

In my Deadline 6 Submission dated 24 February 2021 I made reference to the Dasgupta Review – The economics of Biodiversity, the report commissioned by H.M Treasury.

The Government has recently responded to this paper by stating that the Dasgupta Review will continue to shape a significant part of Government ongoing efforts as it works with international partners, the private sector, NGOs and others to deliver a nature positive future and ensure economic and financial decision-making supports that ambition. The Government agrees with the Dasgupta Review's fundamental conclusion: nature, and the biodiversity that underpins it, ultimately sustains our economies, livelihoods and well-being, and so Government decisions must take into account the true value of the goods services derived from it.

The Government is now tabling an amendment to the Environmental Bill to require a new, historic legally binding target on species abundance in England for 2030 aiming to halt the decline of nature and legislate in England through an amendment to the Bill for 'Biodiversity Net Gain' for NSIPs.

Building windfarms is totally compatible with the recommendations of the Review. Building substations on virgin arable land is not.

There is little point in the government undertaking to increase green space on the one hand and then allowing the destruction of existing land when, and this is a crucial point in any decision on this application, there is an alternative way of achieving the desired outcome without the damage to valuable irreplaceable arable land and to people's way of life and wellbeing.

I fully endorse the statements made by Dr Coffey in her representation on 28th May 2021 at the Issue Specific

Hearing 17 on the draft Development Consent Order as is totally unacceptable to inflict the long term damage on the environment and on local people which the substations at Friston would cause.

We are in the midst of a climate crisis. Harnessing the power of nature by using wind energy is recognised as a major step to help halt the threat of rising temperatures and sea levels and the destruction of biodiversity. Destroying land needed for food production simply compounds the problem further as it increases the need for more intensive and monoculture farming which then destroys ecosystems.

Therefore I urge the EA to dismiss this application as submitted and to grant permission for the offshore element but to reject the on shore element.

Alan Collett

30th June 2021