



Planning Inspectorate
Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

Hearing Transcript

Project:	Sea Link
Hearing:	Transcript of Open floor hearing 1 (OFH1) – Session 4 Part 1
Date:	6 November 2025

Please note: This document is intended to assist Interested Parties.

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The video recording published on the Planning Inspectorate project page is the primary record of the hearing.

FULL TRANSCRIPT (with timecode)

00:00:07:18 - 00:00:38:27

Good afternoon, everyone, and welcome. Can I just confirm that everybody can hear me clearly. Good. Um, can I also confirm with the case team that the recording of this event has commenced? I have been advised that that the live stream is not currently available. This should be resolved shortly. We apologize for the inconvenience caused. However, the recording will still be available after the event. It is now 2 p.m.,

00:00:38:29 - 00:00:43:21

and this open floor hearing in relation to the Sealink project has now recommenced.

00:00:46:06 - 00:01:04:14

Thank you all for attending this hearing. My name is Nancy Thomas. I am a planning inspector and a Chartered Town Planner. Together with my fellow panel members, I have been appointed by the Secretary of State to examine this project, I am now going to ask my fellow panel members to introduce themselves.

00:01:06:14 - 00:01:10:00

Good afternoon. My name is Doctor Richard Hunt. I'm a planning.

00:01:24:27 - 00:01:40:24

Okay. Okay. Sorry. Just sorry. Um, doctor hunt, just to clarify, the the live stream is working, but the project website is down, so until that's back up, the live stream is not viewable. Sorry. Carry on, doctor hunt.

00:01:41:24 - 00:01:48:08

Okay. Good afternoon again, everyone. My name is Doctor Richard Hunt. I'm a planning inspector and a chartered environmentalist.

00:01:50:08 - 00:02:00:03

Good afternoon. My name is Sarah Holmes. I'm a planning inspector and a chartered civil engineer. And I've been appointed by the Secretary of State with the lead member of this panel to examine this application.

00:02:01:27 - 00:02:07:25

Good afternoon. My name is Luke Regan. I'm a planning inspector and a chartered transport planner. Thank you.

00:02:09:09 - 00:02:13:24

Good afternoon. My name is Steven Rennie. I'm a planning inspector and a chartered town planner.

00:02:15:21 - 00:02:47:15

I can I can confirm that all members of the examining authority have made a formal declaration of interests, and that there are no known conflicts of interest with regard to us examining this application. Together, we constitute the examining authority or the WSA for this application. There are other colleagues from the Planning Inspectorate with us today. For those who are present in the room, you may already have spoken to or heard from Louise Haraway, who is the case manager for this project.

00:02:47:18 - 00:03:19:15

Miss Haraway is accompanied by one of our other case managers, Amina Khan, and our case officer, Emma Smith. For those of you who have joined us virtually, you will have spoken to our other case officers, Caroline Allen and Harpreet Parker. Together, they are the case team for this project and if you have any questions or queries, they should be your first point of contact. Their contact details can be found at the top of any letter you have received from us, or on the project page of the National Infrastructure website.

00:03:19:29 - 00:03:50:13

Before we consider the items on the agenda this afternoon, we need to deal with a few housekeeping matters. I will try to get through these as quickly as possible. Firstly, can everyone attending please make sure that your phone is switched off or turn to silent? There's no fire test planned for this afternoon. Should an alarm sound, it is an emergency and we will need to vacate the building. Emergency exits are located in the corners of the room and the doors through which through which you entered.

00:03:50:21 - 00:04:27:25

The fire assembly point is the Henry Moore lawn. If anyone needs assistance. Can you please let the case team know? Toilet facilities, including disabled facilities, can be found in the lobby. As far as I am aware. No requests have been made for any special measures or arrangements to enable participation in this meeting, such as needing to take a break for medical reasons or having to leave the event at a certain time. If anyone does need a break or extra support later on, then please do let the case team know this event is being live streamed and recorded.

00:04:28:01 - 00:05:04:18

Our letter of 19th of September, which we refer to as the rule six letter, explained that because we retain and publish the digital recordings, they form a public record to which the General Data Protection Regulation, or GDPR, applies. The Planning Inspectorate publishes and retains recordings for a period of five years from the Secretary of State's decision on the Development Consent order. So if you participate in this meeting, it's important you understand that you'll be recorded and that you consent to the retention and publication of the digital recording.

00:05:05:24 - 00:05:27:01

We are aware of a number of people who have let us know they do not wish to be filmed. The audio visual team are aware of this. And those people. People have been seated in a location which is not covered by the cameras. This will also be taken into account for those speaking in this hearing. Do we have any members of the press in attendance?

00:05:28:29 - 00:05:35:14

No. Okay. Thank you. Does anyone else intend to film or record this meeting?

00:05:37:21 - 00:06:22:19

No. We will only ever ask for information to be placed on the public record. That is important and relevant to the planning decision to avoid the need to edit the digital recordings. We would ask that you do not add information to the public record that you would not that you would normally wish to be kept private or confidential, such as your address, details, financial circumstances or details of medical conditions. If you do feel the need to refer to something that is private or confidential, could you please discuss this with the case team first to explore whether this could be submitted in writing and redacted? Does anyone have any questions with regard to this matter

00:06:24:19 - 00:06:27:08

in the room or online?

00:06:30:07 - 00:07:07:18

No, I can't see anyone. Thank you for those attending virtually. Can I repeat the request made in the arrangements conference that to minimize background noise, you make sure your phone is switched off or turned to silent and that you stay muted with your camera turned off unless you are speaking. I would also ask that if you want to speak, you switch your camera on and either use the razor hand function in teams, or ask to speak at the appropriate time. Can I also remind people that the chat function on teams will not work? So please do not try to use this to ask any questions or post any comments.

00:07:08:23 - 00:07:40:18

For those people watching the live stream, should we at any point adjourn proceedings this afternoon, we will have to stop the live stream to give us clear recording files. As a result, at the point at which we recommence the meeting and the live stream, you will need to refresh your browser page. We will remind you of this should we need to adjourn. I just want to say a little bit about conduct during the hearing. We understand that people have strong feelings about the proposed development, but it's important to recognize that we have a process to follow.

00:07:41:00 - 00:08:11:02

We therefore ask for good manners and respect to be shown to each other throughout this hearing. As such, we want everyone to have an opportunity to speak. Please do not talk over anyone when they are speaking. Additionally, we ask for no clapping, cheering or booing as we need to be able to hear what people are saying. So please be polite to each other as everyone deserves the same level of respect, even if you don't share the same views. We also understand that some people feel nervous when having to speak in public.

00:08:11:24 - 00:08:27:20

Please be reassured that we understand and that if you stumble over your words or need to repeat something, this isn't a problem. Are there any comments or questions regarding any of the points that I have just made, either in the room or online?

