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HARD COPY OF ORAL CONTRIBUTION TO ISSUE SPECIFIC HEARING  
(ISH) 6 ON WEDNESDAY 14 JULY 2021

I am grateful to the Inspectorate for the opportunity to contribute to this afternoon's discussion. I am speaking today as a personal Interested Party.

Having listened to the discussion relating to Coastal Geomorphology, I remain deeply concerned by the issues raised in today's hearings. Notwithstanding the applicant's best efforts, I am not reassured about the risks that are being taken, and I endorse those speakers who sought to highlight these risks, in the short, medium and long term.

In the afternoon I spoke to endorse strongly the contributions of Professor Andrew Blowers and the additional comments of Bill Parker. Even more than in other areas, so much of the applicant's work on coastal geomorphological issues feels very last minute and belatedly reactive to previous criticism. The applicant's pressure to secure agreement in the short term, under the highly questionable claim of urgency, for proposals which have outcomes in the medium and long term that are un-knowable with any certainty, but have potentially very damaging consequences for the environment and future generations, is deeply concerning.

It became clear to me from the discussion that there is considerable uncertainty and, understandably, differing professional views on the risks involved. At the very least more work is required to address legitimate concerns. In this environment there is a moral issue, and the 'rush to judgement' by the applicant is ethically questionable.

This is but one example of a wider issue that I will address in my written submission at Deadline 5.