

EastAngliaOneNorth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk EastAngliaTwo@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

14th April 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO Offshore Wind Farms;

Decision to grant extensions of three months to the examination timetables for both projects.

I am writing to object to the procedurally unfair decision to extend the Examinations of the above projects by the Planning Inspectorate by 3 months.

On 1st April 2021, the examination authority ("ExA") sent to all parties a copy of a letter ("the ExA letter") indicating that the Secretary of State had granted an extension of 3 months for completion of the Examination. That application was made on 9th February 2021 and was granted on 30th March 2021, as set out in a letter from BEIS to the Planning Inspectorate ("BEIS letter"). The ExA gave no warning to the parties that it had either applied for this extension or that its grant was imminent.

I fully endorse the formal objection letter of 8 April sent collectively by SEAS, SASES, Save Our Sandlings, The Aldeburgh Business Association and Friston Parochial Church Council.

I am shocked that an extension has been given which appears strongly to benefit the applicant, SPR. As identified in the letter of objection, the effect of the ExA letter is to grant SPR an unfair chance to plug the multitude of gaps that exist in its evidence in relation to a host of matters, including cumulative impact and alternative sites, that should have been addressed in evidence according to long passed deadlines. SPR has had more than ample opportunity to adduce evidence on all matters. If that evidence is inadequate – which we say it is – then the ExA should not be giving SPR unlimited new chances to keep having a go.

The request for an extension advantages SPR with its unlimited resources and disadvantages those local groups and opposing the plans who do not have access to the same resources and have worked tirelessly and on a voluntary basis to meet the deadlines imposed by the planning inspectorate.

If the panel and case team require more time to absorb the submissions and evidence presented then that might be reasonable, but the evidence collection should not be

extended as this would go against the duty of the ExA which is to ensure procedural fairness.

Yours sincerely



Dr Celia Bell

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The Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP, Secretary of State for the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

The Rt Hon Therese Coffey MP.

East Suffolk Council