

Tomorrow I will attend my auntie's funeral and instead of grieving with my family my thoughts will be this room. Firstly I would like to thank the inspectorate panel for not only giving me a voice during this process but also coming out to my home. You have seen first hand the heritage, history and all that will be lost at the end of this process. Along with the impact that this project will have on not only my family home and business but also my local community. This process has given me the knowledge and inside view on how projects of national significance are assessed, viewed and decided. A great deal of the time I hear people say what voice have I got and what difference can I make I am only one person but if they do not speak out their voice can fall silent and get lost in the process and they become just a statistic, a receptor, a tenant and a nameless, faceless line on an environmental impact assessment. Phrases such as 'the benefit outweighs the loss' of a private individual has brought me to tears and also made me realise this is it. Since first addressing you back in October I have received calls from farmers and landowners who did not speak up and wanted me to say that I was brave, but I'm not brave, I'm broken. I just don't see another way but to keep asking for a resolution so I can move on with my family and get some kind of closure. I can't just give up. This is not about anything but speaking up for what is right. This project has been placed in my community where my friends and family live, we have no choice as this project is for the needs of the many and this is not our fault but we have to live with this fact and adjust, adapt and try to work through this as best we can. We should not be fobbed off, forgotten or seen as people milking the cash cow. We would rather never have been put in this position than very few communities have seen. But..... this is where we are and though the project is "on hold" we now live in limbo in a site that is just abandoned with half of our community demolished. The DCO is now coming to an end and the site team are leaving but every day we still wake up thinking what next?

Everyone sitting round this table should in future when they prepare a drawing or write an impact assessment think..... what if that was my home..... my family..... my community. If they did we would have better communication and less heartache.

We are now a week and a half into formal negotiations to reach an amicable agreement with HNP and it has been a fight to get it to this stage with me having to justify why I want to keep the quality of life that I have now and replace it with the same and I mean fight...and if anything this has taught me that everything my family and I have been through must be treated like a lesson learnt to take forward to other projects like this.

It should never have to get to a point where someone feels there is no way out.

It should never get to a point where your health is damaged

It should never get to a point where you have to justify why you want to retain your way of life through someone else's actions and be ignored

The photomontages shown yesterday are exactly what the community needed. I am very aware that the information has been published to the community as I have read most of it yet seeing my home shadowed by buildings and cranes still broke me yesterday... this community like so many others is not afraid of the construction process and does not have an engineering degree or a Prince 2.

Pictures are what people understand and this should of been delivered as one of the first things in the "extensive consultations".;/ periods that the applicant gave to us.

As a lessons learnt and to take further projects forward I would never wish what both myself and my family have been through and without this DCO process I don't know what would of become of me.

Moving forward we should always look at these projects and think..... There is a huge difference between doing what you are legally obliged to do and..... doing what is morally right.

This is not just a project it is people's lives, history and futures that we decide in a board room, meeting room and its the little things that matter, communication, respect and honesty....

I have grave concerns that my challenges will not be resolved by the close of the DCO process as starting these negotiations were delayed to such an extent that we are now in the final hour but I still have hope! you have to have hope.

The damage to my health has been difficult and the effect this has had on my family is unforgivable but I'm hopeful these issues will work out with a resolution with HNP so my family, business and I can plan our future whilst at the same time I lose my past.

Thank you once again for your time and the opportunity to be heard in this process I feel it is invaluable that people do speak up and but a face to the item number on an agenda.