



Planning Inspectorate  
Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

## Hearing Transcript

<b>Project:</b>	Sea Link
<b>Hearing:</b>	Transcript of Open floor hearing 2 (OFH2) - Session 1 Part 2
<b>Date:</b>	11 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)

00:00:05:27 - 00:00:38:10

Okay. Can we restart again, please? The time is now 338. And we're going to recommence this meeting and restart the live stream. Live stream? Can I just confirm the live stream has recommenced? Thank you. Okay, so we'll move on to the next group of people. Um, we've got Peter Lorenzo, who's representing a number of different people. Uh, we have Joanna Stiles, Gary Beadle, Richard Lockwood and Helen Holmes. Please, if you'd like to come up to the front desk.

00:00:57:29 - 00:01:04:07

Okay. So we'll start with Peter Lorenzo. So first you're representing James Jury and you have three minutes.

00:01:05:15 - 00:01:38:08

There's been a lot of talk about the devastating effects this proposed ceiling project will have on our land, but not so much has been said about a marine environment. Vast areas of our seabed will be damaged and disturbed. With the immense amount of kilometres of cabling being laid. These cables will be going through marine conservation areas and also be laid through high intensity herring and sandy larvae, spawning grounds and nurseries. These are critical keystone species that provide food for so many other species.

00:01:38:15 - 00:02:16:23

Our seals and seabirds rely on these as a food source and are critically endangered. European eels, which have suffered a massive decline in numbers, will be affected by the heat and vibrations that these subsea cables will emit. Research shows that they move very slowly in areas where these cables are and their navigation can be affected. So this will have negative impacts on their migration and complex life cycles. Also, any pollution that may run into the streams and ditches Ilminster Marshes from this proposed development will detrimentally impact these red listed fish, which could very easily soon become extinct.

00:02:16:25 - 00:02:54:06

If we do not protect the environment in which they can survive. I'm extremely concerned about the major security issues associated with having possibly the largest converter substation in Europe, built on Minster Marshes. It will be a major target for hostilities. Surely not such an obvious target for our power supply network to come under potential attack. Should be utmost on our minds. It appears. And this is being totally overlooked. We need clever solutions at local levels for local areas, not easily identified targets to be destroyed at times of conflict that will impact vast areas of our country's power supply.

00:02:54:14 - 00:03:24:21

Along with this, how is this drawing Familiar. Sorry. Farmland. Going to help us feed our nation. How can we reach net zero if we are importing massively increasing amounts of food? I'm appealing to your examiners to see these proposed ceiling project for what it is that of being the one that will make massive profits for National Grid and being an easy short term solution for the government in

their tunnel vision approach to trying to reach net zero. This proposed ceiling project poses a massive threat to us humans.

00:03:24:23 - 00:03:58:18

Please do not be so narrow minded and shortsighted to not realize how extremely valuable and natural world an environment is. By destroying our natural world, we are ultimately destroying ourselves. Maybe not us living here now, but our future generations. And for what? Greed fast tracked, ill thought out solutions for a climate crisis that will be destroying our country in nature and will not, being the long term, help us? A scheme such as this will only backfire and create more problems than it will solve, such as flooding, reduce carbon capture and loss of wildlife habitats and farmland.

00:03:58:20 - 00:04:10:24

Many national grid surveys are inadequate and rely heavily on desktop work, and their documentation often says their impacts will be significant. Try turning out to those they will be impacted. Thank you.

00:04:11:21 - 00:04:12:29

Thank you very much.

00:04:14:24 - 00:04:21:24

And next, you're representing Paul Langstaff. I just wondered whether you would like a glass of water for you while you're doing this.

00:04:21:26 - 00:04:23:28

You sure it was not so bad? Okay.

00:04:24:06 - 00:04:25:08

Start when you're ready.

