Cawston Parish Council

Web: cawston-parish-council.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

APPLICATION BY NORFOLK VANGUARD LTD. FOR AN ORDER GRANTING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR THE PROPOSED NORFOLK VANGUARD OFFSHORE WIND FARM PROJECT. COMMENTS OF CAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL ON REPRESENTATIONS.

Cawston Parish Council wishes to make this brief concluding submission and reiterate our previous comments.

The Applicant's Response to the Secretary of State's letter dated 6th December 2019 appears to revert to mitigation which has already been superseded by developments in the Norfolk Boreas examination, which is still in progress.

The Applicant describes these developments as "a process of refinement", but in fact the proposed Highway Intervention Scheme now being examined in Boreas is fundamentally changed from the one published in Vanguard, and is still subject to detailed scrutiny.

The Applicant suggests a revised text which "would ensure that any further mitigation developed for Link 34 as part of the Norfolk Boreas examination will be adopted by Norfolk Vanguard **where possible**" (our emphasis).

We suggest that this does not offer a satisfactory safeguard for the interests of Cawston residents, therefore we urge the Secretary of State to reject the Applicants suggested amendments and retain the text as originally proposed.

We also request the Secretary of State to consider adding a requirement for Cawston PC to be included In any future consultations on traffic issues around the village.

CPC considers that the Highway Intervention Scheme, even in the latest version presented to Norfolk Boreas, has fatal flaws and is not sufficient to offset any potential harm from NV traffic alone, or in-combination traffic effects arising from the proposed NV project and H3 together in the event that both were granted development consent.

CPC's position remains that it is simply not possible to route any level of construction traffic safely through the village centre. Particular concerns are pedestrian safety, noise and vibration impacts and air quality degradation from stationary traffic, together with the effects on local businesses.

In view of the impact of the NB examination upon the NV Application, and the wider implications of the number of Applications now in progress, we ask the Secretary of State to pause the NV Application in its present form, and to pause all other current Applications to allow for a Strategic Review to be conducted, to consider all the alternatives for delivery, including an Offshore Ring Main."

Cawston Parish Council 27th April 2020