From: Jim Brown
To: Norfolk Boreas

**Subject:** Norfolk Vanguard and Boreas consenting timescale

**Date:** 17 April 2020 11:34:31 **Attachments:** image003.png

image003.png image004.png

Dear Planning Inspectorate

REF: Norfolk Vanguard and Boreas consenting timescale

I have noticed that a small number of parties are requesting a delay to the Norfolk Boreas NSIP examination process and would like to say that from my perspective that this would be very unhelpful with regards to confidence in the local and national supply chain with a particular impact on skills and jobs.

The planning process has been going on in the public domain for at least 4 years now — Vattenfall have been regularly engaging with people since October 2016, and all parties have had time to reflect on the issues and feed into the project design. The NSIP timetable is a statutory one, and the extraordinary measure of extending it now, so very close to the end of the examination process, when all issues have been examined robustly would send all the wrong messages locally and nationally.

A delay to the examination process would likely mean Norfolk Boreas will not be ready to bid for the Government's support mechanism in 2021, and would mean an additional two year delay, possibly longer, before the project could proceed. The level of uncertainty that will result will have a negative impact on investor confidence and the region's socio-economic economic strategy and in turn on skills development, education and job opportunities across the local and national supply chain. Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas together represent, over their 25 year plus lifetime, by far the biggest investments currently planned for the area.

As we hopefully move into recovery from COVID 19, it is important that we pull together and maximise the opportunities – not only for skills, jobs and business, but also for the environment. Many of those calling for delays to the project for different reasons say they support renewable energy, but delaying the deployment of renewable energy projects means more CO2 will go into the atmosphere unnecessarily, and could have a severe impact on our security of supply.

I do hope the you consider carefully the impacts any delay may have for the project, community and economy before making a final decision on an application that has already completed a very robust process.

Yours sincerely

Jim Brown

Director



ESP Argyll Court Castle Business Park Stirling FK9 4TY

**T**: 07557 563516

E: jim.brown@esp-scotland.ac.uk
W: www.esp-scotland.ac.uk

