

4th July 2021

PINS Ref: EA1N - EN010077 and EA2 - EN010078

My Ref ID Nos: EA1N 20023171 and EA2 20023172

Dear Examining Authority,

DEADLINE 13 Submission

As we approach the end of the long drawn out consultation period regarding the above applications it has been interesting to hear the views of the candidates for the forthcoming local council elections. None appear to support the SPR proposals - even the Green Party candidates have expressed NO support for SPR's environmentally devastating plans.

You will have heard many representations as to why these proposals should be rejected. Nothing I have heard from the applicant has given me any confidence whatsoever that they actually care about the impact of the project on the communities affected in this lovely area and I continue to object strenuously to the plans.

I would like to make just four points at the conclusion of this process:

1) Design

On 26th May the Issue Specific Hearing addressed design of the project. SPR stated that 'the procurement process would drive the sub-station design.' This seems to imply that SPR does not even have a proper design plan yet for the sub-station so how can they claim that appearance of, and noise from, the sub-station as per their current plans will have minimal impact on the local community?

2) Floodrisk

At the same hearing SPR spoke about the risk of flooding in the Friston area and claimed that 'design can only follow post-consent' in respect of how they would ensure that flooding would not affect Friston. SPR continues to refer to 'Friston Main River'. There is NO MAIN RIVER - there is only a ditch and that is currently clogged up with nettles and silt. You will have seen other submissions that include photos and video footage showing the effect of heavy rain on 18th June 2021. A pitiful but prophetic example of what may well follow should this project go ahead.

3) The current pre-investigative diggings

Even before consent has been granted SPR has bulldozed ahead with its investigative works. Our roads are littered with superfluous speed limit signs and other hazard warnings which are in many cases hard to see due to rapid growth of kerbside vegetation. High winds have knocked some signs over and one gets the impression that the signs are only there to comply with regulations rather than out of concern for road users (both motor and pedestrian.) And why has SPR been allowed to set in concrete strange pipes in the middle of the fields they are investigating? Hardly temporary fixtures - more indicative of sinister intent and an arrogant assumption that permission will be granted and they don't need to consider the feelings of the local population.

4) Dr Therese Coffey's comments

On 28th May our MP, Dr Coffey made the following comments in her submission:

'Firstly, I wanted to draw the examining authorities' attention to comments made by the Prime Minister at PMQs on the 19th of May 2021, when responding to my Suffolk colleague, James Cartlidge, firmly backed the need for an offshore transmission grid.

To quote from Hansard:

"As well as building the fantastic windmills, it is vital that we bring the energy onshore in a way that has minimal disruption for local communities and enables us to maximise efficiency."

I put it to the examining authority that this application does not lend itself to fulfilling that clear policy statement from the Prime Minister.'

I agree wholeheartedly with Dr Coffey's comments.

This has been a lengthy planning enquiry and I thank the Planning Inspectorate for the way in which it has been handled. However, I remain of the opinion that the project proposed by SPR is deeply flawed, ill-thought out and should be rejected in favour of a split decision as proposed by Dr Coffey, SEAS, SASES and many others.

Yours faithfully,



Nichola J Winter