00:08:30:12 - 00:09:00:14

I can't see any hands up. Um, I will move on this hearing, which is split over five sessions, of which this is the fourth, will generally follow the agenda that was published on the project page of the National Infrastructure web page on the 24th of October, 2025. A copy of this can be found in the examination library at reference EV 4-01.

00:09:01:19 - 00:09:05:27

Thank you. I will now move on to item two on the agenda.

00:09:07:19 - 00:09:38:20

Normally, open floor hearings are held at the request of interested parties. However, we've called this open floor hearing because we want to hear firsthand from interested parties your thoughts at an early stage of the examination. It will also help us to form a view about what we want to discuss in more detail at later issues, specific hearings, and in our written questions. We are familiar with your representations, so when speaking, you don't need to repeat these at length.

00:09:39:01 - 00:09:59:24

What we are seeking is for you to provide further detail or evidence to help us understand these issues, to make best use of time, and while not wishing to limit contributions, it would be of great assistance if points were not repeated if made previously. You can rest assured that we will have understood the points made the first time.

00:10:01:12 - 00:10:21:25

We are aware that the applicant is attending this afternoon. We will ask the applicant to respond to everything they've heard through these open floor sessions in writing. It is not the purpose of these hearings to enable the applicant to make their case. I will now hand over to Mr. Regan for item three on the agenda.

00:10:23:12 - 00:10:55:02

Thank you. Due to the number of people who wish to speak at this open floor hearing, you'll have seen from the agenda that we've split the hearing into five sessions, with the next and final session starting at 530 today. It's our intention to hear from interested parties who are pre-registered to speak and who are listed in the agenda for this hearing, after which Should. Time permit. We will hear from any interested party who has not pre-registered, but wishes to speak, and any other persons or non interested parties who wish to speak.

00:10:55:10 - 00:11:07:10

However, if time is, time is tight and this will be at the discretion of the examining authority. At this stage, please could ask the applicant to display the speaking list for this session please.

00:11:09:08 - 00:11:23:28

And could I ask please, that you zoom in as far as possible to the width of the page so that it's as clear as possible, and then scroll down slowly so that all of the attendees can see the contents of that list, please.

00:11:25:26 - 00:11:26:14

Um.

00:11:28:24 - 00:12:03:23

So if time is not available during these open floor hearings, then parties can request a further open floor hearing during our later hearings. And we are happy to hold a further open floor hearing should we need to do so due to the number of parties wishing to speak today, we have set a time limit per person. We have agreed a maximum of six minutes for those representing groups, which includes membership organisations, clubs and societies, and we've allowed three minutes for individuals.

00:12:05:11 - 00:12:12:14

When you are speaking, please can you take account of the time remaining shown on the clock? On the floor?

00:12:14:14 - 00:12:42:12

Um, for those attending virtually, I will let you know verbally when you have one minute out of the three minutes remaining. Please do try and finish in your allocated time, as we want to ensure that everybody has the opportunity to be heard today to ensure that we can hear from as many people as possible. We won't be asking you any questions once you've spoken, but be assured that if we do have any questions for you, we will send them to you in writing. Following this event.

00:12:44:18 - 00:13:24:10

So the order in which you'll be invited to speak will follow the agenda. And we are now displaying. We will ask people to come forward to the table in front of up to five at a time. If you've informed us that you do not wish to be filmed, you do not need to come to the front and will instead be given a roving mic to speak from where you are currently seated. Although some of the speakers in each group of 5th May be attending virtually or may not be coming to the table at the front, we will still ask each of you to speak in turn based on the time allocated to you and as shown in the agenda.

00:13:25:23 - 00:14:00:24

When we have heard from all five of you, you're welcome to return to the general seating area and will then call the next group of people forward. Once you've returned to the general seating, please do feel free to depart the venue if you wish. But please do so quietly for the purposes of the recording and to respect the people still speaking. It would also assist us if you could provide us, please, with written summaries of anything that you say, and submit those at deadline one a which at the moment is on Tuesday the 26th of November.

00:14:01:09 - 00:14:24:21

These can also include any additional points or further detail that you may wish to make, but were unable to do so today because of time pressures. Again, please be reassured that when coming to our conclusions, we will give equal weight to both oral and written submissions. There is no disadvantage to not having presented something orally here today.

00:14:27:00 - 00:14:32:24

Can I check whether the list currently displayed is everyone who is registered to speak in this session?

00:14:37:02 - 00:14:49:16

Okay, hopefully that's fully inclusive. Um, does. Is there anybody else here wishing to speak who has not registered at this stage? Okay. Um.

00:14:51:24 - 00:14:53:11

But I take your name, please.

00:14:55:07 - 00:14:57:05

Steven Barnard. Okay. Thank you.

00:15:01:19 - 00:15:02:15

Thank you.

00:15:09:22 - 00:15:10:28

Okay. Thank you.

00:15:23:03 - 00:15:24:25

Sorry. What was your name?

00:15:30:04 - 00:15:37:03

We, uh, we had a request for someone to speak earlier, so we had to move a few names around. If that's a problem, we can hear you earlier.

00:15:42:01 - 00:15:43:04

Is that okay?

00:15:48:25 - 00:15:50:07

We could. Yeah.

00:15:50:09 - 00:15:50:24

Okay.

00:15:50:26 - 00:15:58:22

I think we maybe have somebody in the first group who's not who's told us they are not coming. So we will include you in that first group. Okay.

00:15:59:01 - 00:16:02:10

Okay. Any any other hands on this at this point?

00:16:04:06 - 00:16:14:19

Seeing any. Thank you. Okay. So, um, could I just finally ask. Does anyone have any questions on on the speaking process, either in the room or virtually online?

00:16:18:00 - 00:16:27:04

Seeing any hands. Okay. At which point I think we can move on to the next agenda item four, which is the actual representations. Thank you.

00:16:28:15 - 00:17:02:06

Thank you. I am now going to invite those listed in the agenda to speak when I read out your names. If you are in the room, please come to the table at the front. Unless you have informed us that you do not wish to be filmed. And if you're online, please turn your camera on. When it is your turn to speak, please turn on the microphone which is at the bottom of the microphone. Stand at the front. Um, for those in the room and start by introducing yourself and if relevant, who you are represented representing.

00:17:02:13 - 00:17:39:06

A timer is displayed in the room which you will see in front of you, um, towards the floor below the screens. I think, um, Mr. Regan will let those know online when they have a minute remaining. And can I just remind you again, not to supply any personal details when speaking here today? For example, do not state your home address, your age, or any medical conditions you may have. If you do feel that you need to supply this information to us, please talk to the case team about how this can be done without it going on the public record for those attending virtually.

