From:
To: SizewellC

Subject: Sizewell C: Deadline 10 Submission

Date: 12 October 2021 22:41:54

SIZE-AFP042 and SIZE-AFP062

Dear Inspectors

I am writing to object to the construction of Sizewell C.

My main concern about the development of a third and fourth reactor on the site is environmental. Sizewell is right in the middle of an Area of Outstanding Beauty. Successive ministers, most notably Michael Gove when he was Secretary of State for the Environment, have emphasised the importance of preserving AONBs. There are only 34 of them in England, and they represent the most precious parts of our environmental heritage. The construction of this twin reactor will slice the AONB in half, and threaten arguably the most important bird reserve in Britain at nearby Minsmere.

The land surrounding Sizewell will have to be drained during the construction of this massive twin reactor, threatening the delicate marshlands which surround the industrial site at Sizewell so close to Minsmere itself. Some of the Sizewell Marshes Site of Special Scientific Interest will be built upon. The Avocets, Bitterns and Marsh Harriers which have made a home in the bird reserve and the surrounding marshes and farmland will not be able to tolerate the light pollution, new road networks, enormous earthworks and spoil heaps which will deface this beautiful part of the East Anglian coast.

The coast around Sizewell is vulnerable to flooding. Look at Thorpeness headland, less than a mile from Sizewell, which is already falling into the sea. The coastal erosion has claimed farmland and houses up and down the coast. Building a vast twin reactor here would place a repository of toxic nuclear material right on the edge of the North Sea. The Environment Agency report, out tomorrow (13/10/21) and leaked to the BBC, suggests that by the end of the century sea levels could have risen by 10 feet in around 80 years. If that were to happen, the entire nuclear site at Sizewell would be at risk. EDF has only now realised that the levels of potable water they will require during the construction process will require a desalination plant, creating more disruption on this beautiful and fragile part of the coast. We should look ahead to the years to come and stop this construction.

The design of the twin reactor which EDF wants to construct is an EPR, a pressurised water reactor. So far, not one of these reactors is running smoothly and safely. Those in Finland and Normandy have run over time and over budget, and still the reactors are not operating. In China, where the EPR was built in record time, safety concerns have forced the closure of the reactor while serious repairs to fuel rod sealings are attempted. Today (Tuesday, 12/10/21) the French president Emmanuel Macron has announced a huge budget to design and build SMRs, small modular reactors. The French government will not be building any more EPRs on its own shores, yet we are saddled with a white elephant of a design. This EPR twin reactor proposed for this beautiful part of Suffolk will inevitably run over time and budget, and it is highly likely that it will not work. It is surely wrong to grant permission for a reactor with a faulty design and spiralling costs which is not yet proven to run safely anywhere in the world.

Please save our beautiful coastline and protect the people of Suffolk from an environmental disaster and decline permission for the twin EPR at Sizewell.

Thank you.

Sarah Turnbull

Theberton Leiston Suffolk