

INTERESTED PARTY NUMBER: [REDACTED]

Appendix 4: Narrative responses to SMM survey

Terrible plan in a terrible location doing huge damage to important wildlife areas. The plan needs to go back to the drawing board and have other more suitable locations considered.

There is no point in green energy if it comes at the expense of the environment. Minster Marshes and Pegwell Bay are critically important for hundreds of species of bird, many of which are at risk. To destroy the land they rely on for survival is criminal.

We as a young family use the hoverport very regularly, to explore and extraordinary environment, teach our children about biodiversity and the wonders of nature. To escape a rapidly urbanised location that we live in (Margate) it is like a breath of fresh air.

The destruction of the hoverport and the marshland proposed in this plan will have a vastly negative impact on our health and mental well-being. It will inevitably lead us to move away from this location that I have called home since I was 7, (I am [REDACTED] next year).

Marshland is scientifically proven to hold vast quantities of CO2. Development on marshland will release that CO2 into the atmosphere!

How can development which will impact on a SSSI nature reserve and marshland improve biodiversity? Insufficient thought has been given to the impact of the development upon the mental and physical health of the areas resident population.

Insufficient thought or assessment given to how such a development will impact upon biodiversity in other parts of the UK and bird migration routes.

Insufficient thought given to the impact upon marine ecology.

Inadequate consideration given to the joint impact of this development on the local population and ecosystem when coupled with the development of Manston Airport.

The closure of footpaths along the NNR from Pegwell and the closure of footpaths along the River Stour is unacceptable when the Government is trying to get fitter and healthier. NG are just wrecking the environment for this supposedly green scheme. Its all about the money and stuff the wildlife. Completely immoral.

Have any National Grid directors visited Pegwell Bay to see what they will be destroying?

Thanet has so very little Wildlife and Green areas left! It is very sadly becoming a peninsula of concrete, bricks, and unwanted developments! It seems like there is no where safe for our wildlife and for the residents to enjoy. Farmland and anywhere there is a bit of space is being continually destroyed! Even areas that should not be built on or used for developments such as marshland, and protected designated areas are now under major threat! This is totally wrong and should not be allowed!

Yes leave the marsh land and other similar sites alone!

Too many green field areas are pandering to private profit and greed. FACT.

There isn't many beautiful accessible by foot beach marshland and area of natural beauty that can deliver tranquility at one with nature as bad peace if mind in this very aggressive fast paced growth if homes and no facilities take this away and you destroy life of nature and human inner peace

I have lived in Thanet most of my life and over the last couple of years have seen this beautiful area (known as the garden of England) being decimated by unprecedented amounts of buildings being built on Thanet's precious and vital fields and farmland! This has not only impacted the local residents quality of life and mental and physical health, causing traffic chaos, and problems with excess strain on

all the services in the area, but for the wildlife this has obviously been catastrophic!!! Pegwell Bay National Nature Reserve AND Minster Marshes are 2 of the very last natural wildlife areas left in Thanet and thus vitally important to the struggling wildlife and to the people of Thanet for their health and wellbeing and that of future generations! The Marshes are so very important for many other reasons as well, as I'm sure you understand!!! These two places must not be allowed to be destroyed in the name of green energy!!! This would be a massive crime and injustice to all who reside in Thanet and I really hope you will see this and stop this pending disaster.

I worry about the impact that the Sealink project would have on the local biodiversity and community during the proposed development stage. Building important infrastructure on marsh land is poorly thought through when sea level rise and localised flooding is ever increasing.

It seems that since covid our landscapes of beauty are being taken over by huge amounts of development. Soon there will be no places of beauty or consideration for nature.

Nature never recovers 100%. My concern, if nature reserves can be used and disturbed in this way, why do we fight for preservation and recognition for these areas if in the end it all comes down to money and big business

An area of beauty and nature will be blighted by this installation. It will affect my mental and physical health as this is an area that I love to spend time in. The disruption to our wildlife... there must be Brownfield sites that would be suitable. It is very disturbing that this is being pushed ahead. Focus on energy saving not spending money on such projects. New builds should be regulated to incorporate the very best in energy saving..not focusing on providing more energy

The area is a nature reserve. That is what it is and that is what it should remain.

Unfortunately the flora and fauna cannot give their answers to this questionnaire. They would not only give similar replies to most people but they would beg you to leave their habitat alone. The seals breed in Pegwell Bay and the migratory birds(some of which are endangered) live on the marshes. Too much land is being destroyed and there is a viable alternative in Richborough. Think of the future not the profits. In the words of supermarkets ONCE ITS GONE ITS GONE!

We do not need to lose anymore open space. We need this for our wildlife to be protected.

The hoverport is an important recreational area for the inhabitants of thanet and beyond. It provides a wonderful environment for a diverse population of wildlife, plants and fauna. It is a valuable resource to take part in outdoor activity for the improvement of mental health and wellbeing. Green spaces in Thanet are dwindling and it is becoming a grey, concrete barren place, we are already lacking in mental health services for this area. Removing more green areas will put more pressure on these services and remove the habitat of many wild species.

This site has not been researched adequately. The site is part of the Wantsum channel and marsh land. The building work will completely destroy the wild life on this SSSI

The effect on the community and the environment will be considerable. The wildlife in the area had already been impacted by climate change, this will devastate it even more. Many migrating birds use the area. Marshland and flood plain are not areas to be built on

This inappropriate and unnecessary threat to the interdependent ecology of both Minster Marshes and Pegwell Bay is completely unacceptable, and should be opposed with all available resources! The community needs to fight this on a united basis, and I can assure you that both Cllr Brenda Rogers and myself as District Councillors for Cliffsend and Pegwell do NOT support this horrendous scheme.

It's totally the wrong location the traffic alone for the build will ruin the life of the villagers in Minister who are already suffering financial loss on thier homes.

Please stop this terrible project x

This project is wrong in so many ways and will leed to us being dependent on foreign energy whilst destroying peoples lives

This is a proposal from a multinational corporation seeking to minimise cost and maximise profit with no consideration of the environmental cost.

Please don't take any more green space!!!! With the crazy amount of housing developments but no improvements to infrastructure (hospital being biggest example) - a concrete works already polluting and disturbing an otherwise protected piece of coastline and a constant threat of a redundant airport being opened for the benefit of no one

- it's terrifying to think this might also be allowed!! The coastline and surrounding area should be given the enormous value and respect they deserve. Please don't do anymore to disrupt the remaining beauty and greenery we still have.

The impact of this proposal will take the last remaining refuge for wildlife and migratory birds and insects from them.

Personal it will impact even further on my mental health and well being as a ■ year old. Very depressed at the loss of habitat in Thanet. Dreadful.

Siting such a project on an area such importance to wildlife demonstrates a total lack of understanding of how impoverished the UK is already. The proposed 'mitigations' are, frankly, pathetic and just lip service to real environmental concerns. The proposed link between Kent & Suffolk, each running from nationally important wildlife reserves is absurd in the extreme. Clearly, cost is the real consideration and no public case has been made for the idea in any case. How can energy be 'green' if it destroys vital habitat?

National grid claims they've chosen a good site for their project, but the location is a salt marsh, an ecosystem known for capturing and storing large amounts of carbon. Building their threatens the national climate benefits and also increases flood risks for nearby communities

The hoverport and the marshes are the home and breeding grounds for numerous species of wild birds. Already, housing development has robbed wildlife of their habitat in the local area, and this proposal frankly is the last straw. A resounding no from me!

The entire project will be detrimental to Thanet in general. Totally the wrong place to site this project.

This is a project with very high external costs, including a substantial reduction in biodiversity. Marshland is known to be more species-rich than other environments. This is amply borne out by the bird ringing data from the site, which includes several vulnerable species.

I understand this could be built elsewhere and not on a site of international importance with many protected areas- which will become meaningless if built here

Stop building houses that are not needed and taking wildlife home from them

The cost to the environment to build the National sea grid link far outways the net gain to the environment with the clean energy it is supposed to be providing.

Pegwell bay is a very diverse habitat and is home to many species and very important for migrating birds. I know many people including myself who love walking in this area and enjoy the surrounding nature and coastline. It would be a disaster if this was ruined.

It will be a huge negative impact for both humans and wildlife

Appalling idea totally

National Grid appears to me to have pushed forward with this project without proper consultation and consultation assuming that approval would follow automatically.

Maybe a touch of arrogance prevailed?

I walk my dogs here daily, I paddle board, I swim, I enjoy bird watching, this is a precious area that is going to be ruined in the name of nonsense! Take the project elsewhere it's not welcome here.

The number of Green Field land which has been used to build on has devastated the local countryside. What once were fields used for growing crops or farmland are now housing estates. What once was open countryside are now rows of houses with very few signs of vegetation or land fenced off ready to build even more houses. This is land where crops used to be planted , where insects and wildlife flourished.... a green and pleasant land , now turned into housing estates with cars feeding onto the local roads into continuous traffic queues.

It is vital to this area , for the wildlife and to the well being of the people that this land on the marshes is protected at all costs. It is like no other area in Thanet or East Kent. Just to hear the sounds of birds

calling and wind rustling through the trees and grasses is a very special experience , it would be criminal to destroy this very unique place . This area and the wild life on it must be protected at all costs.

Totally disagree with the Sealink project at Minster Marshes. It would be environmentally damaging, cause disruption to the people of Cliffsend and Minster be a blot on the landscape!

There is no proven need for the project. The location is totally unsuitable. There was no real attempt to consider alternatives.

Sealink is an ill thought out disgrace on so many levels. The new plans for the Hoverport site demonstrate NG's absolute disregard for ecology, the local environment and humans. NG have not explored more appropriate sites. I live by Pegwell Bay, my mental health is deeply affected by this development, it is beyond all logic or comprehension that this is happening on such a hugely ecologically important area.

In choosing this site, the only relevant concern for National Grid is cost. If the environment was valued in money terms and damage to it was costed and charged accordingly, this would not be the site National Grid would choose. For that reason, this development should be resisted because if we don't start to value these precious, rare and endangered ecological systems, then there will be none left because they will always be the cheapest option for projects like this.

National Grid's choice of landfall in Kent is nothing short of criminal. They are totally disregarding all the legal protections for the land and riding roughshod over the local people and the wildlife. Its not a green project if it trashes the environment.

This location for the project will totally destroy the biodiversity of this part of Kent. It is a huge mistake and ecological disaster.

I strongly oppose National Grid's plans for major construction on such diverse and precious nature.

At a time when we should all be thinking of biodiversity you have shown no concern on the impact this will have on this amazing area regarding the history and the gateway for hundreds and thousands of migrating birds not to mention all the other wildlife in this area. To carry on with your plans and disregarding the affect this will have on the people living here is absolutely disgraceful.

We know it needs to be built but somewhere with less effect than here.

