

EN010077/EN010078

Dear Sir/Madam

It remains incomprehensible and reprehensible that Friston should be considered as the appropriate place to put the substations for National Grid and Scottish Power Renewables (EA1N and EA2). The impact the construction of this industrial structure by the village, along with the damage done along the cable corridor from Thorpeness will have devastating short term and long-term consequences for the local people, the local wildlife and countryside and the local economy.

In the last few months we have had a taste of what is to come, with local fields sprayed and large trenches dug in the fields north of Friston close to the church. What were once pleasant areas to walk are now desolate and barren wastelands. There are no skylarks and swallows this year and the hedgerow flora, butterflies and insects are depleted. The flooding continues with more water running off fields which are now barren and bare. As a Friston resident the sight of this makes me feel depressed and dismayed.

This area of Suffolk is so important and unique: it balances tourism, farming, art and culture and the best of the English countryside. It is a very popular place to visit and treasured by many who choose to return again and again. Friston sits literally on the edge of Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB; the cable corridor, which lands on the fragile coast at Thorpeness, if consent is granted, will rip through our precious hedgerows, ancient woodland and rare heathland.

There are no motorways connecting this area to other major routes, there is only one 'A' road (A12) which in many places is only a two-lane road and passes through small villages. There are only small 'B' roads and single-track lanes then leading to the work sites, these are used by walkers, cyclists and farm traffic. These roads are not appropriate for the amount of large heavy industrial transport which will be needed and for the additional traffic created by the building works, our roads will become congested and dangerous.

I think there are still unanswered questions regarding National Grid's role in these proceedings and the lack of clarity and obfuscation regarding the other proposed substations to be built in the area - this ambiguity MUST be taken into consideration by the Planning Inspectorate. Finally, there is no mention by SPR or National Grid regarding compensation for the villagers of Friston whose homes will be threatened by flooding, whose quiet lives will be blighted by construction work for many years and whose village will forever be afflicted by a massive hostile and incongruous industrial structure.

As do most people, I recognise the importance of investing in renewable energies, but if this is to be our future let's do it properly and get it right now. At the very least we should have a split decision with the offshore Wind Farms being built with a more appropriate brownfield site chosen for the onshore substations and infrastructure. We need to protect our green spaces and it makes a mockery of the idea of "green energy" if, by creating it, we destroy a

fragile and unique part of our English countryside. Please don't let this irrational and negligent plan go ahead.