00:04:25:10 - 00:04:57:29

Thank you. Minster marshes provide critical feeding and nesting grounds for migratory and local bird species. Protecting them isn't just about birds. It's about preserving biodiversity, natural flood control, and the beauty that makes our community unique. Bird populations are declining across the UK, and places like Minster Marshes are some of the few safe refuges left. Once these wetlands are destroyed, they cannot be replaced. We must prioritize conservation over short term development.

00:04:58:06 - 00:05:13:22

Minster marshes are part of our natural heritage. The marshes support rare bird species and contribute to the ecological health of our region. Protecting them is an investment in both wildlife and community well-being. Please save it for our future. Thank you.

00:05:16:05 - 00:05:26:27

Thank you. And next, you're representing Jane Langstaff. Okay. Start when you're ready. Thank you. Can we get the starter? The timer restarted again. Thank you.

00:05:27:23 - 00:05:58:27

I want to express my deep concern about the proposed converter station and the associated works on Minster Marshes. This is not just an issue of development versus open space. It's about the loss of a nationally important wetland ecosystem that cannot be replaced once it's gone. Minster marshes are home to a rich network of life. Over 170 species of birds, as well as protected mammals such as water voles and beavers, and European eels, which are critically endangered. These wetlands are a vital link between the inland marshes and well Bay.

00:05:59:02 - 00:06:30:14

A designated Ramsar on Special Protection Area and disturbance here will ripple through that entire network. The proposed mitigation measures, as currently outlined are not sufficient. The suggested replacement habitat is disconnected both geographically and ecologically, and will not provide the same value or resilience as the marshes themselves. Once this unique habitat is lost, it's lost forever. There's also the issue of cumulative impact. Planet has already taken more than its fair share of energy infrastructure.

00:06:30:16 - 00:07:01:28

Solar farms, substations, battery storage facilities and this were proposed without yet another large industrial footprint to an already overstretched environment. The combined effects on wildlife, landscape and community well-being have not been properly assessed. Wetlands like Prince and Moss are not just wildlife havens, they are natural climate allies. They store carbon, absorb floodwater and helped refine the air and water. Replacing them with concrete and cabling undermines our broad environmental and climate commitments.

00:07:02:01 - 00:07:35:05

Finally, I want to highlight the strength of public feeling. This is not NIMBYism, it's stewardship. Thousands of local people have spoken up because we understand what's at stake the loss of a living landscape that defines our community and supports biodiversity on a national scale. I respectfully ask that the Planning Inspectorate requires a full and independent review of the environmental and environmental assessments, ensure that all cumulative impacts are considered, and that genuine alternatives on brownfield or less sensitive land are properly explored.

00:07:35:07 - 00:07:46:04

We have an obligation to future generations, to our wildlife and to the climate, to protect places like the marshes, not sacrifice them when other options exist. Thank you.

00:07:47:23 - 00:07:54:15

Thank you. Um. next we've got you representing John. Uh, Chrissy.

00:07:55:03 - 00:07:55:18

John.

00:07:55:20 - 00:07:59:09

Chrissy. Chrissy. Yes. Right. Three minutes. Thank you, thank you.

00:08:00:12 - 00:08:32:22

Humans, like every other life, form a symbiotic life is a group effort. This proposed ceiling project is not a necessity. It's potentially a demonstration of man's destructive power over nature. We need our wildlife. We need our farmland. We need our green spaces to thrive and to survive. It's about how other people recognize the importance of our natural planet and how interdependent we are upon each other. It is time that we truly protect the precious wildlife of this habitat and stop destroying them unnecessarily.

00:08:33:04 - 00:09:08:13

It's about time we realized that building on farmland is a form of eventual self-destruction. We need our farmland to grow our crops and food, especially even in our unstable climate. It's about time we understood that building on marshland will be harming the UK Minister Marsh's functions as a critical carbon sink. If the proposed ceiling project goes ahead, carbon will no longer be captured, but it will be released and the ability of future carbon capture will be destroyed. Besides carbon capture and storage, the Minster Marshes also act as a sponge and stops flooding.