Sealink would be more effective and cause less damage to the environment and wildlife coming ashore on the Isle of Grain industrial site.

This project will cause damage to the local wildlife, the surrounding environment and to the well being of many people in Thanet.

I feel that all these negative aspects have not been properly considered

I believe brownfield sites should be reviewed and that there should be no more damage inflicted on the salt marsh and marshes which are vital for our eco systems and carbon storage.

I feel that the proposed development of the site will produce such a negative impact on the vitally important environment that is naturally there already that there can be no gain in any direction.

Aside from the massive impact several years of industrial development will have on what we all thought were heavily protected wildlife habitats, it should be borne in mind that a great deal of arable land on what was once farmland around Pegwell Bay and Cliffsend is being developed for housing, so there is already pressure on natural open spaces for local people. To bring this development right into the heart of what remains here would be the nail in the coffin both for the thousands of people who live locally and use the golf courses, country park and natural spaces, and for the sensitive wildlife which calls Pegwell Bay and Minster Marshes home.

To destroy this wonderful area we have at the cost of wildlife and all that entails would be absolute disaster. Unthinkable.

Marshland unsuitable. Whole project needs a re-think for a suitable (if there is one) alternative. A crying shame.

There is no common sense in using the Hoverport it is still within designated SSSI area Traffic involved in transporting in materials would impede on the busiest roundabout leaving Ramsgate and impede on traffic backing up to densely populated town and back into Westwood cross shopping and the ongoing building site within local plan

The Marshes are an important site for nature, which should not be disturbed by major construction works. And the hoverport is a great piece of natural re-wilding that should be left alone.

I am particularly concerned about the proposed Sea Link project due to the detrimental impact to wildlife including birds, increased flooding risk and disturbance during the construction phase, especially if Marsh Farm Road is used as an access route.

The scale and extent of the proposed development is excessive for a flat marshland area. If the landing point has to be in the area then already industrialised areas like Pfizer business park should be used and underground / under river cabling should replace the proposed hugely enlarged pylons. The wanton destruction of a largely unspoilt natural habitat can easily be avoided with a bit of thought and may even give a lower cost solution.

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The onslaught of intense lengthy forms that are being given to people who object to this development, I feel, are to put people off. How many times must it be reiterated that this is Marshland, it Floods, a breeding area for migratory and birds, and those on the Red List. A Site of Scientific Special Interest. Beavers and other significant animals. Flora, fauna and prize farmland. At Pegwell Bay an important area for birds, lizards, seals nearby and important algae. It totally disgusts me that so many things are being ignored. Disruption from construction lorries. Our area here is precious.

You have entirely the wrong area, it beggars belief that this area has been chosen. Cheapest that's why. [REDACTED] people nearby, awful.

The impact of dumping 400,000 tons on Minster Marshes is a crime and can ruin Minster village in the process. What are the prospects of a fire or explosion if there is a problem and the terminal goes out of control. Many fires and deaths have occurred with people charging small lithium batteries their homes. Dread to think if the huge battery pile blew up, wide spread pollution in the adjacent land areas and sea. The affects on wildlife indescribable. How can we criticise global South nations on Rainforest destruction when we do schemes like this.

Private companies have demonstrated that they will take extreme measures to protect their profits, and the water companies have demonstrated that when such private companies have a monopoly to provide an essential service they will ride roughshod over all environmental considerations.

NG has not conducted a consultation, it has said what it wants to do and ignored the mountain of evidence which runs counter to its choice.

Minster Marshes are not the right location for this infrastructure and NG is not a reliable witness.

The hoverport site is an area that has been reclaimed by nature and is used by the local people for exercise and enjoyment. In an area where more and more land is being used for development this area should be protected for the benefit of local residents.

My parents live in Cliffsend and the hoverport port was a massive part of our families relaxing, get into nature time.

The whole area is too important to use for development, it is needed for nature: The migrating birds, native species and for our own well being.

Uncontrolled building, so The rich get richer, and the country looks crappy

I am happy for you to read this at the meetings. Unfortunately I am working on these dates.

We have a really special area of Thanet that is under serious threat from the National Grid Sealink project.

Kent Wildlife trust, Bird wise, Save Minster Marshes and others are trying to get National Grid to find an alternative route for the cable linking Suffolk and Kent.

The cable will come through Pegwell Bay which is a National Nature reserve and is also a special

protection area and special area of conservation, a SSSI site. Pegwell Bay is also a RAMSAR designated site and we have a SSSI site that will be affected by the Converter station site. I'm worried about the noise and light pollution from the Converter Station and the fact that it will be nearly 28 meters high. This will be visible for miles around. There will be Super Pylons and 2.25km of new overhead Cables crossing the Marshes and the River Stour, risking bird strike for the migratory birds. On a recent bird count there were 110 species of birds recorded (19 of which are on the UK red list).

The Converter station and sub station will be built on 13 hectares of valuable wildlife rich habitat and will need to be built up on a 2 meter high platform of aggregate to avoid flooding and also concrete pillars 20 Meters deep to stabilise the Marsh land that the Converter station will be built on. The Marshes are a natural flood plain and when this is gone, places down river will flood, including Sandwich which has been centimetres away from flooding before.

I feel this is being built here as it is the cheapest option for National Grid but it will be devastating to these nationally and internationally protected conservation sites. I know this area can never be adequately mitigated for. We already live with the unmitigated damage, in Pegwell Bay, from when the Nemo link was laid in 2017.

I would be interested to see the National Grids alternative sites, as far as I'm concerned they have failed to provide suitable assessments on the environmental impacts of this proposed project and have not considered any other sites for this project.

I must stress that I am in support of renewable energy but not at such a cost to wildlife and these special conservation areas. Particularly when there are alternative sites available.

These are beautiful areas that are under threat. They are a superhighway for migratory birds. Birds such as Turnstones, Sanderlings and Grey Plover rely on the mudflaps and salt marsh of Pegwell Bay. We also have the largest haul-out of Common Seals in Kent and Grey Seals visit the area too. These will be disturbed by the Sealink work.

We have Nightingale, Grey Plovers, Turtle Dove, Peregrine, Raven, all species of Owl, Yellow Hammer, Beaver, Water Voles, Brown Hare and so many more species of animals and birds use the Marshes and Pegwell Bay.

Also under threat now is the abandoned Hoverport which has been reclaimed by nature. This area has Lizard orchid and Bee orchid.

Please help us to save this really special area.

This project has obviously not been researched properly by National Grid and needs to be stopped immediately! Totally wrong! Protected areas. Save Pegwell Bay and Minster Marshes.

It is essential to preserve minster marshes for all of its flora and fauna as well as giving local people a much needed area of natural beauty, being one of the very few remaining nature spots left in the area, so important for our wellbeing.

A complete disaster if this goes ahead. Minster marshes and the hoverport are crucial for so many species of wildlife that cannot just relocate elsewhere.

Thanet has seen so much development that places of beauty and wildlife are dwindling rapidly. The above mentioned to me, and many others, provide an escape to watch wildlife in peaceful and tranquil surroundings. Please do not take this away.

Wildlife cannot complain and just suffer the consequences of human interference.

The whole project by National grid is all based on money and profit and IF given the go ahead will destroy habits for all sorts of wildlife and people. We losing green spaces due to housing that people in this area can't afford as it is. It's all just mindless destruction and we the people of the local area do not want it.

Once we develop a site like Minster marshes, a centuries-old eco structure is effectively destroyed. Even with the best will in the world - and the profit motive will certainly exclude that possibility - we will never get it back. It will be gone for ever. We have to be absolutely sure that all the benefits of a development outweigh that final devastation. In this case, the evidence provided does not inspire such confidence.

The nature reserve is a National Trust important point of conservation, protection of wildlife and of significant importance to migrating and resident birds. Minster Marshes have high numbers of wildlife that need safe and protected natural environments to live and breed. The destruction of the nature reserve will destroy their homes, our open spaces, leisure and tourism. Other sites in England

I feel that the old Manston Airport site should have been considered for the converter station as it is on higher ground and a brownfield site. The Minster Marsh area is too valuable as a wildlife area to be used in this way and will be vulnerable to flooding in the future.

You are a profit making organisation

Profit is your only interest

You do not care about the wildlife that will be destroyed

If every Roof had solar panels and every home had batteries to store the power this would greatly improve the environment. It will be Cleaner. We would be able to power the national grid without having to dig up precious Green wildlife sites.

85% of saltmarsh in England has been lost since 1860 In the UK, there are just 45,000 hectares of saltmarsh remaining. UK saltmarshes accumulate equivalent of ~700,000 tonnes of CO2 a year.

Restoration projects would increase their ability to mitigate climate change. Since the mid-1800s, we have lost approximately 85% saltmarsh, 92% seagrass and 95% of oyster reef.

Figures from UK centre for ecology and hydrology. Yet the only people that have ability to stop are the big companies but they are rarely prevented by government.

We are truly concerned, sad and worried about this project which will ruin of all the wildlife and open space. Not only on Minster Marshes but disturbance to the seabed down the east coast to Pegwell Bay, the area where the seals live and the Nature Reserve which has previously been disturbed. The old hoverport has gradually been taken over by nature.

There is so much that will be spoiled and lost.

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Wrong place, disregard for the public, farming and environment.

Losing thousands of acres of prime farmland to development is bad enough, but this outrageous proposal to stick this monstrosity on a site of special scientific interest is pure vandalism and shouldn't even be under any consideration.

I feel the devastation that this application will produce to the local area and wildlife has not been suitably considered.

National Grid have been underhand in publicising the project and research in other people's name etc.

Need to keep this area for wild life and locals and visitors to enjoy.

Nature in England particularly in the south east is desperately in need of looking after. This site has an extra need for protection because it's a marsh and whilst also having massive range of nature as well is still having bits chipped away from it even now, which dates back to the Fizer site and the Richborough power station. Even back in the 80's an attempt to save a stretch of the marsh along the A278 between the Richborough and Fizer roundabouts eventually was over ruled.

To hear the crass radio advertisements put out by National Grid in which they state that because we are using more electricity- for, amongst other things, ring door bells to spy on our neighbours making off with our green bins - sums up their whole approach to this project. Zero thought to the long term effects and impact - it's no laughing matter.

We need to protect Pegwell Bay for now and future generations of people, birds, and wildlife.

The cables should come in at Richborough which is already a brownfield site.

National Grid are making Tens of Millions of Pounds in profit. They can afford to make a greater effort to protect the environment and people's health and well-being.

