

From: [REDACTED]
To: [East Anglia ONE North; East Anglia Two](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Deadline 8 Submission by the Aldeburgh Society
Date: 25 March 2021 16:00:53
Attachments: [Windfarms Deadline 8 Statement - 25-03-21.docx](#)

Dear Rynd Smith and Colleagues

We attach a further statement on behalf of the Aldeburgh Society reiterating our strong opposition to the onshore elements of SPR's DCO applications.

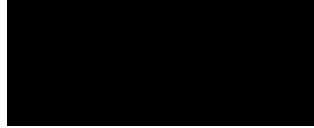
With kind regards

Katherine Mackie, Chair

Paul Bongers de Rath, Secretary

THE ALDEBURGH SOCIETY

Registered Charity Number 262239 www.aldeburghsociety.org.uk



OFFSHORE WINDFARMS EAST ANGLIA ONE NORTH AND EAST ANGLIA TWO

DEADLINE 8 STATEMENT CONCERNING SPR's PROPOSED ONSHORE INSTALLATIONS

As the civic society for the historic coastal town and cultural centre of Aldeburgh, the Aldeburgh Society has registered its grave concern over these DCO applications. The objects of the Society are to encourage public interest in and care for the character of the town and its surroundings, and the preservation, development and improvement of general public amenity in the area. Scottish Power Renewables' proposals conflict with the fulfilment of these objects.

The Society strongly supports the development of renewable energies, including the generation of offshore wind energy in suitable locations. We have followed the Examination of Scottish Power Renewables' applications with keen interest and we value the calm efficiency and thoroughness with which it has been conducted. Nothing we have heard or read has convinced us that the proposed substations at Friston and the associated landfall site and cable corridor via Thorpeness would be anything other than irremediably destructive of a fragile landscape, much of it located in a nationally protected Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The construction of these installations would inevitably have a seriously damaging effect upon the tourism business and the cultural offerings for which Aldeburgh is renowned and upon which its local economy is largely based, with significant numbers of visitors coming to the Heritage Coast throughout the year. Our primary concerns are the following:-

1. Delivery of the very large volumes of construction materials required over a rural roads system, to sites located some way from major transport links, would cause environmental damage, noise, delays, and disruption to the whole area;
2. These traffic impacts would seriously impair the attractiveness of Aldeburgh and the Suffolk Heritage Coast in their the year-round visitor economy;
3. The reduction in projected HGV movements via Aldeburgh, in response to earlier concerns, does not allay our alarm over the overall traffic impact by HGVs, LGVs and cars;
4. The cable route risks causing irremediable damage to the eroding coast and to the landscape and wildlife of the AONB land leading to Friston, as well as causing major disruption to the communities affected;
5. The 'substation' buildings would overshadow the historic traditional village of Friston, changing its nature for ever;
6. The noise and light pollution generated by the proposed development would destroy the 'peace and quiet' and 'dark skies' which are so important to residents and visitors alike;

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7. The above considerations apply only to the specific proposals put forward by SPR, yet we understand that up to eight additional grid connections in the area of the proposed substations are under negotiation by National Grid and its agencies. Such extensions to the onshore installations must be viewed as 'infrastructure of national importance' and subjected to new rigorous public examination.

In conclusion, the onshore proposals by SPR, in conjunction with National Grid, are totally unsuited to an energy project claiming green credentials. The cumulative effect of these proposals, and also in particular with EDF's proposed large nuclear power station development at Sizewell C, would be too much for this fragile and highly prized area to bear.

In view of the above, the Society and others have urged the Planning Inspectorate to split its consideration of the DCO applications as between the offshore elements and the onshore installations. A 'split decision' as envisaged above would mean that no time is wasted with respect to the construction of the offshore turbines, once cleared with stakeholders, with their welcome job creation prospects for the Suffolk Coast. There would then be the opportunity to rethink the onshore aspects of this project, including the options for alternative (preferably brownfield) onshore sites or the scope for connection via an undersea grid currently under consideration as part of the BEIS Offshore Transmission Network review.

The Aldeburgh Society remains firmly of the view that SPR's proposed onshore installations – together with the cumulative effect of projected additional grid connections and the Sizewell C project - would be excessively damaging to our area, its natural and built environment, its inhabitants, its businesses, and its visitors. Green energy cannot be allowed to wreak such seismic trauma in our collective march towards net zero.

25 March 2021