

DRAFT REPRESENTATION

Re: Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Windfarm Extension Project

1. It has never been explained to us the incongruity of the decision to come ashore at Muckleburgh, taking a circuitous and complicated route around Weybourne. If the cables were to come ashore a few hundred metres to the East of Weybourne, where the cliffs disappear, the route could go almost straight to Bodham without upsetting anyone. This would be a shorter route, passing entirely through agricultural and forest land. If there is a very good reason why Muckleburgh has been chosen, then why can't the corridor run from Muckleburgh along the shoreline to the point above mentioned?
2. **The road and compound that is proposed is to be constructed very close to our home and business.** We have owned the land in question since 1972 and started our holiday business 30 years ago. We have twenty-six properties, all of which are holiday homes except our own house and our Manager's. These are not mobile homes but are permanent high quality A-frame buildings. You will see from the map that the cables will pass under a valley which is very close to the properties. **In the centre of this valley it is proposed to build a compound for the joining of two sets of cables.** This will entail building a roadway into the valley and felling a number of trees which will inevitably cause a lot of noise and disruption. This valley has been closed off for many years because it is a haven for wildlife. Due to its situation it is a protective environment for a variety of plants, animals and birds, especially badgers who have a number of setts within the corridor (**the largest and most obvious of these on 'What Three Words' is:- speared.walz.mistaking**) Muntjacs, roe deer and red deer are often seen there. This is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and although the whole forest is described as 'commercial' it is far more than that. Forestry work only takes place every 5 or 6 years and this particular valley has not been touched for as long as we can remember. Although we have been assured that it will recover when the scheme is completed, we believe it will take a very long time and will not be in our lifetime.

We strongly feel that if the cable route were moved to the east in accordance with our plan herewith (following one of the two favoured routes of Equinor) the valley and its wildlife could be saved. There was originally an alternative route which would make far more sense. There would be no need to build the roadway into the valley, or to fell the trees and any noise would be far less disruptive to the wildlife, ourselves and holiday visitors. **It is the position of the compound and the joining of the cables that are our main worries.** We do not know how much access will be needed in the future to the compound or whether extra cables could be added and we are not clear how long the work will take. We have just under a hundred acres of land and we cannot see why the

corridor has to be so close to our home and business and why it could not be moved further to the east where there are no properties and would therefore be less disruptive. The alternative route would be very little longer than the one currently proposed as the cables turn sharp east as soon as they pass under our boundary. It would also be much better for our neighbours below us, ([REDACTED]), as the current corridor will be extremely close to their house and they are very unhappy about it.

3. **Another huge concern is the use of our entrance for vehicles entering the forest and the chaos it would cause for our business.** The amount of traffic using Sandy Hill Lane has been increasing over the past few years and has become a real problem. Kelling Heath Holiday Park has permission to increase its number of mobile homes which will bring yet more traffic. Our entrance is on a very sharp bend and would become even more dangerous than at present if heavy equipment and vehicles were coming in and out. The plan is to use the public footpath for the smaller vehicles, i.e. 4 x 4's which would mean they would have to use our entrance and the lorries etc. will be passing the other side of the hedge alongside the public footpath. This will be very disruptive to our holiday guests and will no doubt do some damage to our business as the main reason people come to stay in our lodges is for the peace and quiet, forest walks and wildlife.

We understand that a temporary road is to be built from Bodham across the fields to the public footpath, further to the east and away from the lodges. We feel it would be much safer if all the works traffic were to use that road instead of Sandy Hill Lane and the public footpath.

4. **The position of the cable corridor to the southern end of our property passes under an area which we had earmarked for future development of lodges.** Also we had been considering building a retirement home for ourselves next to our house. In both cases these areas are within the corridor and would therefore prevent us from carrying out any building work. We have had to postpone our plans as we do not wish to spend a lot of money on planning applications whilst the threat of the cables running underneath the land is still a possibility.