Please reconsider your cheapest decisions National Grid and consider and listen to the people. Thank You

National Grid should reconsider its poor decision to damage forever a beautiful part of Thanet which protects Wildlife and gives joy to thousands of residents

There is better places for this but they don't want to because it will cost more money and upset there investors

My family & I have lived on the Sandwich Rd Cliffsend Pegwell as a multi generational family for 45 years. We have seen the old Hoverport transformed by nature from a derelict site to a green space which is a peaceful sanctuary for wildlife flora fauna & the numerous people both local & international who walk there to enjoy this site. Closing access to this site will have a devastating effect on my families well being physical & mental health. Pegwell Bay is a world renowned Site of Special Scientific Interest & Ramsar Protected. There will be excessive light pollution noise & traffic in and around Cliffsend Pegwell which has experienced massive housing development & loss of green spaces to walk & agricultural land. This is the land of Hengist & Horsa with numerous archaeological funds which will be lost forever if this development goes ahead.

Minster Marshes hosts migratory & indigenous wildlife which feed & breed there. It is marshland which captures carbon. There will be damage to riverbanks & more flooding, light pollution, air pollution & gridlocked roads. Businesses will suffer. This will have a negative impact on tourism in an already deprived area. Please Save Minster Marshes & Pegwell Bay from National Grid's ill thought out proposals. Thank you

My name is [REDACTED] and I am writing as a concerned [resident, volunteer and member of Save Minster Marshes].

I want to express my deep concern about the proposed converter station and 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 Pegwell Bay, a designated RAMSAR and Special Protection Area. Any 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 is also the issue of cumulative impact. Thanet has already taken more than its fair share of energy infrastructure — solar farms, substations, battery storage facilities — and this proposal would add yet another large industrial footprint to an already overstretched environment. The combined effects on wildlife, landscape, and community wellbeing have not been properly assessed.

Wetlands like Minster Marshes are not just wildlife havens — they are natural climate allies. They store carbon, absorb floodwater, and help purify the air and water. Replacing them with concrete and cabling undermines our broader environmental and climate commitments.

Finally, I want to highlight the strength of public feeling. This is not nimbysm — 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 require a full and independent review of the environmental assessments, ensure that all cumulative impacts are considered, and that genuine alternatives on brownfield or less sensitive land are properly explored.

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

Pegwell Bay / Sandwich Bay / Thanet Coast have multiple environmental protections (SSSI, SAC, RAMSAR, NNR). These designations impose legal obligations to avoid damage, to maintain ecological integrity.

This is another example of large scale organisations, driven by objectives and deadlines, using the amplitude of power they have to push through a development that causes negative impacts to both the people and nature within the local area.

Yes we need renewable energy, we need to power the UK sustainably - but what good do these corporate sustainability objectives do when behind them they leave a trail of destruction and irreversible damage to the very ground they operate on. Thanet, already turning into a concrete jungle, needs its wildlife. It needs Minster Marshes.

If these are the standards we set now, we can only guarantee more natural areas being destroyed in the future.

Sometimes the most important voice isn't always the loudest one, especially when the life that lives on this development site has no voice at all.

There is a better way forward. One that does not involve the destruction of Thanet's nature reserve, Minster Marshes. And it is all of our responsibility to lead our countries push for environmental sustainability - in the right way.

I think this will destroy so much wildlife and think the area should be left how it is

Wild life matters you should not disturb wild life

Wild life matters you should not disturb it

Climate change includes natural habitats. This plan will have a huge negative impact on a very fragile habitat, one of the most rarest. NG have not done their due diligence. They have not concerned themselves with the environment. They are about the profit. If this goes ahead, I could no longer believe in climate change and necessary changes we need to make because this plan flies in the face of what we are being told.

This proposal will decimate the wildlife habitat- a vital life link for migrating birds as well as a recreational area for local people which has been bought back from the brink of industrial exploitation after many years of hard work - to have it devastated again is unfathomable - the cost for us all is for greater than the advantage of anything 'green'/renewable and extremely unwise - it should be stopped! Having lived in Thanet since 2010 and explored the green spaces and marshland particularly at Minster, as well as the old hoverport, NG could not have picked a more difficult and challenging environment for their SeaLink project. The most important barrier is in the title 'Minster Marshes', it is a key area of flooding and acts as a sponge protecting surrounding areas. In addition, the impact on an area of unique biodiversity will be devastating and the NG have not demonstrated appropriate mitigation. Lastly, there appears to be absolutely no consideration of the numerous other developments in this area that have been approved by both Thanet and Dover District Councils. The cumulative impact of flooding, biodiversity, neighbours, the environment, visual landscape etc has not been considered. The run off alone from the extensive buildings is a great cause for concern in an area already highly prone to flooding both at the site and surrounding areas including the village of Minster. Given the nation needs a new national electricity grid, then this should be built in the most environmentally friendly way. There is no point installing a new green network and at the same time destroy everything else that is green.

National Grid have been heavy handed and this is just the surveys. Very concerned for the future of this area.

National Grid has chosen the cheapest location for them and the very worst location for wildlife. Thanet has suffered a disproportionate build rate over these last few years with up to 20% farmland loss (8sqkm) Totally inadequate surveys across the board has meant mitigation has not been fulfilled & wildlife is now concentrated on the Marsh. The few green spaces left are vital for wildlife, the ecosystem & for mental health. These are the last nature reserves accessible by the people of Thanet. To build here would be to the detriment of all life within Thanet District. An area protected in the local plan, to enable the local plan, should not then be lost to another project, particularly one which has not properly considered all options. This development should not go ahead.

Losing Minster Marshes and everything that lives there, everyone who finds solace there, everyone who teaches our future generation about nature, every creature from and insect to a swan that reproduce there, years of generations who have visited there, every migrating bird that needs there is just too high a price to pay for this project. It goes against so many values and the destruction and deaths caused in surrounding areas during construction will be catastrophic. However this got this far I will never understand, there comes a time when money isn't the most important thing and this is definitely one of those.

There should be greater consultation with local population and more account taken of their opinion and sites of historic significance should be registered.

I think this will destroy so much wildlife and think the area should be left how it is

Big foreign corporate company doesn't give a toss about the local people.

The road to Ramsgate Port had to be a tunnel rather than the proposed bridge around the cliff edge due to rare and endangered sea algae, so what's changed. All in the name of green energy wake up Britain.

The marshland does not have a solid base and the volume of heavy traffic to build the station will adversely affect the soil and render it useless for farming for years to come!

It would be catastrophic for wildlife if this were to go ahead. Pegwell Bay and Minster Marshes are so precious to us in this nature deprived area. We have so few open spaces

The fact that Thanet has seen so much loss of natural habitats through development and the lack of planning and consultation means this totally unsuitable and unexceptable plan benefits no one except the national grid. Railroading local opinion and threatening the only truest wild place left in our area is criminal.

No thorough consultation or biodiversity impact report carried out-this contravenes law in respect of appropriate planning consultation measures.

1. There has been insufficient time for this consultation.

2. National Grid have no regard to the damage this will do to the marshes.

I feel they have not looked around for other place to build. The impact on wild life ect will never go back to how it was. when completed there will be a constant low hum which will annoy the neighbours.

Please stop destroying our beautiful countryside

Why would you want to spoil an outstanding and beautiful open space which locals regularly use for there mental and physical wellbeing

National Grid should reconsider its poor decision to damage forever a beautiful part of Thanet which protects Wildlife and gives joy to thousands of residents

Thanet has a significant role in bird migration. It sees the twice a year mass movement of migration birds which made the east coast a nominated place for a world heritage site. During the last 5 years housing development has taken over vast numbers of fields, neglected green areas & farmland.

Minster Marshes & the old hover port have become even more important for their wild & undeveloped state. Even so the reduced space for nature is heavily used by the public for leisure, fitness, dog walking, wild life study & bird spotting as well as a base for water sports. The intensity of the use already threatens the wildlife running on the area & requires sensitive management. Volunteers have staffed the hover port & appealed to members of the public to keep dogs on leads, give feeding birds space, reduce the disturbances on the concrete apron. Us locals treasure this site, the over wintering & wading birds, king fishers, bats, butterflies, moths, birds of prey & see the threat they are under simply from dynamic & demographic changes. We do not want a massive multi national company with no interest in the area or the community to destroy our few remaining wildlife nature reserves.

National Grid have been completely underhand in this whole process with total disregard for the environment and the status given to the area.

They are not concerned that the project will destroy habitats for the fauna and flora that flourish there and have shown total arrogance about the impact this disgusting project will have on the area and the species that will be lost if this ridiculous project is given the go ahead.

Also total arrogance towards the local population of Thanet and the impact the construction will have on them.

This proposed development will be a disaster to the area and the precious environment. NG are literally bulldozing through with no adequate assessments.

It spells disaster for wildlife and residents alike.

I have been using the hoverport as my work study location since 2012. I am a forager-botanist and identify unique plants there. I cannot find wild Goji berries, Sea astor or Seablite (and many coastal succulents that like mud flats) anywhere else in Kent. I feel the authorities have no idea of unique the

flora or fauna on this historical site. The landing place of Romans, Vikings. If this site is sold I will not longer be able to work or teach. I have taught hundreds of people on the Hooverport location.

Save our wildlife

TOO MUCH OF EAST KENT AND THANET IS DISAPPEARING UNDER BRICKS AND MORTAR - AND NOW METAL.

THIS IS FIRST GRADE AGRICULTURAL LAND NEEDED FOR GROWING FOOD.

I believe that national grid must not be anywhere near to the hoverport or Minster marshes because it will cause so much damage to our environment and that the marshes are protected for all time in legislation.

National Grid should be ashamed by how they have handled this whole debacle. The site is wholly unsuitable and they have no regard for the local open spaces, people or nature. These sites are protected for a reason. I don't understand how the application has got this far.

Thanet is now like a concrete jungle and it's only going to get worse

You cannot help but despise National Grid.

They have a poor track record in the Thanet area with their previous Nemo project.

Mainly owned by other countries that have little or no interest in our preserved wildlife sites, as to acknowledge any of these issues results in increased expenditure to National Grid.

Their cavalier careless attitude is totally unacceptable towards these preserved sites.

Surely the preserved sites should be just that.

What is the point of preservation if permission can be given by the government to destroy them?.

I can only conclude that National Grids arrogance is only matched by their stupidity!

I believe that national grid must not be anywhere near to the hoverport or Minster marshes because it will cause so much damage to our environment and that the marshes are protected for all time in legislation.

I use the proposed site regularly for recreation including fruit picking and bird watching and am worried about whether permanent public access will be lost if the project goes ahead as planned.

Seems the National Grid are trying to bulldoze their plans without due process. There should be tighter controls on what they can do before getting planning permission.

In Thanet we are severely lacking spaces for our natural environment- I am totally against the use of minster marshes and its destruction of natural habitat - the knock on impact will for years to come to come -our future generations will have no where to go

If we don't protect these areas it will be a concrete jungle instead of a pleasant place to be for good health mental and physical

Too many natural areas being spoiled by human greed. If we don't start caring about our natural spaces there soon won't be any left!