00:09:08:15 - 00:09:45:12

Proposed. Proposed developments on marshland will have negative environmental impacts. This is no way for a nature depleted country to turn to achieve net zero, and our natural world and water is suffering for too long at the hands of humans. We must stop treating our wildlife like commodities that can be moved elsewhere and be expected to survive no matter what. Life is not like that. We need habitats to survive. The mitigation measures and this project proposes are not just not good enough and will not work, whereas the undisputed evidence of this ceiling project is absolutely necessary.

00:09:45:14 - 00:10:15:25

Regardless all the devastation and destruction it will cause. Where is the evidence to justify the massively irreversible harmful effects it will have upon our wildlife a natural world, agricultural land and our future generations? Where is the evidence to tell us that there is absolutely no other, less destructive alternative to this proposed project? I have seen no evidence to convince me that this proposed ceiling project is a definite necessity. Despite all the evidence, sorry.

00:10:15:27 - 00:10:51:21

Despite all the documents the National Grid have supplied, many of which are just not in-depth enough or adequate. Please do not let us think that this is the only option available to us, and that we have no other choices. There are always other options. Some things are more valuable than money, speed and government convenience. How is nature? How is destroying nature of wildlife? Not in the long term going to be destroying us. We cannot live without it. And who would we want to? Please examine as or reject this proposal and show the nation that our country can be great again by looking after, caring for, and protecting what little natural world we have left in Britain.

00:10:51:27 - 00:10:58:22

Bri proposed projects such as Sealink will only keep us on track to becoming the world's number one nature depleted country.

00:10:59:16 - 00:11:07:01

Thank you very much. Would you like to take a break and we'll hear from a couple of speakers and come back to you. Give you a rest. I'm conscious of.

00:11:08:09 - 00:11:09:11

It. I'd be grateful.

00:11:09:29 - 00:11:20:05

Okay. No problem. We'll we'll hear a couple of the speakers first, then come back to you. Um, can we have Joanna Styles next, please? You have three minutes and start when you're ready.

00:11:24:06 - 00:11:54:16

Thank you. My name is Joanna Stiles. I'm speaking as an interested party with a long standing connection to Kent. Further to my previous representation, my focus today is on Kent impact, especially change one at Peggy Bay. The applicant calls these changes minor, yet their own documents. And the rule nine questions show they are material. The revised order limits include the entire salt marsh, justified only by flexibility. Flexibility without limits is not planning justification.

00:11:54:18 - 00:12:27:12

It is expansion by stealth in one of the most sensitive areas of the Kent coast. The changes also trigger the compulsory acquisition regulations, require consultations and affect landowners who have not given consent at the same time. Evidence such as key surveys, clarifications and modelling for Kent are still being produced during the examination. Acceptance for examination is not proof that the application is adequate. An application is only ready when the evidence base is complete and that standard has not been met.

00:12:28:02 - 00:13:02:27

Peggy Bay is exceptionally sensitive. The intertidal area is legally restricted under cross section 26, closed year round to protect birds. The wider Thanet system supports over 3500 grey in harbor seals. A nationally important population. Yet the applicant seeks wider order limits and new access before completing essential ecological and sediment assessments. The Tsar's own questions highlight inconsistent data. Missing assessments, uncertain HDD feasibility and unresolved impacts on Spas and Ramsar features.

00:13:02:29 - 00:13:40:15

This application was and remains not. Examination ready on consultation. Section 55 is a threshold, not a quality test. Ticking procedural boxes does not equate to meaningful engagement and LPA silence is not endorsement. The 2024 guidance raised expectations on transparency and alternatives. Two short consultations and scattered thematic meetings do not amount to years of rigorous consultation and mailing. 35,000 households across two counties is not meaningful consultation when the underlying information is incomplete.

00:13:40:27 - 00:14:11:26

These changes requested. These. These change requests expose weaknesses in the original submission. Incomplete evidence, insufficient alternatives assessment, and early choices presented as fait accompli. There is also a fundamental unanswered question why this Kent site? The applicant has not demonstrated that it is the least harmful or most suitable location, only that it is the easiest for them. That is not robust option testing.