00:17:39:08 - 00:18:06:14

If you do not want to appear on screen to be recorded, then you can keep your camera off. Also, please let us know. Um, if you're here, if you need a microphone to be brought to you, where you sit, if you have mobility issues. So the first five people I'm calling forward are Simon Loftus, Alan Bullard, Andrew McDonald, Rhett Griffiths and Patricia Dorsey.

00:18:25:27 - 00:18:35:29

So first we have Simon Loftus. You have three minutes to speak. Please start when you are ready. Thank you.

00:18:36:18 - 00:18:37:13

Thank you.

00:18:38:03 - 00:19:11:12

Well, as you all know, Sealink was conceived on the basis that East Suffolk would be awash with electrical power from sizeable sea subsea cables from Europe and connections from offshore wind farms, all of which would have to be transferred from Suffolk to the grid closer to where it's needed in London. But in February this year, Ofgem announced that one of those subsea cables, Nautilus, would now come ashore at Grane in Kent and not, as originally announced, on the Suffolk coast.

00:19:11:29 - 00:19:43:18

The old argument that this would be too costly has been overturned by what Ofgem called a reassessment of the strategic value and wider benefits. That decision undermines the entire rationale for sealing Link. Since Ofgem, Ray Smith's reassessment of the cost benefits of Nautilus can clearly be applied to all the other energy projects currently scheduled to make landfall in Suffolk.

00:19:43:20 - 00:20:26:08

They can simply continue offshore to grain. To do otherwise would be far more costly, not just in terms of the huge environmental damage to the East Suffolk landscape, but in terms of damage to the

local economy. That economy is largely based on tourism, a complex and far reaching ecosystem which involves almost every type of business in the area, large and small. Tourists come here because the area is beautiful, with wonderful coastal walks, ancient woodland, an extraordinary diversity of wildlife, medieval churches and the rich cultural heritage of which this concert hall is a prime example.

00:20:27:00 - 00:20:35:00

And they are able to come because despite this glorious sense of isolation, East Suffolk is easily accessible,

00:20:36:15 - 00:21:14:08

all of which is now threatened and would be completely destroyed if Sealink and the other offshore energy projects make landfall in Suffolk. Roads closed. Hedgerow oaks cut down, ancient woodlands flattened, habitats laid waste, and a landscape supposedly protected by every sort of national and international safeguard. Destroyed without hope of recovery. A treasured place replaced with depressing vista of huge substations and converter stations and motorway wide trenching scars across the land.

00:21:14:19 - 00:21:43:04

The cost of such destruction is immeasurable, destroying hope and confidence in the future. But we can put a reasonable estimate of the cost in terms of the tourist economy 17% so far this year, between 10 and 15 billion over the timescale of the construction envisage for these projects. Letting Sealink go ahead as planned would be the lazy option, allowing a mantra of national.

00:21:43:06 - 00:21:46:06

Mr. Loftus, sorry, you've had three minutes.

00:21:46:21 - 00:21:47:06

I know.

00:21:47:08 - 00:21:48:08

Sorry to interrupt.

00:21:48:10 - 00:21:49:06

Two seconds.

00:21:49:08 - 00:21:49:28

Go on.

00:21:50:22 - 00:22:00:00

Allowing the mantra of nationally significant project to trump common sense. There are alternative and better ways of doing it. Thank you. I think that was.

00:22:00:12 - 00:22:07:00

Just a sneak, then. Yeah. Thank you very much. Um, Alan Bullard.

00:22:10:18 - 00:22:11:15

Good afternoon.

00:22:13:12 - 00:22:14:13

Mr. Bullard.

00:22:14:19 - 00:22:16:06

Hello? Can you hear me?

00:22:16:12 - 00:22:17:04

Yes.

00:22:17:20 - 00:22:24:06

Good afternoon. My. My name is Alan. Yep. I'll start. Good afternoon. My. My name is Alan Bullard.

00:22:24:08 - 00:22:59:01

I live in Friston, and I support the views of Friston Parish Council and of sees. Now, I'm sure that on your way to Snape today, you will have come across some of the roadworks, diversions and destruction of the countryside caused by the works for Sizewell C. National Grid and Scottish power substations. You'll have seen yellow signs all over the place, and if you're local, you'll wonder which road is scheduled for closure next. And the tourists on whom our economy depends will see the same.

00:23:00:03 - 00:23:31:14

And this is just the start. It is now proposed to add Sealink to this unplanned free for all of energy projects in this small and beautiful area of East Suffolk. And even since I wrote my relevant representation, we hear that Bennell Bridge is to be closed for many months, although that wasn't highlighted in the earlier examination, and we hear that we are in line for a large solar farm, and that there has to be a new water pipeline from Saxmundham to Sizewell C.

00:23:32:27 - 00:24:04:17

Now I'm all in favour of green energy, but planned green energy, please. Not this random series of proposals from different organisations which only get examined in isolation. Unless you look at the cumulative impact of these proposals and the effect that they will have during the long construction phase, as well as the final result, you cannot make a properly focussed view of what is in store for this area with its small villages and narrow roads.

00:24:04:19 - 00:24:45:21

And yes, I know that part of the current upheaval is for a bypass, but that will just bring traffic more quickly to the area. It won't solve the transport problem within it, as big lorries try to navigate the sharp corners and tight bends. So, as I said in my relevant Irrelevant representation. Please can you consider halting this proposal and seriously consider the alternatives to this piecemeal approach to planning? Offshore grids with only the necessary structures onshore on brownfield sites, are being used by all the other countries with North Sea wind farms.

00:24:46:04 - 00:25:24:20

Only this country is proposing outdated 20th century methods of energy supply. Yes, renewable energy should be at the top of our energy agenda. But unless you consider the cumulative impact and halt these proposals before it's too late, this beautiful area will lose its beauty. It will lose its productive farmland. It will lose its attraction as a tourist spot. That's a major source of employment, incidentally, and will have nothing but concrete to leave to our children and grandchildren.

00:25:25:09 - 00:25:26:10

Thank you.

00:25:28:04 - 00:25:34:12

Thank you very much. Um, can we now hear from Andrew MacDonald, please?

00:25:36:12 - 00:26:12:20

My name is Andrew MacDonald and I live in Snape, a short walk from here across the river and the marshes. This application has many other interested parties. Have already shown is very poorly put together, and it lacks the accurate and considered evidence that I had thought a DCO requires.

Although, of course, we have a wealth of tables in the application and a kitchen sink full of detail. I think that all of this is for a project that is in the wrong place, is not now needed and never will be, and that the connection hub in Friston that it will facilitate is a disastrous and extremely consequential mistake.

00:26:13:00 - 00:26:47:06

But I'm here today to ask the examination examining authority for reconsideration of the issue of cumulative traffic impact and for an this issue specific hearing on that topic, the application was written in full knowledge of the impact on local roads and users that the size will see project will bring. So ceiling cannot reasonably write that the average number of HGVs at the peak of construction would be 68, in Suffolk, when they mean 68 more in Suffolk. That figure, in fact, is from their FAQ document, and it is so inaccurate that it might as well be a lie.