I feel the whole project has been dealt with disingenuously and dishonestly by National Grid. They have ridden roughshod over perceived planning norms and behaved like overlords. Successive governments have only encouraged this attitude by their silence

We have a huge issue with sewage discharges into our sea containing colliery spoil toxins as we are an ex mining area and agricultural run off containing harmful carcinogenic chemicals used over the years that have gone down into the soil , chalk and then our water making people sick and causing fatal illness . If we keep concreting over our green spaces this will only exacerbate the issue . Nature reserves must be protected especially when they are the last remaining publicly accessible green space for miles around . The proposals are contrary to SP4 and should be refused as it's becoming a buoys that NG have not done their homework and do not care about the health and well being of local people and the environment they will have to live in . Corporate company profits must not come before public health .

If we are to transition to an essentially electric economy it should be done in a sensible manner that respects the environment and local communities. The current plans do not in any way meet these reasonable requirements.

My family have used Pegwell since 1933 for recreation since they moved here. We use it more now than ever before. We'll be heartbroken about its wilful destruction in the pursuit of monetary gain for a

few people and dubious claims on their part, poorly researched and virtually fraudulent research. I feel helpless

This should not be happening

Save Minster Marshes and Pegwell Bay. Wildlife, Salt marshes and Coastal area is so important to our wellbeing and future generations.

It's a disgrace that this project can be seen as viable for our area. We have already lost so much of our beautiful land to house building and it's a sin for this to continue. We have so many flora and fauna of a rare species that will be lost and I would like my grand children and great grandchildren to be able to learn about their environment in the future

We must tackle climate change and reduce energy costs to support the UK's prosperity and the wellbeing of the people who live here. This will always involve trade-offs, and it's certainly a shame when there are environmental impacts like those we might see here. However I think the campaign against the development has been disingenuous about the trade offs, hyperbolic about negative effects, and has failed to acknowledge the benefits / necessity of the scheme - nor appeared to work constructively with the proposals. For example, framing it as about 'private profits' etc. rather than energy costs / environment. I am a Thanet resident who could have been persuaded either way, but the tone your campaign, along with that of other similar campaigns against housing, have made me more supportive of development.

The key issue is the siting of the project on environmentally valuable land, we want green energy but not at the cost of biodiversity.

The beauty of this area, gradually being reclaimed by nature and the uninterrupted view across the marsh from the cliff top at Pegwell are outstanding. They should be protected for their beauty and animal conservation. We are always really careful not to let our dog run free in the areas as advised as it can negatively impact the delicate wildlife, the upheaval of the sea link will be massively detrimental. NG have been very underhand in this not only not notifying all of Thanet residents of their intention but also continually throughout the process. It is not a suitable place for such a construction. The loss of all the nature that is there will be irretrievable! Gone for ever. Endangered species, rare species, overwintering, migratory species. The species on/in the ground, the streams, rivers is insurmountable, irreplaceable, will be extinct!

The after effects of the construction will be disastrous on the whole area. The noise, radiation, vehicle, movements ongoing, detrimental to our health. Fire/ explosion hazards, safety. Both humans and what would be left of nature. We as humans need nature and all its inhabitants to be able to live ourselves it's how the eco system works. There is already irreparable damage to Pegwell bay by NG with slope line that didn't happen as they planned because of the nature of the area, damage to a nature pool I believe? There are other sites available that as far as I know have not been looked into....

National Grid are behaving in a high-handed & arrogant manner. The piecemeal announcement of certain "tweaks" (in reality major changes) is an absolute joke. They need to look at offshore options, not decimate the countryside.

Businesses and residents affected by the Sea Link project deserved a balanced, transparent process - one that respects businesses, residents, tourists and the environment rather than imposing inappropriate infrastructure without proper scrutiny. Our precious environment should not be sacrificed. The loss of the hoverport as a recreational facility will have a devastating impact on local residents who use it daily and businesses, which comes on top of the impact of having to endure 4 years of construction works seven days a week - not to mention the devastating impact on the local environment and wild life. National Grid has chosen this location based on cost alone and have already failed to mitigate impact/damage from the Nemo project - all in the name of making a profit for its shareholders.

Just the threat of the project is already having a negative impact on the local housing market and liquidity, which means that people like me are becoming trapped in properties which they can no longer afford to run or maintain for because no one will buy them - this is already having a significant impact on mental health.

I use both the Minster Marshes and Pegwell Bay for recreational and wellbeing purposes and have done so for many, many years, as do a large number of people. I enjoy watching and looking for the diverse wildlife populations in their own habitats, which must on absolutely no account be destroyed, not for any reason whatsoever. They are unique sites with protection orders and SSSI's on them and we are their lawful guardians

The whole project is despicable and should be thrown out. The marsh represents just about the last refuge in Thanet for wildlife as farmland vanishes under houses. It must be saved.

It's heartbreaking to see what is happening to Thanet and Kent. Enough is enough. Hands off Minster Marshes, hands off the Hoverport and no more building on fields, woodland or any greenfield sites.

Pegwell Bay and Minster Marshes is an important area for wildlife and must be protected. Sir Roger Gale MP has put forward alternatives - use them rather than disrupt important wildlife sites. Just because birds & wildlife can't complain, National Grid's conscience should be hurting by even considering Minster & Pegwell Bay.

Seems the National Grid are trying to bulldoze their plans without due process. There should be tighter controls on what they can do before getting planning permission.

Thanet has experienced mass destruction of wildlife and green spaces. We cannot allow any more destruction. We don't want you here, go away and leave us to grieve for what we have already lost. This is not needed and will destroy the area, the wildlife and residents should not have to put up with the damage and destruction of a wildlife sanctuary...

We often walk around the Hoverport to observe the birds and take a note of the wild flowers that grow there. We have seen a Lizard Orchid and Bee Orchids growing there. There are always numerous waders, sea birds and other birds including a pair of Peregrine falcons that have used the area. The Hoverport has rewilded and is such a beautiful place to enhance local people's mental health, as it is one of the only places to enjoy some wild spaces away from the increasingly built on Thanet. This is not the right place for development. Wildlife areas such as these are precious and should be saved for everyone.

Heartbreaking
Devastated
Loss is irreplaceable
Nature-first solutions
Avoid Urbanisation of wildlife-rich areas
Internationally important marsh
Should be a specific area such as a RAMSAR for wildlife

This is a poorly thought out project with massive negative impact on wildlife and mental health. The choice of areas like Minster Marshes which would also increase flood risk is hard to fathom.

Please don't spoil another green space 😞

Why This Matters to Me

The Hoverport is more than just a piece of land – it's a haven for wildlife
- Using the Hoverport for construction will cause irreversible damage to this unique ecosystem and destroy its value for wildlife and nature enthusiasts.
- The proposal's impact on people with limited mobility and the importance of preserving access to wild spaces for mental health.

The hoverport is a perfect place to visit to clear my head. It's peaceful and it's one of the rare places you feel in touch with nature.

We must not underestimate the impact of these sorts of developments on the mental health of the public: the loss of green, the loss of skyline, the loss of wildlife. It's no use lamenting, after the fact, in a few years time. There is so much we can do now.

This is criminal. This area is critical for wild life and migrating birds.

I spend recreational time in this area. It supports my mental wellbeing, being able to see nature and the wildlife is very important. This is the only space in Thanet which totally helps mentally and physically.

I am concerned that there is a risk of finding bombs from wartime, contamination of our water supplies which are already under great strain. The hoverport a risk of damage due to equipment being used and stored there.

Roads are at gridlock due to all the building of houses. This will cause greater disruption and ability for me to get to work in Sandwich. The dust and debris damages paintwork on cars.

How will the wildlife cope, reintroduction to wildlife in this area, birds, has been very successful, the bird migrations use this area there is nothing else to support wildlife even close to this

The historical value of these grounds would be lost.

Delays by years could unfold as there is a likelihood of items of historical value are found and archaeologists needed.

Extra costs due to failing water pipes which is becoming common, roads to the site and Thanet having to cope with heavier traffic causing tarmac issues, we already had a sinkhole open up right on a road direct to this area recently.

There is no other recreation land left in Thanet particularly of this type and nature, the wellbeing of residents should be put first their locals will have nowhere to go.

This CANNOT be allowed to go ahead because of the damage to the environment and the amenity which I and many others use for restorative recreation.

I take regular walks daily to the Hoverport to improve my mental health. I have lived in the area for 28 years. I have watched the hoverport increase with a wide variety of wildlife. The wild plants have been left to grow naturally. It is a beautiful place away from the busy roads and mass destruction that we in Thanet have witnessed over the past few years. Please just leave us all alone to enjoy what little wildlife is left.

I love to walk down on the old hoverport with my dog, it's such a peaceful place, full of wildlife and beauty a place of calm in this world we live in. There are not many places along the southeast coastline that have not been developed and is full of nature which enhances the area. It would be terrible if we were to lose this.

I just don't understand why, in an area where there is extremely little natural/green habitat, the use of this natural habitat affecting flora and fauna, which will be destroyed for decades before it recovers, is even being considered. I can only assume it is down to pure heartless greed by a minority for net gain. Furthermore I fully expect that there are far more viable options, albeit more expensive, that could be considered which will be far better for the majority (other than the 'fat cats'). Why can't other options be considered which will be in more harmony with the affected residents/land owners and flora and fauna and in whole the general public? Why is the - cheaper - option the only one being fast tracked and trying to be implemented behind people's back?? Is this because of the monetary gain by such a few cohort? If so, how do you sleep at night??

The Sea Link project will have a disastrous impact on Thanet's precious natural and protected environments. Wildlife, flora and fauna will suffer immeasurable, and probable permanent, damage to their valuable habitat. Thanet residents will be deprived of the ability to walk and appreciate wonderful our natural spaces which are becoming fewer and fewer with the surge in building.

It is completely misleading to claim that ensuring green energy helps reduce climate change when this very project destroys land that is already helping protect the environment.

Green initiatives do need to be pursued BUT not at the cost of loss of Biodiversity and vital habitat. There must be balance. What point is there in achieving Net Zero or any approximation to it if it wipes out species and creates unnatural structures where once there was unspoiled landscape and seascape?

This just makes me so angry - the sheer arrogance of National Grid, dismissing concerns by stating, "the ground will be fully reinstated to its original condition, matching the state that existed prior to the commencement of works." There is NO WAY this could happen, and even if it did the animals and birds will have already left, disturbed by years of building noise and traffic, and unlikely to return with the colossal behemoth buzzing constantly. And the old hoverport site is so important as a place of peace and tranquility, as essential for our mental health as it is for rare species of plants and animals. This development will have an adverse and irreversible impact on an SSI in a conservation area. It has to be refused.

I feel that Thanet has become a huge building site and we have lost so many of our green spaces. My family have always used this area for walks and family time and this would be a huge loss to the area and have a negative effect on many people in Thanet. The impact on the wildlife would be huge and there are other options available.