00:14:12:05 - 00:14:30:09

I ask the expert to assess the comment section through the documented gaps. Late disclosures, expanded order limits, and the sensitivity of Peg will be added to ensure the applicant fulfills its commitment to respond in full to all relevant representations at deadline one. Thank you.

00:14:30:17 - 00:14:36:21

Thank you very much. And next we'll hear from Richard Lockwood. You have three minutes.

00:14:42:02 - 00:14:53:17

Oh, I, I apologize. I was told that Gary was not here. It's obviously the wrong way round. Okay. Sorry about that. We'll hear from you. Please go. Thank you.

00:14:55:23 - 00:15:26:17

Hi. I've come here today to speak up, which is well out of my comfort zone, but a wildlife that can't speak up for itself about the proposed plan by National Grid to build a 22 acre converter station on Mr. Marsh's. I'm all in for clean energy. And this isn't a case of not on my doorstep. It's about the devastation and upheaval is going to cause to the wildlife that calls it home. We all know the importance of the rain for us, and we all hang on.

00:15:26:19 - 00:16:09:29

Sorry. We all know the importance of the rain for us. We know how important it is to the ecosystem. We all get upset when we see the devastation humans are doing to it and the a war like that. If for some reason we are quite happy to let a multi-million pound company destroy another vital ecosystem amidst the marshes which is on our own doorstep because it's the cheapest option for land. You'd think a company that wants to build possibly the biggest converter station in Europe would shout it from the rooftops, but instead they have kept it out of the public domain and made it very difficult for people to object to because they know it's the wrong place to build it.

00:16:11:19 - 00:16:46:12

This is also a very important migration station for birds that come here every year for the winter to rest and feed, and a lot of red listed species live here too. I'm also concerned about if this is a done deal with National Grid by and the rest of Southern Water land, so they can't expand. And also the plan. The proposed plan forced them to put half the money Before this has even been passed. So I'm also wondering whether we are wasting our time here today.

00:16:48:11 - 00:17:01:11

Thank you very much and sorry for confusing your name at the start. I'm just wondering if we should hear from Helen Holmes next, and then we'll we'll finish up with you afterwards. Um, you've got three minutes that. Whenever you're ready. Thank you.

00:17:01:13 - 00:17:35:18

My name is Mrs. Helen Holmes. I'm a recent resident of Cliftonville and retired member of Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service. Supporter of safe minster marches, but not a member. I have four points to make. Lack of full and proper consultation. It is not a consultation. If the residents of Kantara forge only one choice of site. And I think that is the most damaging, both environmentally

and ecologically, simply because it is the cheapest option for National Grid. National grid made a profit of £46 billion in 2024.

00:17:35:20 - 00:18:10:19

This company can afford to find an alternative site for the southern landfall of Sea Link in Kent. Circumvention of the public consultation process. In an effort to now achieve planning permission for this stage of the Sealink project, National Grid has changed the original build approach that the company intends to compulsorily purchase the old hover port site at the village of Cliffs End as their core location to construct, operate and maintain the planned Sea Link pipeline. This is a brownfield site heavily polluted with coal, soil and heavy metals.

00:18:10:21 - 00:18:46:05

Developing such a site that has rewilding and supports red list species. Is subject to stringent planning and wildlife laws. There was only a very short period for unlimited notification of the required public consultation on this new proposal by National Grid. Lack of full and proper site environmental studies. This cannot be regarded as a green energy project. Given the environmental and ecological damage that the scale and scope of the proposed build shall have, there will be irreversible, irreversible

00:18:47:24 - 00:19:27:10

damage to the following a wetland of international importance Kent's largest national nature reserve, a marine conservation zone, a marine protected area, three Sites of Special Scientific Interest, three Special Areas of Conservation, two Special Protection Areas, and three local wildlife sites. Previous and existing environmental damage by National Grid. National grid caused irreparable damage to the saltmarsh and marine habitats in 2018. The company reneged on environmental commitments to trenches Techniques when installing the Nemo link electricity cable using open trenching methods.