00:26:47:22 - 00:27:20:10

The peak HGV figure is actually 1732 and a half times as many. They've quoted the number of HGVs at the time of peak construction, not peak HGV traffic. This is childish. The treatment of traffic data generally in the application is far below the required standard of accuracy and scope, which in consultation they have consistently refused to provide. So we have a traffic assessment and note rather than a traffic assessment document, and we have traffic surveys carried out at the wrong time of the year.

00:27:20:29 - 00:27:56:16

We cannot trust the data, and we are beginning not to trust the authors of the data. So the traffic and transport study area and the application excludes the three roads that run through my village, Snake Village and connect Leiston and the A120 with Tunstall and Rendlesham. The project traffic and the traffic it displaces will not respect that artificial boundary. What we know living here is that the roads are not up to the traffic. They are going to have to carry the B roads are not up to the diversions and the C roads and the quiet lanes, which are such a wonder of this part of the country, are going to be destroyed.

00:27:56:18 - 00:28:26:27

The verges widened, the hedgerows cut back or cut down, and there will be casualties and perhaps death on these roads, for lack of a sensible understanding of the cumulative rather than simply additive, traffic impacts that are coming for us here in coastal Suffolk. Emotive language I'm afraid I should use the language of the application where I mentioned casualty and perhaps death. I meant to say severance. Pedestrian delay. Fear and intimidation. And non-motorized amenity effects. Of course, it's a bad application.

00:28:26:29 - 00:28:36:13

Its immediate effects would be disastrous, and its connection hub consequences would mean more and more and more of the same. Please do not let this happen.

00:28:38:00 - 00:28:38:18

Thank you.

00:28:38:20 - 00:28:39:24

Thank you very much.

00:28:41:11 - 00:28:47:15

Um. And now we, as Tessa Wojcik is not here, we have Rhett Griffiths.

00:28:48:23 - 00:28:49:24

Good afternoon.

00:28:49:27 - 00:29:20:12

I'm Rhett Griffiths, a local resident with a background in infrastructure project finance. This application must be judged on current need, proper alternatives assessment and a reliable evaluation of cumulative impact on need. See Link's needs case was justified on the assumption that Nautilus would connect in the Sizewell area, producing a local network Constraints, but Nautilus is no longer part of that local network.

00:29:20:23 - 00:29:57:05

Under N1, need must be based on the network that exists now, so need must be revisited. The needs case also treats lion link as certain to justify sea link, but lion link is not consented, so cannot be treated as real enough to prove need. That makes this application premature. Both these points independently fail. The N1 necessity test need is not demonstrated on alternatives under N5.

00:29:57:07 - 00:30:37:11

Where a less harmful, technically feasible alternative exists, it must be properly considered. Brownfield grid connection locations remain available, yet they were screened out early before the need changed when Nautilus fell away. The alternatives had to be re-evaluated, but they were not. The N5 proportionality tests has not been met. Under N1, it must also be reconsidered if reinforcement of the existing network could now meet the same requirements, with less harm on cumulative impact.

00:30:37:29 - 00:31:08:15

The applicant has excluded Sizewell C, E1 and E2 and lion link from any meaningful cumulative impact assessment, despite consented construction footprints and known overlapping effects. This understates real cumulative harm and does not meet required EIA regulation standards. The ESA therefore has no reliable cumulative baseline on which to judge this application.

00:31:09:12 - 00:31:46:18

In addition, if Lion link is treated as real enough to justify need. It is also real enough to count towards cumulative harm. The applicant cannot have it both ways. This is a material inconsistency. At the centre of this application. In closing, granting consent to this flawed application would undermine the purpose of the DCO process, namely to ensure major infrastructure is necessary, proportionate and sited to minimize harm to communities in the environment.

00:31:46:21 - 00:31:52:24

I asked the essay to give full consideration to my points in its examination. Thank you.

00:31:54:01 - 00:32:00:20

Thank you very much, Mr. Griffiths. Can we now hear from Patricia Dorsey, please?

00:32:00:27 - 00:32:31:03

Yes. Hello to you. I am Patricia Dorsey, and my husband and I have lived in Sizewell for over 20 years and virtually straight away, offshore wind projects started in the area, namely Gabbard and Galloper. It seems that ever since I have been involved with consultation after consultation, which I felt obliged to attend, to show that the locals feel strongly about where they live.

00:32:31:05 - 00:33:08:21

And I try to be a voice for the wildlife and the flora that is, and will be hugely impacted if this destruction to the countryside is allowed to continue. Wind farms have bombarded the East coast and now we have Sizewell C and D because it is two exploding around us. It is a total nightmare. Sizewell is a nuclear area going back to the early 60s with Sizewell A being first because the area delivers energy via the super grid.

00:33:08:25 - 00:33:48:27

The energy gates have been opened for everything else to descend on the area. I feel the area has more than enough to cope with delivering nuclear power. All the infrastructure for offshore energy should be kept at sea. Yes, it's tempting to put it near to the east coast, but it will be total overload for the communities. Why should the area be sacrificed and ruined? Tourism has played a huge part to the economy here and because of the upheaval taking place, people are staying away.

00:33:49:03 - 00:34:28:02

It is hardly peaceful and relaxing for them now. Residents cannot freely move around and towns are losing shops due to lack of trade now. Minster Marshes in Kent, which is where obviously Sealink will land as well, is a valuable habitat that should not be ruined by Sealink. The community there is equally disturbed by the potential disruption. National grid are systematically marching their way along the whole of the east coast of England, hiding behind the so-called upgrade to deliver clean energy.

00:34:28:13 - 00:34:58:15

If Sealink is allowed to construct, then more will follow. It actually states in the feedback form that their proposals include the option of co-located infrastructure with that of up to two other projects. Now, this can be borne out by the arrival of SPR after Galloper and Gabbard. More and more companies will descend here. There's a limit.

00:34:58:19 - 00:35:16:12

It's been reached with the build Sizewell C and D, there will be years and years of disruption. This area is at saturation point and people at the end of their tether. Our health is suffering. Now there's no way.

00:35:16:20 - 00:35:20:02

Sorry. We'll see. You've come to the end of your three minutes.

00:35:20:04 - 00:35:23:10

I just hope you all took note of the 400 people yesterday.

00:35:24:01 - 00:35:33:09

If you have anything else you wish to say that you've not been able to say now, please do. Just submit it in writing. But thank you for your contributions. Come.

00:35:34:28 - 00:35:48:18

Can we have the next five, please? So that is. Coral Duncan, Paul Duncan, Elizabeth Duffield, Jocelyn Bond and Philip Smith.

