From:
To:
Norfolk Vanguard

Subject: Text of Verbal Representation on 24 April

Date: 03 May 2019 03:09:48

Attachments: PINS Statement Alice Spain 24 April 2019.docx

Dear Madam,

For your information, attached is the text of my representation at the hearing in Dereham on 24 April 2019.

Regards, Alice Spain.

Statement Read Out At the Vanguard Project Hearing Held in Dereham on 24 April 2019

My name is Alice Spain. Although I am a member of Necton Parish Council, I am speaking today as a resident of Necton not as a Parish Councilor.

Necton Parish will have the most significant lasting effect from all the proposed Vanguard infrastructure due to the large height and size of the Vanguard substations and converter buildings and the National Grid connection substation extensions that will be adjacent to the village.

On the Accompanied Site Visit on 24th March, from viewpoints around the location for the proposed Necton infrastructure, the low-lying nature of Top Farm was demonstrated. During the public consultation process, the Top Farm site was identified as a possible option to Vattenfall and the owner offered it for sale. It did not feature in options considered in the application documentation. During the PINS examination process, the Necton Substation Action Group raised the existence of two alternative location sites, this one (closer by about 300m to the National Grid substation) and one near Scarning (which I now acknowledge is outside the search limits). There is already a Vattenfall response to the Top Farm site that in my opinion is not adequate. It can be found in document WRR: 10.D2.2 posted on the PINS website on 1/2/2019 on Page 87. In this response, the reasons for rejecting the site near Scarning are clearly given but nothing is actually stated about the reasons for rejecting the TOP Farm site.

As the inspectors saw when they visited Top Farm during the Accompanied Site Visit, it is up to 10 metres lower than the site selected by Vattenfall so mitigation measures would be easier, cheaper and more effective. It is approximately the same distance from the current National Grid infrastructure as the site selected so there should be no detrimental effect on the project costs. I respectfully request that the panel ask Vattenfall to make a reasoned argument for rejecting Top Farm for the installation of this huge infrastructure which I understand will be the largest in Europe and very close to our village.

The Accompanied Site Visit unfortunately occurred on a dull day so the increased visibility from infrastructure reflections were not seen. Please could the inspectors confirm that they have seen the increased visibility of the current infrastructure on a sunny day at some point during their examination. Thank you.

Interested Person Reference Number: 20011590