



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

31st January 2022

Dear Secretary of State

DCO Applications by Scottish Power Renewables for proposed East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia Two windfarms

I am writing in response to the request for information dated 20th December. I have read the responses submitted by SASES and SEAS and agree with what is said there. I would emphasis the following.

1.Flood risk

We as a community have consistently argued that Friston is the wrong site for this large scale industrial development. Surface water flooding was not considered in the flawed RAG assessment used by SPR in their site selection and no infiltration testing was carried out this despite SPR acknowledging the high risk of surface flooding to the northern and western boundary of the national grid substation site. Friston is already at serious risk of flooding with 16 incidents in the last 7 years. The footpath/track that passes Woodside Farm regularly resembles a river after heavy rain as water pours off Fristonmoor. This will only be exacerbated by the removal of natural boundaries, top soil etc. during construction and the concreting over of much of Fristonmoor causing huge concern amongst residents about the danger of increased flooding. The proposals SPR have put forward fail to take into account the impact on construction times of sequencing the SPR/NGET project and the failure to address the cumulative impact of other upcoming projects.

2. Cumulative Impact

Throughout the examination SASES, SEAS and others have submitted evidence that what is planned for the Friston site is in fact a huge energy hub. SPR and NG obfuscated, claiming insufficient information was available so no cumulative assessment could be carried out. The launch of Nautilus, Eurolink and now Sealink shortly after the end of the examination provide firm evidence of National Grid plans. We are aware that representatives of the local district council have already met with National Grid to discuss these and a raft of other projects that are planned to connect in Friston.

3.In view of these developments it is now clear that what you are being asked to do is to give permission for not simply a connection for two wind farms but for National Grid, by

stealth and without proper scrutiny, to build a huge ever expanding energy hub in an area of unspoiled countryside which will devastate this area completely and unnecessarily.

4. We learned today at the BEISS OTNR webinar the welcome news that there is a work stream looking at co ordinating East Anglian projects. No details were given but any proposal should include all energy projects being proposed for the area, both windfarm and interconnectors, and should be looking at connecting at a brownfield sites in need of regeneration such as Bradwell. Local MP's and councils are being consulted but not community groups. They should be included.

5. Non participation

In my letter of 29th November I made reference to the SEAS complaint regarding the impact on the process of SPR's use of non-participation agreements. The effect has been that the most affected landowners have been prevented from participating in the examination and now in responding to the request for more information thus perpetuating the unfairness of this whole process.

6. It was disappointing that when you visited Sizewell last week you did not take the opportunity to see the area that will be affected by these plans. Your journey would have taken you down the A12 and the local road network and I am sure you will have noticed how small and inadequate they are for the type of construction traffic that will be needed for the numerous projects that are intended to be connected to the grid at Friston. I'm sure you will also have noticed the small towns, the individual farms and properties dotted around all of which be devastated by the construction of the substations, connector stations and the digging of numerous cable routes from the coast to the national grid substations. Properties and people will be encircled their peaceful life ruined ,their journeys to work, the hospital, the school run made impossible by the closing of roads and the presence of construction traffic and this will go on for years and years.

7. I think that you are beginning to understand how incredibly unpopular these projects are in these areas and it will not just be East Suffolk. As more of these wind farms are built and they need onshore connections more communities will be waking up to the fact that the government in its pursuit of net zero targets is simply not concerned about the negative on shore impact on communities like ours. This is not green energy being done well. We all applaud the move towards renewables but to allow large areas of the countryside to be sacrificed when there are already better and more technologically advanced ways of doing this is a scandal.

8. Given the OTNR work in progress I ask that you to either make a split decision and consent only the off shore elements or delay your decision to await the outcome of the OTNR thereby preventing this unnecessary devastation in the rush towards the very laudable net zero goal that the government has set.

Yours sincerely

Fiona Cramb