The lanes and roads in this area will be busier due to construction traffic and workers vehicles. older drivers generally drive more slowly. That's not desirable on busy roads, and will surely be a cause of frustration to delivery drivers on tight deadlines. Pfister has dark skies. Villages will no longer have the pleasure of stargazing at night due to the emissions of lighting. The tranquil historic setting of the village he would seem is to be lost forever. arable fields home to birds and wildlife to be destroyed with holidaymakers who currently come visit not just his village but the wider local area what to walk cycle on unsafe roads around an industrial complex from where wildlife has been banished. The ages are uncertain about their financial future perspective how sales have fallen through on discover the pros proposed work villages desperately in need of selling their homes for health reasons have had to swallow a dramatic fall in sale price in order to sell. And that is even before consent has been granted. What will happen to house prices if construction begins. Recently a home in the village was filmed as part of the programme escaped to the contrary. However, when the prospective buyers and production crew learned the applicants plans for the fields to the northern village, they walked away in disbelief on the edge of the applicant site boundary that the village allotments population will be in spending hours there, when surrounded by the sights, sounds and fumes from construction. Will our gardens which have become places of refuge in these COVID times continue to be quiet places to sit and enjoy nature, hand in hand with construction sites comes in increasing crime. Currently, Friston does not suffer from data now the behaviour theft. Indeed, the most common offence is speeding on the village road and lanes by visitors. Why is there a need for high perimeter fencing, if not to deter people from trespassing? This won't be villages. The question ultimately is what is driving this project. The residents of frison appreciate that the applicant scottishpower renewables is a business. It has shareholders who want rewards for their investment. To be successful businesses need to make a profit. The applicant is not investing in wind farms and their related onshore infrastructure out of a sense of altruism. They're doing this because they want some take a free plentiful resource, wind and use it for profits, so they can buy and sell energy to the UK Government into Europe. If this wasn't a business venture, if the money involved was no object, then we might not be here today, as frisked and would not be the location of choice for this substation. During the course of these hearings, we have heard on numerous occasions, if we do that, it would be too expensive. If we were to do that it would be too costly. If real environmental concerns with the driver in this venture and not profit than the applicant would locate the onshore infrastructure elsewhere. There is no mitigation there is no compensation, which will help us in this village. We've had no communication from the applicant since 2019. Would any of their representative like to move to prison.

57:18

The applicants actions today have not relieved but merely compounded issues leading to the detrimental three detriment of the mental health and well being of the business residents of Friston. We seek assurance that should the examining authority give consent to these projects, the applicant will be

duly bound to ensure the future safety and well being of the village as a Friston not just for the length of the construction period. But throughout the operational and decommissioning stages. And like to finish by just giving reference to a document route for scanning, I believe a bond consultants for the applicant. They have a document produced in 2018, responsible and sustainable business development. one chapter talks about acting with integrity, but it contains a poster. do what is right, not what is easy.

58:10

Thank you.

58:15

Thank you very much. misspoke, just me referring to that particular document. Could you submit that into the examination for us, please, now you refer to it,

58:26

I will do. Thank you

58:27

my deadline. Thank you very much,

58:29

no problem, which appreciate you.

58:34

And thank you. I'm now going to move on two seas. And I am aware that Mr. Read more needs to leave after lunch and it does look like we're going to have to go on beyond lunch at this point. So Miss Gilmore, is it worth hearing from Mr. Read more in the first instance,

58:52

on my proposal, please, if this would be possible with the examiner is that we all start afresh after lunch? Because he had a lunchtime meeting. And so I'd given him permission to go to that meeting. Because we were now past one o'clock. And I hope you're understanding of that, that we haven't expected everything to be where it is now. Flexible understanding of the situation, please. Could we have fresh? Start with the C because we have three specialists and they all segue into each other?

59:36

That's absolutely fine. And what time will Mr. Read more be back Miss Gilmore,

59:42

ac 30 be back anytime after two o'clock, if that's all right with you.

59:49

Okay, yep, that that will be fine. Well, in that case, I'm going to suggest that we break for 45 minutes and come back at two o'clock.

59:58

Thank you very much indeed. There's no problem okay

1:00:01

then. So we'll we'll we'll finish that and we'll recommence at two o'clock. Thank you, everyone.