

To: The Planning Inspectorate examining the Boreas DCO Application.

Necton Parish Council would like to make a comment on the Vattenfall reply to the written question URN: 9.2.8, Siting of the Substations at Necton

Vattenfall's response, item 2 second paragraph and item 3 is as follows:

*"The area to the north-west of the site was discounted owing to the location of a water course through this area and the steep valley sides leading down to it. The area to the north, towards Top Farm, was also reviewed as an alternative site. In terms of landform, this site is higher than the proposed site, with a range of 65m to 75m as opposed to 65m to 70m. It is also on more steeply sloping landform and without the levelling off that occurs around the proposed site, it would potentially be more visible from the surrounding landscape. Furthermore, it would also bring a new development closer to the heavily trafficked A47.*

*3. OS maps show that the landform to the north and north-east of the onshore project substation rises. It is, therefore, simply not possible for a site to the north to be on lower-lying ground. The proposed site is situated between the existing contours of 65m and 70m AOD. Land towards Top Farm, to the north, is situated between the contours of 65m and 75m AOD. The land to the north-west, however, falls away to 60m to 65m AOD which would be lower-lying but then the site would be in the valley of the un-named river and potentially covering its course, giving rise to issues of large scale earthworks required to accommodate a large level site and issues of culverting the water course in an area which is already prone to flooding. "*

Necton Parish Council do not believe that these answers are accurate. We would dispute that the site chosen for the converter halls is on lower land than the alternative Top Farm land proposed by us. We have looked in detail at the Ordinance Survey maps and we have walked on the ground.

From both the OS maps and visually, we can state that the site chosen is on contours 70 – 72 metres which is the highest point in Necton. The Top Farm land which we proposed to Vattenfall during the consultation process lies on contours between 60 and 62 metres which is considerably lower. Top Farm itself is higher than the land that would be used for the substations.

We understand that the site we would prefer is not as flat as the site chosen by Vattenfall. In view of the fact that this will be the largest substation in the world, cost should not be the prime consideration with regard to the site. The fact that mitigation will be possible on the lower site and not possible on the higher site should also be an important factor.

May we suggest that this important point is verified by an independent surveyor.

Necton Parish Council.

8 January 2020