00:19:27:12 - 00:19:54:05

Instead, there is already silt runoff into the Minster Stream from National Grid's initial survey of the proposed Sea Link site. National grid have not ensured environmental protection at these initial exploratory stages, and will not do so when the full build starts. More to the point, National Grid cannot because of the sheer nature of this proposed build. Either guarantee or ensure mitigating environmental measures. Thank you.

00:19:55:02 - 00:20:04:23

Thank you very much for your submission. And now we'll go back to Peter Lorenzo. You're representing Luke Cressy. So you have three minutes. Thank you.

00:20:04:25 - 00:20:37:24

I'm formally objecting to the proposed ceiling plans. Peg, will by is not just a local treasure. It is a designated nature reserve and part of the internationally important Coast and Sandwich Bay Special Protection Area. These are protected areas for good reason. The surrounding saltmarsh, mudflats and grazing marshes form one of the most ecologically rich wetland zones in the southeast. That thing is a vital carbon sink and natural flood defense Building, a 22 acre concrete facility on this land, is environmentally reckless.



00:20:37:29 - 00:21:10:28

Wetlands like Mr. Marsh's store twice as much carbon per hectare as forests, and their destruction would release years, if not centuries worth of captured carbon back into the atmosphere, undermining the UK's own net zero commitments. This development also directly threatens a range of protected and endangered species. These include the European eel, critically endangered and already in sharp decline. Breeding. Nightingales are migratory birds that rely on the wetlands for stopover mammals such as waterfalls, beavers, hares, foxes and bats.

00:21:11:00 - 00:21:49:00

Reptiles like grass snakes. Slow worms. The seal quality is highly sensitive to human activity and industrial noise. If disturbed. The colony would have could abandon the area entirely. Besides, biodiversity is not just locally important, it is of national and international significance. The strongest habitat in favor of what appears to be the cheapest option for National Grid, rather than the most responsible one, is shortsighted and unacceptable. We must also consider the long term climate implications for area provides critical flood mitigation for its low lying coast.

00:21:49:07 - 00:22:19:17

Paying over this, not paving over this natural sponge with the impermeable concrete would increase surface runoff and flood risk during periods of heavy rainfall and rising sea levels. Issues that worsen with climate change. I urge the Planning Inspectorate to consider alternative locations or solutions that align better with environmental and community interests. These might include brownfield sites reusing developed, previously developed land that poses less ecological risk.

00:22:19:20 - 00:22:53:15

Offshore energy storage and substations. Moving infrastructure into already industrialized marine zones. Distributed energy storage. Smaller modular storage facilities placed near existing grid nodes inland. Investment in grid stability tech. Upgrading digital. Management tools to reduce reliance on centralized storage. Sustainable development is entirely possible, but this plan is not it. I strongly urge you to reject this proposal in its current form and demand a full environmental impact assessment.

00:22:53:18 - 00:22:54:09

Thank you.

00:22:55:18 - 00:23:01:01

Thank you. And finally, you're representing Louise Devil Smith, and you have three minutes.

00:23:01:26 - 00:23:35:13

I am deeply concerned that National Grid is suggesting that small changes are being proposed regarding them accessing the hover port at Cliffs and Kent, when this is not the case, if their proposal to use more land at the airport for construction, operation and maintenance of the Sea Link pipeline is accepted. These significant changes will have an even greater devastating impact on the fragile ecosystem and sanctuary for wildlife. The hoverboard site is rewarded naturally for 40 years and the site is very important ecologically.

00:23:35:23 - 00:24:10:07

National grid have not undertaken any environmental assessment for the harbour port, which supports the fiery clearwing moth and the Sussex emerald moth, rare man and lizard orchids and many endangered species of birds, including concretos. The surrounding saltmarsh is protected by SSI, SBA and Ramsar designations. I am deeply concerned by the lasting damage of the saltmarsh, which was caused by National Grid Cinema Project, and have no faith that there are expanded proposals at the airport will not cause further environmental damage.