The loss of the hoverport as a recreational facility will have a devastating impact on local residents who use it daily and businesses, which comes on top of the impact of having to endure 4 years of construction works seven days a week - not to mention the devastating impact on the local environment and wild life. National Grid has chosen this location based on cost alone and have already failed to mitigate impact/damage from the Nemo project - all in the name of making a profit for its shareholders.

Just the threat of the project is already having a negative impact on the local housing market and liquidity, which means that people like me are becoming trapped in properties which they can no longer afford to run or maintain for because no one will buy them - this is already having a significant impact on mental health.

To sea link development, despite not living in this area, I feel that should not reflect on my right to express opinion on this travesty!

This is an area that supports such fragile bio diversity that I, and I'm sure many others, will want to visit in their lives.

Development has an effect everywhere, the more we see destruction of fundamentally essential rare habitat, especially Marshes, the more people are aware this not only sets a precedence for other areas, it takes away human right to seek peace and tranquility in these times of uncertainty that can only be found in Natural unspoilt habitat, such as this area. There has been well researched documentation, country wide objection and alternatives offered, which have been unjustifiably ignored. I am opposed to this destruction of protected habitat and the over riding of public opinion.

If this project goes ahead it will be distasteful for not only the wildlife but also the people who live in Thanet and also other areas that visit. I pray for our wildlife and their habitat, surely there are other places NG can use. I worry every day about this, it's really affecting my mental health.

I support the development of energy infrastructure in full

Where is the criteria used by NG for the selection process of an appropriate site for this project?

Where is the evidence that NG has made a considered exploration of the possible brownfield sites for the landfall of this project?

It is disgraceful that action supposedly aimed at 'saving the environment' involves destroying some of the most precious areas of our local environment and our wildlife. National Grid has no respect for anything except shareholder profit. I would very much like to see all of these large scale infrastructure projects removed from National Grid and made subject to the same controls and laws aimed at protecting wildlife and the environment as those undertaken by ordinary people and businesses. I and I suspect many others feel our depleting wild spaces are being disregarded by NG and their exploitations to date in the area brings no confidence as we see them literally run rough shod over delicate environments.

I have a boat moored on the Stour and regularly sail down river to Sandwich Bay, past the nature reserve and the seals. I love the wildlife and at the reserve and am shocked that the project will destroy the nature reserve and the RSPB site. I understand three nature reserves will be negatively impacted and, in my opinion, I can't understand how the project can claim to be green when it will destroy so much wildlife and the precious green spaces and unique ecosystem that the marshes bring.

We regularly walk our dog down at the old hoverport. Its one of our favourite places in Thanet. Its so peaceful and quiet with bird song and the sound of the waves or wind in the trees. Its a delight to watch the rabbits playing down there too. Please don't take away our happy place and more importantly please don't destroy any more wildlife habitat.

Just find this proposal an absolute joke. The impact on the environment for years to come. The disruption to the roads whilst this is going to be built. This is a really important resting site to thousands of birds and wildlife. This is the cheapest option for them hence why we in the local community have to suffer. I don't believe this is a viable plan to improve how electricity is produced and provided. It's just the cheapest option for sealink. We have already lost thousands of acres of green land, we do not need to lose even more by this travesty of a development.

The overdevelopment of Thanet is devastating to farm and marshland.

Thanet is being over developed, this is a valuable area for residents to enjoy and escape the concrete thats going on and valuable to the enormous amount of wildlife that depends on it, where valuable habitat is being destroyed at an alarming rate.

This proposed destruction of vital wild life habitat and green open space would decimate an important wild life facility. I opposed it whole heartedly.

I feel that Thanet is being destroyed, as is much of Kent, by over-development of all kinds, but this one on Minster Marshes is vast and would kill so much wildlife, including many endangered species whilst also ruining the lives of residents. The people of Thanet do not want this, yet it is being touted as something good for everyone. It is NOT because it will destroy the very essence of what Thanet and Kent is about.

Humans need nature to survive, if intelligence and knowledge was prevalent, then this would be obvious, it is where we come from, nature provides our natural standard of living and our oxygen. But the over arching purpose of these developments - industrial, housing etc - is to make money for shareholders.

None of these projects benefit the actual people who live here. The world is skewed towards a self-righteous few who think they have a right to override and trample on the wants and opinions of the local public.

The roads of Thanet are already inundated with traffic and the local facilities cannot withstand anymore pressure which this development will bring to the area.

It is destruction beyond thought and all for greed. Kent is being used as a dumping ground by the government, industry and developers. Nature, woodland, farms and marshlands can never be replaced and it is turning what is supposed to be The Garden of England into an industrial wasteland. I am deeply concerned that Thanet, like much of Kent, is being irreversibly damaged by large-scale and unnecessary developments. The National Grid Sealink project, in particular, represents a vast and unsustainable expansion on the coastline that would result in severe and lasting harm to the nature, local ecosystems, landscape, and communities.

The development poses a serious threat to the endangered species living there and will lead to significant Habitat Loss, undermining biodiversity and disrupting vital ecological networks. It risks the permanent destruction of natural environments that are essential not only to wildlife but also to human wellbeing.

There is strong and clear opposition from the people of Thanet, yet the project continues to be presented as a benefit to all. In reality, it undermines the very character and environmental integrity that define Thanet and Kent. The cumulative effect of ongoing industrial and housing developments across the region is already placing unsustainable pressure on natural resources and local infrastructure. Furthermore, the proposed site and surrounding areas may hold important archaeological value, which could be irreparably damaged. The cumulative impact of successive developments has also increased flood risk, reduced the availability of productive farmland, and contributed to the erosion of rural character.

These developments primarily serve corporate and shareholder interests rather than the needs of the local population. The wider public impact—including loss of green space, pressure on services, and declining environmental quality—has been consistently overlooked.

Thanet and Kent should not be treated as expendable land for unchecked development. Sound planning policy must prioritise environmental protection, community welfare, and heritage preservation over short-term financial gain. This proposal at present, fails to meet those principles and should be reconsidered in light of its far-reaching and detrimental consequences.

This whole area is completely unsuitable for this type of construction.

It is marsh, and liable to flooding. Unstable ground.

This whole area is completely unsuitable for this type of construction.

It is marsh, and liable to flooding. Unstable ground.

I feel very concerned about the reduction of open spaces in the area and the increase of industrialisation. I do not feel that I have been consulted and feel upset that the proposal to use the hoverport has been slipped in without proper consultation. There does not appear to be any respect given to the adjacent SSI. If the development goes ahead we will lose wildlife which is important to our biodiversity.

Biodiversity has not and is not being followed by NG/Sealink. It's an absolute disgrace that they even considered the area of Minster Marshes and Pegwell Bay.

This is the wrong place for this. The damage to the environment will be catastrophic! Irreplaceable! Totally unacceptable! The eco system will be damaged beyond repair. NG have not done due diligence, they have glossed over everything. It's no good looking at the marshes once for testing the marsh changes throughout the year. It's clay, it's sand, it floods. It's connected to Pegwell, the stout, stoddmarsh and damage will affect the whole area. Not to mention the wildlife, present and migratory. NG will have to do millions of pounds worth of reparation work before they can use it. The foundations of the site are highly toxic; testing shows minimal impact on Pegwell Bay whilst the foundations lay dormant but industrial use of the site will be devastating for the area.

I've spent 20 years wandering around the Hoverport; it is far too vital a site for red list species, such as Sand Martins and Corncrakes, for this to be allowed to happen. Where's the environmental reports? Where's the projection for work that will be required on the site before it could be used for anything other than a rewilded natural habitat.

This is an amenity enjoyed by a multitude of Cliffsend villagers, visitors, bird watchers and artists.

NG's proposal would heavily impact the wellbeing of Cliffsend residents

National Grid have been underhand in publicising the project, no details on the public notice boards in Minster, only out of the way roads and paths away from the population. They used their barrister's name to apply for permission to start exploratory work. This was always the plan at the end of Operation Nemo, sharing power between Pegwell Bay and Belgium, they intend to sell more power to the EU via Nemo.

I think the hoverport site is exceptional for immersion in nature. It has no facilities for human beings to make it more comfortable, no benches or toilet facilities and that's what makes it a great place to immerse oneself into the nature that is trying vigorously to take over the site once more. The site should be left alone and undeveloped to let natural processes do their work and restore the site to its former natural state.

I would implore you not to go ahead with the destruction of the Minster marshes and the hoverport site at Pegwell. These areas are well known for wildlife in the local area. Open spaces need to be encouraged not depleted.

This about love, and heritage and belong with all my heart to a place that holds all my most precious memories and hopes for the future

There is no way this will deliver a net gain in biodiversity, when they are prepared to decimate the marshland and the wildlife and plants it is either home to or the sanctuary it gives to migrational birdlife. Furthermore, it is going to have a negative impact on the residents of Thanet who treasure what little natural open space we have remaining.

This is all proposed in the name of profit for a company that rather than being national as its name implies actually uses foreign investment and is keen to provide these investors with dividends and has no interest in preserving an important biodiverse piece of land.

This should not even be considered, you big wigs don't care leave the wildlife & biodiversity alone, this earth is shared for all living beings leave it alone.

I walk my dogs regularly on the hoverport site. It will be a terrible shame to lose a site that has been allowed all these years to develop a natural environment for so many species of birds flora and fauna. All of that work will be undone by NGs request to be build here. They have also been extremely sneaky suggesting at first this will be temporary and then amending their request at a later stage. The impact this will have not only on the hoverport site but further along at the nature reserve I feel will be catastrophic to all wild life, especially on top of the level of housing being already built in the surrounding areas.

The area is essentially still marshland and will need draining if buildings of the size envisaged will be safe, structurally.

There are no mitigating measures that can replicate this habitat, but there are other options for a converter station's siting. On brownfield land. The envisaged pylons are unnecessary as underground cabling could be used, the expense would be greater, but that only affects profitability and would not be as detrimental in the long term as the converter stations construction on the proposed site.

I don't go to many places, but I do go to Pegwell and Cliffsend to walk my daughter's dog. If I am unable to make the stairs of the hoverport on a particular day, I go to Cliffsend. Please don't take this away from us humans, BUT, more importantly, leave the wildlife to their tiny bit of habitat they are safe. We humans need to think about all species, not just human life.

Please don't go ahead with the destruction of the hoverport and any more open and wildlife spaces. Every government ignores brown field sites out of hand, when evaluating new infrastructure projects. They look at costs, not human and wildlife environments.

Once these environments are gone, they cannot be replaced.

We have some special places. Special places need special protection.

The hoverport, marshes and nature reserve are beautiful peaceful spots to walk, observe nature and escape from traffic and noise. These areas are all so valuable to everyone's wellbeing and mental health.

The hoverport is another rewilding space that has to be preserved - just look at the area between cliffsend & Westwood from above to see the detrimental effect on wildlife spaces that continue to be wrecked.