00:36:08:15 - 00:36:18:16

Thank you. Can we hear from Coral Duncan first, please? You might need to move the microphone a little bit nearer. Okay. Thank you.

00:36:18:18 - 00:36:48:21

Okay. Thank you. This D-Link project application is for the wrong site, using outdated technology being rushed through to pave the way for many other projects. Waiting in lieu in a blind direction of destruction. Net zero is about balance and negating harm. National grid have requested 48% upfront costs from US the taxpayer, to bankroll C length before consent has even been given. This is irresponsible, inefficient use of public money.

00:36:48:26 - 00:37:22:14

If our hard earned cash can be spoofed up to this ill thought out project without regard, then what hope do we have for any respect or consideration for our communities and countryside from National Grid us? The local people have to live through all this grief and upset because of private overseas enterprises, wanted to make us maximum profit with a minimum investment for their shareholders. My community, my local economy, my landscape will not benefit. It will be destroyed. Is that fair? We see this gross erosion of money and trust with their water companies.

00:37:22:16 - 00:38:01:05

Corporate greed at any expense. This greed will blight my beautiful countryside. Impact my day to day living with mental stress. Noise, pollution and a sense of great loss. No morning. It will destroy Suffolk. This Sealink project can be placed offshore more cost efficiently, causing far less impact to communities, whether they be social, ecological and economic. What right does a multinational private enterprise whose main aim is to maximise their investment, supplemented by government grants funded by our hard earned taxes into huge shareholder gains, only to be funnelled back overseas.

00:38:01:20 - 00:38:31:26

All this at the expense of hardworking, honest local folk, us the custodians of this beautiful historic countryside. I urge the Planning Inspectorate to consider that logistically, this is the wrong place. It is inaccessible. To make it accessible, you have to destroy our countryside and divide our communities. And to consider, at least not the residential housing for which safety implications are huge. There will be blood on your hands when a converter blows next to these poor homes. The use of outdated technology.

00:38:31:28 - 00:39:02:00

The initial proposal has been ditched for the cheaper and less efficient tech. We know the national grid won't want to put this offshore, because they don't want to make because they don't make such huge profits reselling their electricity. It's all our expense. There's no compromise and there's just no justification of the disproportionate gain. National grid PLC will make to our losses. It is unfair to trash our countryside, its unique and fragile ecosystems, our livelihoods, and fracture our communities in such a way.

00:39:02:11 - 00:39:03:16

Thank you for listening.

00:39:05:18 - 00:39:11:29

Thank you. Can I? Now, can we now hear from Paul Duncan, please? You have three minutes.

00:39:14:13 - 00:39:48:18

My response is as follows. Due to time restraints. Simple understanding of what Sealink proposes. The ceiling is proposed. High voltage electricity transmission project to build a new undersea cable connecting Suffolk and Kent. In the simplest terms, why bring the electricity onshore and then take it offshore to Kent? Offshore options. National grid have themselves produced materials stating the future is a meshed offshore grid. Many other projects in Europe, worldwide and from Scottish Power from A1 and A2 are installing offshore converter stations and substations.

00:39:49:29 - 00:40:23:03

Why our national grid so focused on the onshore converter stations and in denial? There are other options. Isle of Grain and Bradwell in February in the community newsletter, it is stated by National Grid. The Sizewell area requires grid reinforcement. That is why Sealink is proposed here, and a connection at Bradwell or the Isle of Grain would be too far south of where Sealink needs to be connected on either of these locations, and would require more new infrastructure to meet the need for the upgrade. As Sealink is an underwater cave in Suffolk to Kent.

00:40:23:05 - 00:40:57:24

How can it be stated that the Isle of Grain is too far south when the cable termination is in Kent, with over 400 acres of brownfield sites, the Isle of Grain and National Grid already has electricity substations and transmission there. Nautilus is going there and the workforce to build that project will already be located there. How is it valid on infrastructure that more new infrastructure will be needed? The current chosen location in Suffolk is in the middle of a rural area with zero infrastructure. So to argue for new infrastructure seems a poor argument is needed wherever this project finally lands.

00:40:58:24 - 00:41:36:21

Now the inaccessible site. National Grid removed the northern access route due to issues of crossing railways and the river from us, with delays and longer construction times. Their words. Now a very short notice. National grid wants to cause traffic and safety hazards by closing the Brent Bridge for ales and to get to the south. Plus, they still need to build a six metre high bridge over the from us. If the northern route was not viable, how can the western route be a suitable alternative? With the same delays, increased costs and no concerns given to people accessing such mundane Sternfeld and Bennell? This is a huge material change which National Grid have yet to define how.

00:41:36:23 - 00:42:14:14

It is only a small change and which solution they will choose. No, no consideration made for emergency services when the bridge is being constructed, but how non vehicular traffic will be accommodated on this major route into Saxmundham, Bennell and Sternfeld? We will be living with this for the next 15 years. I'm not going to talk about the cumulative impact everybody else has. But we've got 15 years with all of these going on and major disruption. The impact of the archaeological digs on its own caused us to contact the council because the noise of the constant beeping, and they are looking at working hours in far excess of that.

00:42:14:26 - 00:42:15:20

Thank you.

00:42:17:09 - 00:42:24:25

Thank you very much, Mr. Duncan. Can we now hear from Elizabeth Duffield, please?

00:42:24:27 - 00:42:40:17

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. I live in Stone field. I hope you can understand that in this age, the celebrating diverse communities, it is essential. Planning processes protect areas that are.

00:42:40:19 - 00:43:21:20

Rural and protect them from harm. Like the Sealink proposals threaten us with, there is a threat to our safety as the 26 metre converter stations are so close to existing housing, fire is a real possibility, damaging local homes and wildlife. The nearest specialist firefighters are based in Ipswich. There is a threat to our security of Sealink goes ahead. This would mean 30% of the energy infrastructure is in this small part of Suffolk, making us vulnerable to harm during war or terrorism or cyber attacks.

00:43:22:02 - 00:44:00:24

Flooding is a threat. The sight of the whole road across the Frome as floods, as does the promise and Saxmundham itself. Productive farmland is going to be covered with concrete. Where will the runoff go? Local nature and biodiversity will be decimated. The proposed mitigation by National Grid does nothing to lessen this in any significant way. The rural fiesta of listed Hartshill and Saint John's Church across the valley as you approach Saxmundham will be lost forever and for future generations.

00:44:01:09 - 00:44:31:14

Since 2023, when the applicant wrote to us to say our property will be directly affected. There have been numerous changes to the plans which have been difficult to navigate. We now have much larger proposals before us and it has threatened the health and wellbeing of my family and my neighbours. Staying link will not create long term local jobs. Food security is greatly threatened now.