00:24:10:15 - 00:24:46:00

I am particularly concerned about the hoverboard being turned into a construction site for the next four years, and the resulting impact of noise and light pollution on wildlife and residents. The hoverboard is part of a functionally linked wildlife corridor between Pequot Bay and Windsor Marshes, Ashes and this will impact negatively on wildlife. Being able to source food, shelter, rest and breed. National grid's proposals will also impact local people and visitors and local businesses, including the Viking Cafe, as access to the public will be blocked.

00:24:46:04 - 00:24:46:28

Thank you.

00:24:47:26 - 00:25:13:24

Thank you very much. And thank you to this group of speakers. Um, we've heard from everyone registered to speak in this session. Um, but we do have some time remaining, um, to hear from any unregistered speakers. I understand there is one person that's already let us know, uh, Margarita musk. So I must go. So, um, apologies for mispronouncing your name. Is there anybody else that would like to speak that hasn't registered? Uh, yes. What's your name, please,

00:25:15:14 - 00:25:15:29

sir?

00:25:17:26 - 00:25:18:24

Can you type in?

00:25:23:25 - 00:25:26:17

Yes. Please come forward. And is there anybody else?

00:25:30:05 - 00:25:31:17

Uh, yes, please.

00:25:34:11 - 00:25:42:06

Uh, yeah. That's okay. If you want to come forward, I think we've got time for. For all three of you. Is there anyone else who's speaking later who would like to speak now instead?

00:25:42:17 - 00:25:44:06

I need him as my techie.

00:25:45:11 - 00:25:48:22

You just tell him. What you going to do? No, no, no, no, you're going to do it. Oh, okay.

00:25:54:04 - 00:25:55:05

Good afternoon.

00:25:55:13 - 00:26:04:04

So, um, just, uh, say your name for the for the, um, recording, and you've got three minutes. Yes. That one. You ready? Thank you, thank you.

00:26:04:06 - 00:26:04:29

My name is.

00:26:06:13 - 00:26:08:12

My name is Margarita Moscoso.

00:26:08:23 - 00:26:42:03

Uh, and I'm a resident of Ramsgate. And one of the many regular visitors to the hover port. Uh, I thought I was going to be the last speaker, but clearly not. I'm here on behalf of the birdlife of Minster Marshes. And with your permission, I'd like to play a recording taken on Mr. Marsh's of the variety of birds that we have here. I believe it is our intention to send you this electronically with a video that shows you what a beautiful, peaceful area it is together with the recording.

00:26:42:07 - 00:26:47:15

If additionally you would like photographic evidence, we can supply that as well.

00:26:49:08 - 00:27:02:15

Finally, I would say that we cannot protect the environment by wrecking the environment, and that's what this proposal will do. So on behalf of Mr. Marsh's birdlife, I urge you to reject this application.

00:29:10:06 - 00:29:36:11

Thank you. I think I have been informed that the birds were not heard on the live stream. I think because they're only listening to picking up the voices. But you did say you were going to submit that recording and a video, so people who are watching a livestream will be able to watch that and listen to that later. Thank you. Thank you very much. And next we have Tim. And I didn't catch your last name. Tim Harrison. Okay. You have three minutes. You can start when you're ready.

00:29:36:28 - 00:30:09:12

Yes. Thank you. My name is Tim Harrison, and I recently moved into the area above the hover court places. So I'm a bit concerned as to what's going to happen there. And in fact, my search is when I was buying the house didn't reveal any of these. So, um, that's something that needs looking into. In fact, I know several other people who have recently bought in the area, and their searches also have not revealed the extent or any works. In fact, that's going on in that area. So I don't know why that is.

00:30:09:29 - 00:30:41:26

I've not prepared anything. So I'm going to be honest with you. It's going to be brief. Um, it's just a gut reaction to some things that I don't think have been mentioned yet. We've addressed the wildlife thing. Of course, that's dreadful, but I'm not going to go on about that. It's the traffic that concerns me,

or the proposed level of traffic and the existing road systems, the small roundabouts, and in fact, the major roundabout that are at the top of the cliffs in the village where you go on to Ramsgate or one thing or another.