This is clearly not the place to be building this project, and it's not that I object to the development or that it's a case of not in my back yard either.

Pegwell Bay is an area where wildlife can live in and thrive away from human activity. Thanet already has lost a huge amount of green areas to building developments, with little or no thought about it's impact on wildlife or the existing population.

The Minster Marshes and now the hoover port again should never have even been considered for all the reasons mentioned by many people, including MPs and the council. They both should be protected and remain protected. These places are vital also for Thanet people to enjoy, a place for connecting with nature and for our mental and physical well being. They are a vital for visitors and to Thanet tourists who come to enjoy. It makes no sense to destroy such valuable bio diverse places in the name of renewable energy and climate change. There are alternative sites that are less destructive and also it seems no adequate surveys have been carried out by national grid also. It's an absolute disgrace that our beautiful, nature abundant area is going to be decimated and the money issues involved seem to be all that matters really to those powers that be. Shocking

It's an ill thought through vanity project where profit is paramount over nature and biodiversity. How can you produce so called green at the expense of nature. It is very short sighted.

I and my family and extended family agree alternatives to coal/oil are much needed. Solar, wind, water energy are a must but let's not destroy the very land that nature depends on. The essential internationally important biodiverse sites must stay untouched! Once gone, it can never be replaced. Move the National Grid project to a non essential important site-please. For the sake of all the beings, including humans, please THINK!

The destruction planned for the Pegwell and Minster Marsh areas are simply unimaginable for many. The proposed planning for such a development of this nature is corporate environmental destruction. National Grid could not have picked a more fragile environment area. It does nothing to protect the environment for future generations. It is in fact doing the complete opposite which will also devastate vital wildlife zones for native and migratory animals

This area is a unique area of wildlife rehabilitation and biodiversity the destruction of this area catastrophic to our local wildlife.

The beauty and diversity of our Kent Garden of England natural environment is being swallowed up by industry and development at an alarming rate.

We risk losing the beauty of nature for future generations along with harming our eco systems, natural habitats for fauna/flora to thrive and birds/animals to flourish.

Please rethink this scheme and keep the beauty of our countryside for all to enjoy for decades to come. We don't want a industrial building like that in the area damaging the natural environment. This area is a holiday and a wildlife area it's already been damaged with the amount of houses been build in Thanet.

How is the country going to feed themselves without the agricultural land!!!

It feels like all our open spaces are being developed & concreted over.

I don't believe that the cheapest option chosen by National Grid is the best option for the local area.

The National Grid proposal adversely impacts the whole of the Isle of Thanet in relation to the length of construction work timescale, the loss of access to public spaces, the serious long term impact on one of only two roads out of Thanet and the destruction of the ecological environment. There will be zero long term gain for the people of Thanet should the proposal go ahead.

I'm deeply concern about the proposal to repurpose the Hoover port in Cliffsend as a compound for National Grid. The devastating impact this would have on the area's natural beauty and wildlife is staggering. It's baffling that a company supposedly committed to creating a greener planet is effectively destroying nature in the process. It seems counterintuitive.

Alternative sites are available, albeit at a higher cost, which raises the question: are we prioritizing profit over the planet's well-being, despite the initiative's supposed green objectives? I'm truly shocked and dismayed by this decision.

Area above the hoverport used more now adays for watching wildlife.

The wild life will be negatively affected by this project. It is one of the last areas of nature in our area and needs to be protected.

The project should be put out at sea to stop the terrible destruction and devastation that it will cause on protected wildlife

There has been a lot of bad decisions made in Thanet recently and this is by far the worst!

I am appalled that this is even being considered. The destruction to wildlife is extremely concerning.

There are other options, but time and time again our green areas are being destroyed by housing and new construction. We live at the bottom of Minster and already see how much more flooding happens when there is a lot of rain.

There are abandoned areas on the Pfizer site- can't it go there?

Nature has overtaken the abandoned Hoverport. It has taken years but now there are rare Lizard, Man and Bee Orchids appearing. Butterflies on the Buddlea. Greenfinch, Long Tailed Tits and the Cuckoo

are just a few of the birds I see there. The sound of the Curlews first thing in the morning. A wildlife haven that needs protecting. The land is unsuitable for heavy vehicles and it belongs to Thanet Council and the local community. All who are saying NO!!!

Not for me, or even my children, but for my grandchildren - please rethink the link. Destroying the Marshes wetlands etc is a death knell for the abundant wildlife and migrating birds. Building on a marsh is insane. Robbing people, wildlife and the planet of this rich environment is criminal. They don't care. But we do

As I lived on the Sandwich road growing up the hoverport site was our playground and now a lovely place to walk and see some amazing wildlife, Thanet has lost so many fields to house building, I just fear for our green spaces and the wildlife that is left. There must be other brownfield sites available NG could use.

Two power cables coming up the bay already to much disturbance have already been made Leave the hoverport and village alone for the village to use peacefully

The wild life needs help not to be destroyed by more development

If this development is passed it will be disastrous for Minster Marshes & surrounds. Madness

The reduction of green leisure space is severely damaging to mental and physical health. Thanet is now a vast concrete jungle. Wildlife is already suffering, lack of shrubs and trees impacts negatively on all species. The marshlands has a diverse amount of wildlife calling it home. To develop there will destroy this habitat and thus the wildlife there.

The Marshland is a totally inappropriate site for this development when other options are available. Decisions made for financial reasons rather than for environmental ones are no longer an option given the reduction in biodiversity in the UK. The age of concreting valuable wildlife habitats must come to an end starting with this.

The former hover port site is vital for nature and biodiversity. This is the wrong site for this project. This site is also important to people as it is a place to engage with nature which has been proven to be hugely beneficial to mental health and wellbeing.

National grid, focus your efforts on ensuring Pegwell and Minster Marshes are protected. In the name of green energy spend your millions on protecting nature, contribute to the saving of rare species, help wildlife, support local people and build where you do no harm. It may cost more but you can't buy back lost habitat.

National grid seem to be driven by nothing more than cheap solutions. They also have chosen an area where there's a good deal of deprivation believing that people here can easily be ignored and overridden

The destruction of the marshes and hover port is blatant vandalism fueled by greed and driven by a crazy net zero policy. Socialists out now. SCRAP NET ZERO

Absolutely disgraceful to build on this site, the national grid has not done research, it is not a suitable location

I still cannot believe that anyone would even think that the marshes are the right place for anything other than being what it is.. marshland.... where wildlife flourishes and people enjoy and acts as a flood defence.

Please consider what natural habitat we will be losing if this goes ahead.

This is catastrophic & should be seriously reconsidered. There are plenty of brownfield sites that this can be built on.

This project is a disaster in the making for the flora and fauna of the marshes and the hoverport site for zero advantage to our quality of life and quite the contrary. It should be cancelled and a more appropriate site found regardless of the expense to the developers.

Further loss of birds such as curlews already endangered. Nesting/ breeding sites reduced.
Noise, vehicle pollution for years.
Once destroyed never recovered

This whole area is a local sanctuary for the people of Thanet and beyond. It must not be ruined
We can not keep destroying our natural habit, from fields to marshlands, seabeds to woodlands. Yes we need cleaner energy but at the cost of natural habit can not be allowed
This should not go ahead. Thanet is one of the most deprived areas for biodiversity. The marshes are a beautiful natural habitat.
The hoverport is unique in its untamed nature but its accessibility is special. Kids nowadays have so few places they can hang out would be a crying shame to lose this asset.

I frequently walk around the Hoverport. I value its uniqueness and complete contrast to Pegwell Bay, both of which Sealink wishes to destroy. The hoverport has a rich biodiversity and is also ideal for foraging natural foods. This year, in particular, has seen an abundant hamper of sloes and hawberries, both of which friends and I have foraged. Next to the hoverport by the cliff path, is an area which is an habitat for Samphire Seaweed, which is a food extremely rich in nutrients and is very tasty. There are also fruit trees growing there, all of which Sealink will destroy in it's entirety.
The Hoverport is also located near the River Stour where there is a colony of common seals. The destruction of the Hoverport will eradicate this seal colony with the pollution caused by Sealink at the Hoverport. There are also local businesses who take tourists by boat to see this colony, but once the pollutants and noise pollution kill off this colony, the tourist business will also become defunct.
Sealink, how does the total annihilation of the ecosystems at Minster Marshes, Pegwell Bay, and the Hoverport bring any benefits to these complex communities that can never recover from evil atrocities. How and where will my friends and I walk to when you have destroyed an essential part of our mental and physical well-being.
Furthermore, I do not recall the Hoverport being mentioned or displayed when I visited your company at the Marlow Academy. All of which brings me great distress when I think of a great wetland habitat about to be erased by yourselves.
This would fragment & destroy wildlife habitats and displace protected species.
This is an important migration corridor and ecosystem and a vital habitat for a number of protected species which should be given the highest protection.

I feel despair over what is happening in Thanet. Natural habitat is being destroyed, field's are being destroyed and wildlife is taking a huge brunt of the damage. Killing them. it feels unstoppable and irreversible and breaks my heart how callous this is.

With so many houses being built in Ramsgate we desperately need all green spaces for Wildlife as well as us to have and use.
The old hoverport site is important not only as a SSSI but as a breathing space for us and our grandchildren. It's amazing to see how it has changed over the years. I think that using it as suggested by the National Grid will destroy all that has developed in the bay and pollute the area if the old pad is damaged much more quickly. Please look elsewhere for this development site and leave the Hoverport and Pegwell Bay Nature reserve alone.

Minster marshes and pegwell bay and the hoverport form important habitat for wildlife and should not be built on.
It is a sssi of international importance.
We are in a climate emergency and all wetlands need protecting.
There has been too much destruction in this area already

If the project goes ahead it will be an utter travesty and will have to be justified throughout history by Ed Miliband's successors. Minster Marshes and their wildlife deserve so much more respect and dignity than this government is willing to acknowledge.

Despite huge efforts from volunteers the issues surrounding both positions have not been aired or given enough publicity for local people to feel they have had fair representation of both sides of the story and to therefore make a considered and valued judgement.

The might, deep Pockets and political clout of National Grid overwhelms the efforts(although passionate and being the culmination of thousands of hours of donated time effort and skills) of the 'Save' campaign.

Our elected representatives at Town District and county council level appear not to back either side effectively or overtly and continue to try and point score against each other instead of working together to forensically interrogate both arguments and data in order to show us the people who elected them that ultimately a summary of each perspective. The environment needs to be considered above all else. Lavaparty politics elsewhere.

This is a travesty. There are other more suitable (if costlier) sites. Thanet can't afford to lose such precious countryside especially in light of the huge amount of housing developments across the district. Leave our marshes alone!

The hoverport is somewhere I walk daily, it's a great place to slow down and be at one with nature. I have walked down here for years and can't believe anyone thinks it's a good idea to destroy this area. The wildlife here will be majorly impacted.

