From: Stuart Smith

To: Norfolk Boreas

Cc: info@norfolkboreas.co.uk

Subject: Development consent order delay

Date: 16 April 2020 17:48:06

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.pnq image006.pnq image007.pnq image008.png

Dear Planning Inspectorate

It is my opinion that a delay to the Norfolk Boreas National Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) examination process would be disastrous for jobs and skills development in Norfolk, the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (NALEP) region and for the wider sector. Any delay to Boreas now could lead to Vanguard being delayed by a further two years and worst case scenario is both projects being cancelled by Vattenfall, as no longer viable.

Vattenfall have engaged with the public, the supply chain, Universities, Colleges and Schools for some four years now and have answered many calls for changes to their projects. They have made a commitment to listen and learn from all stakeholders over the coming months and years, to make their projects the most inclusive, and to work with local communities more than any other developer in my twenty five years of working and living in Norfolk. It seems unbelievable to think that a statutory timetable could be delayed so close to the end of the process. This will impact investment decisions on jobs, training and infrastructure across the supply chain within the NALEP region and potentially add to the devastating effect of COVID 19 has had on businesses and peoples jobs.

I volunteer to sit on the Skills Advisory Panel (SAP) of the NALEP, the All Energy Industry Council (AEIC), Co-Opted Director of the East of England Energy Group (EEEGR), Chair of the Energy Skills Partnership Forum and Chair of Skills for Energy, so I am fully aware of the impact to skills development and jobs for the region, a delay would cause. In a few months' time when, hopefully, things get back to some sort of normality it is projects like this that the country will need to boost the economy and bring much needed jobs to communities across the NALEP region.

Offshore wind has a massive part to play to meet our carbon emission reduction targets, please, for the sake of the environment and our communities, allow this project to run without delay.

Kind Regards

Stuart Smith

Managing Director

People with Energy

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