

**From:**

**Subject:**

**Date:**

Final Representation and Update to Oral Submission

05 July 2021 11:00:48

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PINS Reference: EA1N – AFP128; EA2 – AFP130

Dear Examining Authority, Further to my written submission dated 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021, I have the following update to submit to you.

1. As the Applicant's (Scottish Power Renewables – SPR) proposal affects me and my property there is nothing to repost. I have received no contact from SPR or their representatives or Agents; this, in spite of indicating, that I was open to further discussions, including an on-site meeting.
2. The wider point/concern I raised was one of principle ie. 'was it in order for me, as an individual, to concede ownership and rights in perpetuity, to any private persons or companies, whether they be foreign or not'. My reasons being that the North boundary of my property is a public thoroughfare and part of the National transport infrastructure – therefore it should be owned by the State. I have not received any response to this by the Applicant (SPR). Nor have I received any response from yourselves as the Examining Authority, in spite of my request for a ruling on this matter. I did accept that this issue maybe outside the remit of the Examining Authority, but if this was the case then I need to know in order to pursue the issue elsewhere eg Ministerial level, because the matter is certainly of National interest, if not one of National Security.
3. Finally, I would like to return to the focus of my earliest Submission ie. Flooding. On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021 the village of Friston was flooded yet again. At least two homes were within millimetres of flooding. I attended the flooded area clearing drains, supplying sandbags and giving generally giving support to the affected homeowners. What was unusual about this latest flood was the origin of the water: the majority of it came from the East (Grove Road) and the West (the pig field owned by Blackheath Farms located opposite the Village Green); there was no significant water from the North (ie the direction and location of the Applicant's proposed Substation complex)! Normally the water comes from all directions into the village basin, from the North usually appearing in the Church Path dyke around 12 hours after the rainfall. I have no explanation for this, unless the water was being held, on this occasion, in the trenches that were dug during the investigative works in the fields to the North of the village (I am aware that you have been sent photos of these so will not reproduce them here). My conclusions are, therefore, that the current flood water management systems are at critical failure level NOW and any future developments are likely to push these systems into overload. Very careful thought and planning must be given to the impact that any new scheme/development will have if disaster is to be avoided. What I find so disheartening, at this stage of the Examination, is that 'experts' are in still in disagreement about the flood risk to the village. By their own admission, the Applicant, SPR, have conceded that their Substation development site will produce a water management problem. To my knowledge, they have failed to produce measurable documentation to show that their mitigation plans for drainage are valid. I am trying to say two things: firstly, earlier flood reports concerning the village talked about flooding in terms of a 1 in 50, 1 in 10 etc failure rate, the facts are that we have just experienced a 1 in 2 year flood event; secondly, with climate change everyone agrees that flood events will become more frequent. The siting of the proposed Substation complex within the Friston 'bowl' is

ludicrous and dangerous!

Your  
Mike Lewis