I walk down to the shore and around the Hoverport most days. I do this for exercise and mental health. I can't contemplate what I will do if access is blocked.

When in the past rogue scramble bike uses got on the site the noise vibrated up and outward so how much noise will vibrate if it becomes a working site???

Minster marshes should be protected, it is a marvellous place for all wildlife, rare birds and other different animal species to live in harmony, it should be left as a sanctuary for all to enjoy.

The proposed Sealink project is not environmentally friendly and is in the worse possible place for wildlife in Thanet if it is given the go ahead!

The proposed Sealink project is in the wrong is in the wrong location!

How can any organisation/ company completely override SSSI areas that are vital for the rare birds, animals, amphibians & flora to survive!

The damage to the wildlife & nature will be devastating & irreversible. The impact on local people, their health, mental health & wellbeing could be significant & destructive. People, animals & the environment needs to be placed much higher than a cheap / easy fix for a massive corporate entity. The destruction this will cause isn't worth the "Green" Energy they are supposedly claiming / promoting.

I think there has been enough environmental damage in Thanet, with the amount of houses being built on all the green spaces around our towns. I think the wind turbines are a total waste of money, and not fit for purpose. And now, we have to have a giant of a building, to accommodate the poultry amount of energy they are producing, being built on the only area of natural habitat left in, or near Thanet where wildlife can be safe from human interference. Leave it alone!

This whole development is an utter shambles not only to humans but especially minster marshes wildlife. I find the whole thing absolutely disgusting

I am an OAP and every day I enjoy the nature that has sprung up around the old hover port and enjoy the wildlife at Pegwell bay and Minster Marshes. It is so good for my mental health and I will mourn the loss if NG have their way..yes we need to find a way to use green energy but not at the expense of our marshland, our nature reserves. Another site must be found that doesn't destroy all this and yes it will cost more for NG but that is the price they will have to pay for everyone's sanity.

I'm very concerned about the potential loss of the hoverport site which has rewilded & is now an important habitat.

I am very concerned about the government's lack of legal environmental safeguards that is causing so much destruction of our precious salt marsh, coastlines and farmland. It feels that developers and private companies are being given unrestricted access to areas to increase their profits. The safeguarding of our biodiverse areas is being left to voluntary organisations with limited resources. I have lost count of the number of petitions signed and statements that I have submitted in 2025 to try and protect our wildlife areas from destruction. The current path being undertaken by the government to reach the goal of net zero is causing a level of destruction that is unacceptable. Other methods are

available to upgrade or restructure our energy network but they are being ignored for the sake of increasing shareholders' profits. This scandal is taking place with the government's approval. David Attenborough when opening the nature reserve in Pegwell Bay stated that Pegwell Bay should be protected at all cost.

It's an important habitat not just for waders and seals, migrant birds and estuary grey mullet, but a breeding ground for flat fish and lug worm.

This bay is a vital resource to wildlife and should not be touched.

I for one would be happy to pay more for the electricity to go into King's North which is nearer to London where it's needed and avoid the destruction of more Kent countryside.

Wildlife and wellbeing will be damaged if this development goes ahead in Pegwell Bay and minster marshes.

Other locations are more suitable, as they have the land and road structure in place such as Richborough.

This is totally out of order, has not been assessed correctly and I am afraid will be pushed through whatever anybody thinks. These people do not care about nature or habitats do not seem to understand what they will be destroying. But it is only money to them.

Why would this even be considered when the destruction of so much natural environment will be devastating and irreversible. The Viking bay picnic site on its own is such a valuable hub to the local community and to visitors alike. The Viking bay cafe itself has been responsible for so many new friendships.

The whole project is so totally wrong on a number of levels. The fact the examiners have sent them away to redo or verify their findings shows a lack of due care and attention to this multi million pound project.....that isn't needed! Already there are better ways of producing electricity that need exploring before our bay and marshes are trashed beyond recognition.

After the fast pace of life, endless concrete buildings, traffic congestion, the Hoverport provides an escape. I walk through natural beauty seeing rabbits, foxes, mice and listen to the birds in perfect peace. I escape there and immediately feel relaxed and happy. I can watch the birds on the sea and have a quiet time to reflect. Time to chat with other walkers and their dogs. Without the Hoverport, nature reserve and minster marshes mental health will be affected and wildlife will be eradicated. I truly hope that this project will be viewed sympathetically and not as just a cheaper option. Thank you

This is an absolute outrage to even consider tearing up the area and covering it with even more concrete, with a building 100 foot high all for the sake of PROFIT! We have lost so much in Thanet by way of the thousands of houses being built and still more in the planning, on our once lush farmlands. This area is absolutely unique and home to so many varied breeds of wildlife and birds. David Attenborough once visited and ended his interview by stating that this place is so special that it must be kept and looked after AT ANY COST!

I have not seen any clear substantiated evidence that this proposal will not have an adverse affect on the natural habitat of numerous forms of wildlife be it birds, reptiles, animals, insects not to mention the flora of which there are many varieties.

The National Grid appears at present to think they can totally neglect Thanet's interests.

The Hoverport and Pegwell bay are areas rich in plants and wildlife. They have appeared multiple times in documentaries such as Springwatch and Autumnwatch, celebrating the unique and amazing wildlife on our doorstep. These areas are fragile and need careful monitoring to ensure the continuation of these habitats.

The National Grid has total disregard for these wonderful spaces, wanting to ruin them for their own greed!

Haven't you taken enough green land in Thanet during 2025?

Our grandchildren won't have any nature left.

It feels like its going ahead without proper consideration or consultation. Also feels like its already commenced and they don't care what the local community actually want.

There has to be a better site, a better way of working that is not simply about lining the pockets of National Grid.

Please, please take your name seriously - make the project best for the nation.

Thanet is being bombarded with housing causing the destruction of our once beautiful open landscape. Now we have the national grid wanting to cause more destruction to the area. Can you not see what it is doing to the people of Thanet and the wonderful wildlife of the area? Remember the memorable line "they paved paradise and put up a parking lot". Thanet will become that parking lot!

I don't trust that this Project gives any real consideration to the people of Thanet and nearby directly or indirectly affected. The site choice is undoubtedly flawed being driven by low cash considerations. It has likely potential to devastate the marshes and anyone with consideration for wildlife and the environment would understand why this shouldn't be allowed to happen. Other sites are available that would be less damaging. This extra move to land grab more area around the Hoverport just demonstrates a clear lack of concern by National Grid. Steam roller over the people's voices and their homes and surrounding nature.

Pegwell Bay is my go-to place when I need to get my head together. I am [REDACTED] years young, and it has always felt my safe place when things get too much. I love watching the wonderful variety of bird life and the sounds are amazing when the big flocks of migrating waders descend.

Surely there must be an alternative route that does not destroy the marshes, habitat of various wildlife and biodiversity. Humans need to realise the destruction wildlife habitat fuels the destruction of the planet, every living creature on this planet however small plays its part in maintaining the balance of its ecosystem, apart from humans.

Too much green space is being lost and the natural resources are being lost forever. We should be repairing the damage already done, not make it worse, we will not have a planet worth living on soon, action needs taking now, not when it's too late!

The Hoverport is a family resting place that we all hold extremely dear. To have it taken away by money greedy monsters would be absolutely heartbreaking.

As has been said many times before, if this went ahead it will be detrimental not only to humans but also to wildlife, flora and fauna. Richborough is a much better site as it already has the infrastructure and will not destroy nature. Once the land has been destroyed there will be no turning back. As the supermarkets say "once it's gone, it's gone". Nature will be destroyed. Migrating birds will be disorientated and seals will lose their breeding grounds. Too much to lose for the National Grid's monetary gain. Please reconsider!

The impact this project could have on the local environment and natural habitat would be catastrophic. It is an area of outstanding natural beauty and should be preserved for the wildlife it supports and the well being of residents and visitors to the area. It would have a such a major detrimental impact to local residents and this area of outstanding natural beauty will be lost forever. Please please please DO NOT allow this to happen.

An absolutely beautiful area, full of wildlife. This must remain protected and not destroyed for commercial gain.

So many poor decisions already by this Project, now compounded by the latest application for additional use of the old Hoverport site. Disgraceful disregard for the environment which makes a mockery of scientific designations.

The sooner all of the companies supplying fuel etc are taken into a nationalised entity the better. You've had the cream, now stop taking the Michael and provide a service to your customers.

This is utter madness!

This is a beautiful, local open space for nature and wildlife that I can't believe is even considered to be a good place for a converter station- how is it even possible to build on such a significant wild and important space? Insane.

We need to care more for the wildlife and less for other things that take away their habitats

Although I understand the need for clean renewable energy, to destroy a marsh wildlife sanctuary is deplorable. We cannot keep ruining the landscape and home of wildlife.

Leave minster marshland to do its own environmental work .

This space is a sanctuary to wildlife and humans 🙏

That area is not suitable land for the proposed grid development in my opinion. Not only will it cause permanent disruption for those who live near, but more importantly the total devastation to this large area for all the wildlife that currently make their home here. I am totally opposed to this as an unacceptable move for building this proposed development.

It is obvious that national grid are using this site on the basis of budget, it is the cheapest option but if you compare that to the destruction to environmental & bio diversity it will be at great cost to the environment of which this project claims to be championing. It doesn't make sense. At personal level, it is in the wrong place, the infrastructure locally is pathetic now, add in 4 years of lorries more houses being built, we will come to a standstill, so at what cost for us locals? Longer commute times, damage to our roads (which KKC avoid repeating) and more loss of green space of which we have little of now.

ITS A NATURE RESORT!! [REDACTED] ... ;)

The impact on the SSSI is terrible. The visual and physical destruction..the extinction and damage cannot be repaired elsewhere..

Pegwell Bay and Minster Marshes are both incredibly delicate and valuable natural ecosystems, also wonderful places to visit, with care. They are both centres of natural beauty - albeit partly recovering from being covered in concrete - which allow an enjoyment of flora, fauna, birds and sea-borne wildlife. Spending time in these areas has great benefit for health, both mental and physical.

Any large industrial project in these environments will have a disastrous impact on the ecosystems, wildlife, and human enjoyment of spending time in nature. There is simply no ambiguity in this - development and sprawling machinery will kill these beautiful areas, and this will no doubt be for the benefit of capital and company shareholders.

I completely, 100% object to any form of work and/or development of Pegwell Bay and Minster Marshes.

Minster Marshes is a hugely significant and important area for ecology and bird life. We need to retain this beautiful place for the sake of the future of our planet. Although green energy solutions are essential as we grapple with climate change, we cannot build solutions at the huge expense of loss of vital habitat. Once lost, these places are lost forever and the insects, sealife and wildlife that rely on this habitat will be devastated. Too much has been lost already. The destruction has to stop. There must be a better way. Us humans are not the only residents on this planet!