00:44:32:01 - 00:45:09:14

Traffic management during the years of construction will threaten all road users. However they travel. The B1 to one is undulating and with poor visibility. The movement of huge construction vehicles in and out of the site is hazardous. The latest news regarding the Benwell Piano Bridge railway crossing will create more unrest and rat runs in Bennell and Stanfield. If you need to access the A12 to go to hospital in Ipswich, you are always threatened with being late or missing it altogether.

00:45:09:25 - 00:45:32:03

I would ask you to ensure planning processes help local residents to move towards net zero without destroying our rural way of life and our landscape. We do not benefit from Sealink in any tangible way, nor do the visitors who come to Suffolk and enjoy our quiet Suffolk skies.

00:45:33:12 - 00:45:45:16

Thank you very much. Um, just to say, it sounds like your property is potentially one that's affected, and you, you will have an opportunity if you want to talk further about that. Yeah.

00:45:45:18 - 00:45:46:10

Thank you.

00:45:46:15 - 00:45:49:18

But unlike many people, it affects us all.

00:45:49:25 - 00:45:55:24

Yeah. Thank you. Okay. Um, if I can now hear from Jocelyn Bond, please.

00:45:58:07 - 00:45:58:22

Thank you.

00:45:58:24 - 00:46:35:01

Um. Good afternoon. Yes, I'm Jocelyn Bond, I'm an Uber resident, and oddly enough, I used to know and love the Pegg well, Bay, Kent area. I feel for both geographic ends of this project. I'm also a town councilor, and I fully support the town council's submissions, particularly when it comes to reflecting that National Grid has wholly been missing in action. Um, I'd love to be proved wrong, but I think it's

probably because even M and C Saatchi, who I see have been reappointed as their PR of choice, couldn't possibly make this particular project palatable.

00:46:36:07 - 00:47:07:26

A challenge living and working here has always been all things infrastructure. Ironically, once it was argued to me that having limited transport infrastructure accidentally kept this area less populated. So Nice or old fashioned somewhere. Families came to for traditional holidays in unspoilt surroundings, having the cumulative impact of two major infrastructure projects starting to be up and running now is presenting us all with considerable daily transport challenges.

00:47:08:02 - 00:47:54:14

Already as a family and in common with many others, recently we've had to adjust to seeing just, well, a fair bit less of each other due to the length of time and planning it now takes to get almost anywhere from this area. The last thing anyone wants is that the visitors, utterly vital to the Suffolk, Aldeburgh and general area, stop coming because it has become such a big ask. I'd like to suggest at the very least, this particular project should be paused so as not to clash or compete with and lengthen the already lengthy construction phase of, particularly Sizewell C and the catch renamed Named Suffolk Water Recycling Transfer and Storage Project, without which I understand there is no Sizewell C.

00:47:55:11 - 00:48:25:26

I used to think splendid isolation would be an amazing way to live isolated on a beautiful island. I've come to consider that this is possible, that this may happen, but although it would be partially an oasis of calm, like being in the eye of the storm, Aldeburgh and this area would also be an extremely tricky place to leave or return home to. This area is currently sustainable, vibrant and viable. Long may it continue to be.

00:48:26:02 - 00:48:33:14

Along with thousands of objectors, I'm convinced the entire area would be much diminished if Sealink comes. Thank you very much.

00:48:34:14 - 00:48:47:14

Thank you very much. Um, now we have Philip Smith. Um, and I believe you're talking on behalf of an organisation. So you have six minutes. Yeah, in that capacity. Thank you.

00:48:47:16 - 00:49:25:04

My name is Philip Smith, and I'm speaking as a representative of Walbrzych against Line Link. We support the expansion of offshore wind and the development of an integrated offshore grid, using the North Sea as a corridor to transmit power directly from offshore wind farms to pre-industrial sites, closer to demand, such as London and the South east. This approach aligns with international best practice and delivers power more efficiently, while minimizing the significant detrimental effects on fragile rural communities and rare habitats and landscapes. However, we strongly object to the proposed siting of onshore infrastructure for National Grid Sealink project in the Suffolk Coastal area.

00:49:25:10 - 00:50:04:02

We have five main heads of objection. One cumulative impact. The Sealink project must not be considered in isolation. Suffolk Coastal is already peppered and overburdened by an intense cluster of major projects within a five mile radius Sizewell C, National Grid and Scottish power substations at Friston E1, E2 line link, and as of last week, the Essex and Suffolk Water Recycling Transfer and Storage Project. The combined effect of these projects over the next 12 to 15 years will irreversibly industrialise the countryside, severely impacting local communities, wildlife and tourism, none of which will recover.

00:50:04:05 - 00:50:45:04

This level of development is disproportionate and unsustainable given the significance of cumulative impact. We formally request the convening of an issue specific hearing on the topic, two alternative sites and network design. There are clearly more appropriate pre industrialised locations for energy hubs, as are used by other North Sea countries. If projects like Scottish Powers E1 and E2 and Line Link were routed to such sites via subsea cables. Sea Link would not be required. Offshore integration using modular offshore hybrid assets and offshore converter platforms supported by the new National Energy System Operator, would be a smarter and more future proof solution.

00:50:45:06 - 00:51:20:29

Saving over £1.8 billion of public money and avoiding widespread environmental and community damage. Furthermore, Sea Link is not needed at this time. That's not enough. Power is coming into the area that the existing Sizewell to Bramford pylons can't already transmit, and that will remain the case until Sizewell C is online in 2040. If indeed Sizewell C ever becomes operational from a planning and public purse perspective, pausing until at least up to 2030 would be beneficial in assessing the need for Sea Link and assessing new emerging technologies and funding models.

00:51:22:10 - 00:51:52:12

Given that there is no need for the grid to be reinforced by Sealink until such point in time that Sizewell C becomes operational, it can only be deduced that by applying for the co-location of infrastructure for line link. As part of the Sealink application, Sealink is acting as a Trojan horse for the unregulated company National Grid Ventures to seek to deliver line link via the back door. Before the full line link application has been assessed and decided upon. This makes a complete mockery of the planning process. Three.

00:51:52:19 - 00:52:23:29

Traffic disruption and emergency services Sealink will introduce massive traffic volumes. Road closures and HGV movements on rural roads. Already unfit for heavy transport and already overburdened by, in particular, the ongoing works for Sizewell C. These disruptions pose real dangers to residents, cyclists and emergency services, potentially endangering lives. These disruptions are also a huge deterrent to tourism traffic, which is a significant consideration given that the vast majority of tourism in this region consists of day trippers.

00:52:24:05 - 00:52:56:15

People will simply stop visiting and they will not come back, taking their much needed tourism spend elsewhere for environmental and ecological damage. Ceilings infrastructure will destroy hedgerows, disturbed soil prone to erosion and permanently scar the landscape. The route cuts through sensitive areas including North Warren Sandplains, Heath and the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of

Outstanding Natural Beauty, jeopardizing biodiversity, severing wildlife corridors and threatening species protected under UK and international law.

