

## **Response for ISH 8 Air Quality Noise and Vibration 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021 – Bill Parker Interested Party Number 20026713**

Dear Planning Inspectorate

The Issue Specific Hearing on Air Quality, Noise and Vibration on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021 covered many issues. However, I was concerned at the disproportionate amount of time and interest spent on issues such as active and passive electric vehicle charging points at the expense of much more significant and fundamental questions over air quality.

I noted the grossly inadequate response by the Applicant and the failure of the local councils to take leadership on this, in particular with regard to that of Ozone and PM2.5.

Ozone pollution has been clearly documented as a significant health hazard in rural East of England. Sibton Green (not far from the proposed Sizewell site) has been regularly registering amongst the worst readings in the country.

It is disingenuous and factually inaccurate of the Applicant to blame the pollution on northern France and an abject failure of responsibility to have no mitigation plans in place when high incidence of pollution can be predicted in advance.

The failure of the local authorities to take this health hazard seriously leaves the local population vulnerable and with no champion to ensure this risk is mitigated and not exacerbated.

In addition, I am also concerned at the absence of PM2.5 monitoring and therefore any proposal for mitigation measures. The reassurances given by the Applicant and the failure of the local council to be sceptical of these assurances is alarming. PM2.5 are the most dangerous pollutants especially for children and there is no 'safe level'. PM2.5 are caused (amongst other sources) by vehicles, generators and industrial emissions. The Government in its own 2012 report Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5) in the UK<sup>1</sup> states:

*"There is clear evidence that particulate matter has a significant contributory role in human all-cause mortality and in particular in cardiopulmonary mortality"*

Air pollution is increasingly been recognised as a significant health hazard and cause of death. This is especially of concern for those with existing respiratory and pulmonary conditions and an entire generation of children who will be exposed to these pollutants through their formative years. It is therefore incumbent on the ExA to take 'ownership' of these important issues and ensure that the residents, visitors to the area and indeed the workforce required, should Sizewell C go ahead, are protected from a largely avoidable and lethal pollution.

Bill Parker

3/9/21

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<sup>1</sup> [Air quality expert group - Fine particulate matter \(PM2.5\) in the United Kingdom \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/542222/air-quality-expert-group-fine-particulate-matter-pm2.5-in-the-united-kingdom.pdf)