00:30:42:13 - 00:31:14:26

Normally they had 2 or 3 collisions on that roundabout because it's traffic lights and roundabouts. It's a right mess, to be quite honest, and to start putting in the amount of heavy goods vehicles carrying aggregates back and forth, particularly up the hill from the Ramsgate Marina, grinding up that hill with diesel fumes and goodness knows what else, and then ingesting that roundabout, I think it's going to be unsafe for other road users and other people in the community.

00:31:15:01 - 00:31:50:02

In addition to the advanced amount of people coming down for the summer traffic to sit and picnic and enjoy the wildlife. Enjoy the the views out across the sea. I don't think it's going to be improved by having lorries rumbling past every few minutes, carrying vast amounts of aggregate. On top of that, I don't feel that the hover port as it currently stands is able to withstand heavy goods vehicles rumbling over it with lots of aggregate, and it's been subjected to tides a day for the last 40 odd years.

00:31:50:04 - 00:32:02:23

I don't feel it's safe to put heavy goods vehicles on and, um, I'm sorry I've run out of ideas, so that's all I got today. But thank you very much for letting me have this one.

00:32:02:25 - 00:32:08:27

That's okay. Um, if you want to submit anything in writing, if there's anything you think of afterwards, you can put that in for.

00:32:09:04 - 00:32:15:10

Well, I'm going to think about it and find my words make a bit more sense than they just did. Exactly that. Thank you very.

00:32:15:12 - 00:32:20:11

Much. Thank you. And finally, can you remind me of your name again?

00:32:21:27 - 00:32:22:29

Alan, welcome.

00:32:23:19 - 00:32:25:01

Yeah, yeah. Alan, welcome.

00:32:25:06 - 00:32:31:05

Yes. And you were going to speak in the next session. But you're speaking now. That's fine. You have three minutes when you're ready.

00:32:31:11 - 00:33:10:24

To abandon what I was going to say because, um, everyone said it's already, um. It was nice to hear a cuckoo expressing its opinion about the plans. Um, one thing that does occur to me, uh, the National

grid may have looked at the rather sort of the planning system around here, which does seem a little odd. Um, we have an enormous area that is, um, still in the local plan, um, as an airport, despite the pins, um, judgment of the application having very little merit.

00:33:11:05 - 00:33:17:06

Um, it still sits there. And, um, In consequence of that,

00:33:18:24 - 00:33:29:15

we have houses spreading almost willy nilly across farmland all over the island. It's disappointing. Um,

00:33:31:05 - 00:34:03:21

National Grid's plans. As so many people have said, appear to have given the appearance of having made a decision and then built a framework of justification around it. About 50 years ago, I went to a meeting and heard Jonathan Porritt, the visionary environmentalist, speaking, and at that time he said that, um, he had two paths, really, one that we could start to look at the problems facing the environment and work incrementally towards putting a good system in place.

00:34:03:23 - 00:34:32:13

And if we did that, um, we could probably do it right. If we fail to do that round about now, we would probably be experiencing something approaching environmental dictatorship where, um, solutions were imposed upon us and we wouldn't like them. And to my mind, this feels like just the end of the wedge that we actually are arriving at that point. Anyway, thanks very much for listening to me.

00:34:33:19 - 00:35:07:12

Thank you. And again, if there's anything you want to submit in writing, please, please do so. Okay, so I'd just like to thank you all for your contributions this afternoon. And they have been very helpful to us, and we will take them all into consideration. And as we noted earlier, if you want something that you've said orally in writing for deadline, one A, which is the 26th of November, and the applicant is also going to provide a detailed written response to everything they've heard today and the rest of the sessions. Um, at deadline one a um, we were now a journalist hearing and we commence with session two, which is at 530 this evening.

00:35:07:14 - 00:35:08:10

Thank you.