

Necton Parish Council Open Floor Hearing Representation, 15 July 2020

My name is Fraser Bateman and I represent Necton Parish Council.

At the Open Floor Hearing on 2 July, Necton Parish Council addressed the issues of

- Inaccurate and misleading montages used by the applicant for both Boreas and Vanguard. This has led to the applicant proposing completely inadequate mitigation of the expected visual effects of Boreas
- and also the issue of compensation. This is supposed to be applied where the harm occurs but was not for Dudgeon.

At this Open Floor Hearing we would like to question consideration of the cumulative effects on Norfolk landscape from the combined projects of Vanguard and Boreas. These two wind farms are intertwined in that they are expecting to use the same cable trenches, they will share the costs of digging the cable trenches, they both plan to join the National Grid at Necton and they plan both adjacent converter hall sites and adjacent National Grid sites beside Dudgeon. The on-shore component of the two projects cannot easily be separated. Yet they have been allowed to make two different DCO applications. The infrastructure at Necton should not be looked at as two different smaller projects but should be taken as a whole because they will be seen as a whole. The cumulative aspect of these projects has not been considered when examining the Vanguard DCO, although the same applicant has applied for both Vanguard and Boreas. The Boreas Examining Authority is aware of the already approved Vanguard infrastructure but the Vanguard DCO could ignore Boreas because the two halves of the same infrastructure have been separated. This will have reduced the impact assessed for Vanguard in a way that could bypass a just assessment of the cumulative impact and allow the first DCO to be approved when, if applied for together, the cumulative impacts may have prompted a different conclusion.