

**From:** [NectonSubstationAction Messenger](#)  
**To:** [Norfolk Boreas](#)  
**Subject:** ISH  
**Date:** 16 March 2020 11:54:02

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Dear Planning Inspectorate

We would respectfully suggest that as attendees to the next ISHs are being severely restricted (due to their age and Corona Virus), and that as the hearing would be classified as a 'gathering' of possibly 100 + people, that the hearings on this project and others should be delayed until such times as all who wish to attend may do so without risk to health.

Certainly some of the issues are too complex to be resolved in writing, otherwise there would be no need at all for one-to-one meetings in person.

NSAG

**From:** [NectonSubstationAction Messenger](#)  
**To:** [Norfolk Boreas](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Norfolk Boreas Project – EN010087  
**Date:** 20 March 2020 09:38:46

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Thank you for this information.

However, you have the meetings are listed as 'postponed' on your Exam Timetable. This would imply they would be held at a later date. Now that you have said they will not be held at all we have the following points to make please:

Government advice in Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent on the nature of examinations states:

**FROM EXAMINATION GUIDANCE....**

**36. The examination of applications is generally carried out in public. This means that all meetings and hearings presided over by an Examining Authority will generally be held in public.**

**37. The one exception to examinations being public is where, under section 95A of the Planning Act, the Secretary of State intervenes in an application in the interest of defence or national security. He can then direct that representations on matters relating to defence or national security are to be made to a specified person instead of being made in public.**

**\*\*Allowing further time**

**107. Exceptionally there may be circumstances where it would be reasonable to allow further time for the taking of any step in respect of which the Procedure Rules specifies a time limit. Rule 23 therefore enables the Examining Authority to do so at any time and in any particular case.**

Whilst we accept that a written examination will be essentially 'in public' as documents can be accessed online, they do not allow for those IPs who find lengthy reading an issue (give the incredible amount of documents in the examination), and those who do not have the internet readily available for lengthy reading, and whom were able to 'catch up' and keep tabs on the changing situation when attending the hearings, they can no longer do that in a purely written examination.

This applies particularly to the OFHs which allow subjects not seen as covered to be aired, and which are generally held at a closer location (such as Dereham) where many people from Necton who are unable to attend the hearings in Norwich can get to much more easily.

We feel that the current circumstances which are so exceptional that they have not been seen in the UK since wartime, are sufficient for the Secretary of State to delay the deadline for the close of the examination until the situation with the Coronavirus is resolved, to allow for hearings to be held later, for many reasons.

1. The IPs have become accustomed to the procedure as it has been, deadline/hearing/questions, and will (being laypersons) find it very difficult to adapt

to a written consultation.

2. A written consultation will deny IPs other experiences they should have according to the government video on examinations, such as the 'inquisitorial nature of hearings', 'direct questioning of the applicant', the entitlement to 'make oral representations'. 'a fair opportunity to state views'.
3. Not all IPs are literate enough to express their views in writing.

We therefore respectfully ask that the Secretary of State allows a delay on this project and it's examination so that hearings can take place.

NSAG

**From:** [NectonSubstationAction Messenger](#)  
**To:** [Norfolk Boreas](#)  
**Subject:** Cancelled site visits  
**Date:** 20 March 2020 16:42:10

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We would like to ask that the examination should be delayed because of the cancelled site visits.

Following the last Accompanied Site Visits we (and our PC and IPs) were asked to suggest alternative public viewpoints, following us feeling we had been manipulated by the developers into concentrating on private views.

We worked very hard on this and produced new evidence which can only be confirmed by a site visit.

NSAG