00:52:57:09 - 00:53:30:15

Five. Impact on local economy and wellbeing. Tourism a vital part of Suffolk's economy will suffer dramatically. The Destination Management Organisation has warned that congestion and disruption will deter visitors. Local businesses will lose trade and jobs with long term economic and social decline. Residents face not just years of construction but also ongoing noise pollution, air pollution and light pollution, degrading their mental health and quality of life. So in summary, Sea Link is not necessary and it is deeply harmful.

00:53:30:19 - 00:54:02:02

By embracing the transmission network design principles of integrated offshore grids and offshore pooling of wind energy, the government and national grid could avoid sealing entirely, while enhancing efficiency and reducing cost. Sealing is yet another example of the uncoordinated peppering of the Suffolk Coastal region with a series of badly thought through, and in this case, completely unnecessary projects. We urge you to reject this proposal and instead promote energy hub development at appropriate industrial sites, in line with modern sustainable infrastructure planning.

00:54:02:09 - 00:54:03:06

Thank you.

00:54:04:13 - 00:54:13:13

Thank you very much. Would you. Now you've now got three minutes to speak on your own behalf if you. Yeah, if you wish. Thank you.

00:54:15:01 - 00:54:45:23

My name is Philip Smith and I'm a resident of Walbrzych. Personally, I support offshore wind and the development of a coordinated offshore grid. What I oppose is the unnecessary and damaging concentration of onshore infrastructure in one of the most sensitive and ecologically valuable coastal areas in the country. Again, cumulative impact. Sealink is not an isolated project. It sits alongside Sizewell C the first and substations A1 North, the A2 line link and now also the Essex and Suffolk Water Recycling Transfer and Storage project.

00:54:45:25 - 00:55:17:09

To date, each of these projects has been assessed largely in isolation, but to the but to the communities who live here and to the landscapes and wildlife affected, the damage is not isolated. It is layered European year project after project. The result is the slow but certain industrialisation of our region. This is irreversible harm and cannot be mitigated again. I formally request and issue specific hearing on cumulative impact. The impact on road traffic with children at school in Woodbridge.

00:55:17:11 - 00:55:48:23

We are daily users of the road network between Walbrzych and Woodbridge. Currently, that 20 mile stretch of the A12 is one single giant set of roadworks due mainly to Sizewell C, Sealink would bring further significant numbers of heavy vehicles to a road network already at breaking point. Increased traffic will cause further congestion,, pollution, road safety hazards, and delays to emergency response

times. These are all risks that cannot be taken lightly. Tourism. Tourism is the backbone of our local community. It is not sightseeing tourism.

00:55:48:25 - 00:56:21:01

It is place based, built on tranquillity. Open landscapes, wildlife heritage and the experience of peace. Visitors come here because this area feels untouched and alive with nature. But if access to the coast becomes slow, congested and disrupted as it is, visitors will simply choose other destinations. And when the tourists stop coming. Local businesses will close, jobs will be lost, and communities will hollow out. This is economic damage on a regional scale that cannot be reversed.

00:56:22:11 - 00:56:54:01

So in closing, there is no needs case for Sealink. Sealink is not necessary. There is no great reinforcement need for it at all until the point in time that Sizewell C becomes operational. If indeed that ever happens. So why are we even considering all of the impacts I've just described for a redundant project? The answer is that Sealink is being used to undermine the planning process, to seek to deliver line link via the back door. On that basis alone, I submit that the application must be denied.

00:56:54:03 - 00:56:54:26

Thank you.

00:56:55:22 - 00:57:22:20

Thank you very much. Could we have our next speakers, please? Um, so I've got Councillor Julia Ewart. Um, Leigh Jenkins. I think the next two have advised they are not, um, wishing to speak. So that's Matthew Garrard and and Delphine Mason Brown. So then the third one is Sally Sturridge, please.

00:57:26:07 - 00:57:27:03

Thank you.

00:57:32:07 - 00:57:37:24

Okay. Could we hear from Councillor Julia Hewitt first, please?

00:57:40:03 - 00:57:40:28

Thank you.

00:57:41:08 - 00:57:42:12

Good afternoon.

00:57:42:14 - 00:57:46:00

As a district councillor for East Suffolk and vice chair.

00:57:46:02 - 00:57:46:25

Of the Kneset.

00:57:46:27 - 00:58:22:22

Working Group, I warmly welcome you to Snape and our world renowned concert hall here at The Maltings. I sincerely hope in your private time away from the hall, you sense the quiet beauty of this place, its rare balance between coast and countryside, heritage and work. Let me speak plainly. I oppose the ceiling proposal on this site. It is my view. This is an abuse of power and a failure of planning to place a vast industrial converter station beside a Suffolk market town, when the energy is destined for Kent.

00:58:22:27 - 00:58:45:27

It's hard to imagine metal units 27m tall, the height of nine storey buildings dominating our local skyline. Eyeline in the commercial world. National grid's stance challenges me. And taking that overused turn of sustainable. The inspectors must ask what is sustainable about sending power in a giant loop from a.

00:58:45:29 - 00:58:46:14

Renewable.

00:58:46:16 - 00:59:10:25

Field in the North Sea to Kent via inland Suffolk. Losing energy on the way whilst destroying nature, tranquillity and livelihoods that line its path. Panel it's day two for you here in Suffolk and you'll have heard many technical and indeed emotional arguments from residents. So let me speak instead. As the district councillor for Kelso and Oxford ward.

00:59:13:26 - 00:59:14:18

The people I.

00:59:14:20 - 00:59:15:18

Represent.

00:59:16:10 - 00:59:23:03

Aren't demonstrative. They're dedicated. They care deeply about their rural homes and their families, and they.

00:59:23:05 - 00:59:23:20

Work.

00:59:23:22 - 01:00:01:15

Early shifts and long hours, and they're often on the minimum wage. And quietly, they're keeping this local economy me alive. Sleep is precious and weekends are treasured. Many don't write letters or join campaigns. They simply trust people like me to speak up for them. But with project upon project, this NCP invasion is taking its toll on the community and on them. To now add an over lit industrial site with constant noise, dust and reversing trucks squealing is not acceptable and frankly, it'll be brutal.

01:00:02:13 - 01:00:33:26

Rex Griffiths said only earlier the allocated site has no need, no need to be in this vast industrial park. But as we heard yesterday at the preliminary heat. Excuse me. Preliminary session. The national grid. Casey made it quite clear her foot is flat to the floor on the accelerator and has every intention of

driving this application through. And I think, as she said, she wanted it at speed. So my job is to protect my community.

01:00:33:28 - 01:01:17:12

To secure something meaningful in return. Should this go ahead? And elected members must be practical. But it irks me to say so. We need to be discussing a credible plan with a real legacy, not a token gestures. I've already shared with Siemens the appoint of contractor. They are creative and achievable and fair concepts. A community car park by sea link, where residents can charge their vehicles for free, and open air lido using clean energy where young people can swim, meet and belong, and a modern electric bus system that will run from Pease and Hall to Benno Leeson and to random connecting our villages instead of isolating them.

01:01:18:06 - 01:01:58:15

The disruption without reward is no longer acceptable and safety to safety is Paramount. I've been told by service, by fire service colleagues that there may be a moratorium preventing fire tenders from entering the ceiling site of hours until they're allowed to go into the blaze. Mitigation between the sealing site and new homes that are built at the top of the the hill at Churchill must be guaranteed from the outset to have an outcome as to how they're going to be looked after, not tucked in the back end of an appendix.

01:01:59:05 - 01:02:30:26

And there's the challenge of access much discussed. Let's be honest, the old bridge plan is unworkable. The route and narrow, ill suited for heavy vehicles, and the proposal is flawed and disproportionate. So if we're serious about progress and the DCO, then we really need to relook at Saxmundham North entrance. This larger community deserves solutions and not gridlock. A new roundabout, a purpose built access road running around the back of town, crossing the river from us and the river.

01:02:32:09 - 01:03:03:16

Plus, the national grid needs to sponsor something sensible and we are looking for support with the NHS Integrated Care Board suggestion of the multi-purpose practice that Doctor Havard has had in his sights for a very long time, that two could be attached to that road. This is what joined up planning looks like. Power, people and public health working together. To conclude, I'd like you to consider our geography and our community.

01:03:03:28 - 01:03:37:24

The Sealink project isn't just going to impact Stanfield, it will ripple right the way through every corner of our locally shared landscape. As I said when I challenged the Boundary Commission in 2022 from splitting Bennell from Kelsall in the constituency, reshape, Shape. We are one body. National grid cannot and must not break us into two. And we have the same roads and the same schools and the same lives, and we are closely bonded together.

01:03:38:12 - 01:03:58:09

I stand firmly against the Sea Link site. But if the final decision allows National Grid to press ahead with its very flawed application, then it is my job to make sure that the DCO reflects progress. Thank you.

01:04:07:04 - 01:04:08:09

Thank you. There we go.

01:04:09:28 - 01:04:16:19

Thank you very much. Um, now we have Lee Jenkins. You also have six minutes. Thank you.

01:04:16:21 - 01:04:17:07

Thank you.

01:04:17:09 - 01:04:48:23

Um, Lee Jenkins, Suffolk Constabulary. As an organization, we hold no views as to the individual merits of developments. However, as an organisation we do engage with insists to ensure that if there is any adverse impact, we wish to seek mitigation against these. These are impacts on the communities, commerce as well as visitors to the area of Suffolk. The movement of herbs and ales. We need to have early engagement to ensure that the mitigation we model against is correct.

01:04:49:04 - 01:05:25:00

To this end, as an organisation, we have looked to work with individuals within developments and also from policing perspective. Where appropriate, seek mitigation so that this does not fall to the baseline resources already in existence of the organisation and therefore full to Suffolk taxpayers. From the constabulary perspective, we are looking for a coordinated approach across other assets in Suffolk. We are very aware of the impact this is having on us and where mitigation is achieved is helping us to address this.

01:05:25:02 - 01:05:32:27

But again, I implore that there is that early engagement so that we can look at the coordinated approach and impact that this has.

01:05:34:15 - 01:05:53:01

From our perspective already, we have had some engagement, and that engagement has given us an indication that there could be circa 100 Ale movements. To that end, we again need to look at this from the perspective of how this can be mitigated to minimise that impact on the community.

01:05:55:11 - 01:06:05:29

Again, from the constabulary perspective, we wish to look after our communities and work with developers and contractors to minimize that impact. Thank you.

01:06:08:22 - 01:06:15:27

Thank you very much. Um, can we now hear from Sally Star Ridge, please? You have three minutes.

01:06:21:03 - 01:06:22:26

I think your microphone.

01:06:23:11 - 01:06:24:23

That's it. Start again.

01:06:26:08 - 01:06:27:01

Start again.

01:06:28:01 - 01:06:59:11

A secure electricity network is needed, but current energy projects will have catastrophic impacts. Nobody is calling SPR or ING to account. Often ignored. Ofgem hasn't the power to make a difference. National grid, predominantly owned by American and British shareholders, is a misnomer. Existing for profit, they are empowered to compulsory purchase fields at low prices from local farmers, becoming brownfield sites.

01:06:59:13 - 01:07:39:13

Their value increases, ultimately becoming 30 to 60 times more valuable as coastal development sites. A national grid land grab. The beautiful Heritage Coast, wide open skies, ancient oak trees. Inspiring artists, writers, musicians, walkers and cyclists is set to become an industrial hub, equivalent to Zeebrugge or Rotterdam. Sealink leads the way. The sand links walk through Woodbridge, Snape, Friston Nordschleife, peppered with Sites of Special Scientific Interest like Sutton Hoo, is due to be covered with sealing infrastructure.

01:07:39:26 - 01:08:14:11

An ancient henge was recently uncovered at Stearn Field. There are likely to be others. North Warren, Britain's oldest RSPB home and breeding ground to rare birds, will be tunnelled by Sealink network reinforcement cabling. Wildlife beware. National grid employ SF six switching systems using sulfur hexafluoride, the most potent greenhouse gas known. It has global warming potential 24,300 times greater than CO₂.

01:08:15:07 - 01:08:46:26

Given virtual carte blanche to cheap and nasty development. National grid and SBIR are real winners able to sell their businesses in a few years. 50%, approximately of E3 and 40% of E1 already sold to Abu Dhabi Masdar, an Australian Macquarie Green investment group. Government ignores its responsibilities to the environment, farming, wildlife and local communities. Passing the back to National Grid and SPR.

01:08:47:08 - 01:09:20:21

England deserves better. Sizewell C Sealink land link. The huge Suffolk water recycling transfer and storage project. Friston substation Saxmundham converters. The 1174 acre Helios Solar and Battery Park, all in a few square miles, is ill considered vandalism, with 2030 an improbable target. A pause and rethink are needed to properly coordinate energy projects and consider the impacts both locally and nationally.

01:09:21:08 - 01:09:28:15

Use of existing brownfield sites and offshore cabling have not been properly considered. Thank you.

01:09:29:21 - 01:10:00:02

Thank you very much. Um, and thank you. Um, those speakers, it's now nearly 3:10, so I think it's a good time to, to have a break as we've been going on for over an hour. I therefore propose that we take

a short adjournment to allow a comfort break. For those watching on the live stream, you will need to refresh your browser page to view this hearing. When we recommence, we will recommence at um 325.

01:10:00:04 - 01:10:05:15

But could the applicant please show the running order during the break? Thank you.