I have sent an email today but honestly feel little confidence that it will even be read and definitely that I will receive no answer to questions raised in my email. Some one somewhere has already made the decision. What a terrible mistake and shame on them. Thank you for the work you are doing.

This project must STOP!! To destroy our Minster Marshes and our wonderful Pegwell bay and the Hover Port is shocking. It has taken Decades for the Hover port to become a wildlife sanctuary enjoyed by the village people and tourist alike, also those disabled in wheelchairs can access the bay at close quarters.

Obviously our wonderful seal colony has definitely not been thought about. To destroy this amazing,

wonderful nature sanctuary that we have here is totally unacceptable.

We have already had to put up with thousands of houses being built on our once farmland and to have this happen is about the last straw!!

I am personally so angry that this has even been suggested.

Leave our Minster Marshes and our Hoverport ALONE!!

This destruction of wildlife and our home must be prevented. Thanet will never recover from this awful affliction. We cannot prioritise greed over the planet's well-being any longer. Nobody who lives here wants this mess! I am deeply concerned about how this will impact my family's health.

Well all know this will destroy a whole habitat. One that will not recover.

Shame on you.

The area is a delight to walk in but essentially it is a vital area for wildlife.

Big business is making a terrible mistake in ignoring our natural environment in favour of bigger profits. Shame on their incessant greed and gross ignorance.

This is an important area for wildlife conservation which must be the top priority. Development on this land should not go ahead.

The National Grid have failed to prove this is the least worst site in terms of impact and have always acted in a manner which suggests they believe this is a 'done deal'. For example their initial non-statutory consultation was about 'choice of building design' not whether locals thought it was a good idea or not.

I am listed to attend the online meeting on 5th November and also the in-person meeting at the Sandwich Discovery Park on 11th November 2pm. Most of my original objection involved the saltmarsh site and also the blight on the landscape from the heritage viewpoint of Richborough Castle. But I'm unclear on the effect of the project on the marshes now. In my 3 minutes of speaking I will focus on the effects of using the hoverport and its wildlife and environmental importance now, as I've already submitted at length in writing about the impacts on the marsh.

Kent is being willfully destroyed.

Nature is being destroyed.

Mental health will plummet.

Stop profiting at everything's expense.

NATIONAL Grid is not a British led company and its failure to consider the best interests of wildlife and biodiversity have not been served well at all. The completed and submitted documents created to date shows incompetence levels within the departments involved to date; the almost 'slap-dash' attitude towards looking closely to the details of this project is shocking!

This site is not appropriate/fit for this project. The destruction planned in order to 'overcome' the problems with this area prove how bad a fit this location is for this project.

National Grid have not taken into account the vast majority of Thanet people's views when it decided that Pegwell Bay and Minster Marshes was the ideal location to build such a large facility.

No one can dispute the utter carnage that this work (both during and after) will cause to the environment and wildlife that live and flourish in these areas.

No one can dispute that after the installation work has been completed many of the different species of wildlife will either have disappeared or numbers seriously depleted.

The flora and fauna at the Pegwell site are exceptional and need an urgent assessment to be protected as it is home to numerous rare birds and other wildlife.

All manner of wildlife nest live and rest here. Humans gain lots of positive health gains from this beautiful place. Migrating birds come and go safely to the Marshes they must not be destroyed by this monstrosity. Find another way if it has to be done especially as it's been proved that this climate change is all nonsense. We do not need this thank you.

I don't live in Minster, but do live in Kent, and it's sad to see that a huge company yet again use their power to do what they want to destroy nature with no thought towards the effect it will have on the environment, just to make more and more money!

Leave an unspoiled natural area alone. Where will we go to catch tadpoles?

I use the hover port everyday for walking as part of my regime to deal with mental health. It attract many walker throughout the year and would be an absolute tragedy to utilise it for construction purposes.

Nothing positive will come from this development!

With all the house building going on in Thanet, Minster Marshes and Pegwell Bay are all the options left for the wildlife in this area.

[REDACTED]

The wildlife is important & our open spaces equally so .

Kent is becoming far too built upon.

Green spaces are disappearing very quickly.

Think hard for a less intrusive alternative.

The National Grid must be stopped. They have consistently demonstrated a complete lack of regard for proper process. They have not carried out necessary surveys and studies to identify the impact of their plan.

Save Minster, Pegwell and all our wildlife from these perpetrators National grid

Right idea, wrong place !

This development rides roughshod over established protocols, and consultation procedures have been deeply flawed from the outset.

SSSIs are vital, environmentally and ecologically.

There are other more appropriate sites - especially brownfield sites nearer to established need. These have not been properly considered.

Both sites are full of wild life and are very important ,not only to this area but to the whole country.

We've lost so many wild beautiful areas .It criminal for national grid to desimate minster marsh's and pegwell bay

There are other sites they could and route s they could use which they haven't even looked at .

Shareholders of NG should be very alarmed at their proposals which will become a money pot. Wrong location for their converter, it will flood! We cannot protect the planet by wrecking local environments!

This area at Minster is sacred land to nature, wildlife, migrating birds & our well being. The seal colony is under threat. Any form of interference will totally annihilate the whole biodiversity of this area.

There has got to be a better, less destructive piece of land nearer to Dover that will accommodate this monstrosity. The cross channel boats are all moving to battery operation so put this in the right place, nearer to that area.

Thanet is under total bombardment at the moment, we are becoming a dumping ground. Kiss goodbye to the tourist trade. Who wants to look at the eyesores being constructed ' they are definitely not for the good of the people'

The salt marshes need to be left alone to protect the environment not have it destroyed .

I cannot honestly believe this is being allowed to go ahead, the totally disrespect shown to the local community and for our amazing wildlife is beyond comprehension. I just hope that sense can prevail and this is stopped before the damage is irreversible.

Please use brown field sites. This current course of action is destroying our natural environment in the South East. It's getting beyond a joke.

Please use brown field sites. This current course of action is destroying our natural environment in the South East. It's getting beyond a joke.

I feel this is a totally inappropriate site for the NG proposal.

The uk has depleted its wildlife more than any other country in Europe - we desperately need to hold on to precious resources for wild birds, insects and mammals.

Other sites should be considered which would create less impact.

This plan cannot go ahead!

Totally wrong for environment think again .

I have been generous in the answer to my first question in that I believe that the National Grid have explored the site, but not adequately, as I believe they have looked at the easiest, cheapest option. I am absolutely distressed at the ever decreasing wild spaces in Thanet. This, In my opinion, will be the

total trashing of an internationally important area for migratory birds, without guarantee that permanent damage will not occur. Can we afford to lose further diversity???

The Hoverport is a diverse area of nature connected to Pegwell Bay and provides a sanctuary of peace and tranquility both for wildlife and humans. Thanet is being swamped with housing that has already consumed large volumes of green spaces. Pegwell is one of the few places free from development left.

Other brownfield site costings comparisons should be made available to public.

No evidence of the site being lower cost and proposed using brownfield sites and nature reserves is counterintuitive to Climate Change and Net Zero sustainability targets for the UK

Although I don't live locally to Cliffsend and Minster Marshes I frequently walk there with my husband. It is a beautiful, peaceful area with much varied wildlife. Given the availability of brownfield sites across Thanet and further afield it seems sacrilege to despoil such a much loved area. It makes me wonder how much of this plan is about making life easy for the developers rather than considering the impact on wildlife, biodiversity and local residents.

Mitigation needs to be upfront otherwise it's like closing the barn door after the horse has bolted.

National Grid have a serious PR opportunity win here if they not only are seen to be managing these plans sensitively but also extend mitigation into the local community eg ponds, bay boxes etc

I have enjoyed the hoverport space for over 23 years, it is also such a special piece of land for nature and its inhabitants

I saw my first ever Bee Orchid on the old hoverport. I was elated. I used to wander down there a few

times though I mostly enjoyed the country park next door. (Where I saw my only UK Large

Tortoiseshell butterfly over ten years ago). Though we moved a few miles down the road after this, I

have recently begun re-discovering Pegwell Bay and Ash Levels in particular. Just as big business has also been discovering them, but their interest is VERY different to mine!!!

I think there are far better places for it to come ashore. Thanet has not a lot of open space, with all houses going in up on good farm land.

Labour's manifesto said it would protect wetlands. National Grid's website stated that it is unsafe to build a converter station on wetland. So many lies!

Hi,

I don't live in the area., I live in Bromley. But I'm from Kent and care about the plans that will affect the area so badly.

It's hard to know what to do from here.

And also try to help my brother who will be badly affected by the Grimsby Walpole route. He lives at the Walpole end and his field is currently designated as needed for temporary construction work for the substation

So much devastation to so many lives, and terrible impacts on wildlife.

This cannot be allowed to happen, I think this is the cheapest site for National Grid to make maximum profit, they do not care about us, wildlife or the environment. Absolutely disgraceful

The Hoverport has been a go to place for my Family since we used the Hovercraft to visit France in the 1970s. More importantly it has been a place I have walked with my Mother, my Son and my Family for 35 years. The wildlife, flora and fauna matter to me. Pegwell Bay constitutes a large part of my Soul. The wild plants there have made a difference to my survival. My heritage is partly Gypsy; and the plants which grow wild there are my medicine.

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#Faversham-based over here so we do have our more than fair share of building going on...However, Minster Marshes are for wildlife as was Graveney Site out here too and too and now there is the Solar Farm instead here...I know and do accept that the solar farm project included provision for existing

wildlife though I did not visit the meetings to see the details. Anyway, marshland should NOT be built on without retaining indigenous wildlife where possible, as we all know.

Minster Marshes needs to be left alone .

This development will undoubtedly have a huge negative impact on all the flora and fauna in this area. The UK is already one of the most wildlife depleted countries in the world and this, along with several other huge developments on the Kent, Sussex and Suffolk coasts, will be another disaster for wildlife and local people.

I feel there is too many places being built in Thanet and Great Britain which has a negative impact on wildlife and the birds that we share our world with .The Marshes are a very important place for all wild life that they call home .

I do not feel that this has been given sufficient thought by The National Grid !

I feel very strongly how it will effect our area and our wildlife and general wellbeing - in areas such as Cliffs End - Sandwich and Ramsgate detrimentally.

Where is the full and frank disclosure of the reasons why NG rejected other sites already brown-field and which supports the ridiculous notion that constructing such a huge building on unstable flood plain could ever be a good idea. Particularly when it involves RAMSAR sites and SSIs - it seems they mean nothing if the company is big and powerful enough.

This is a wonderful unspoilt area holding so much wildlife and forna. SSSI site, don't forget what that stands for. Already NG in their exploratory work are churning up arable farmland. Pegwell Bay will also lose so much of the natural area it has developed into and all types of waders use this area, then when the tides in, migrate to Minster Marshes. We cannot believe this has been chosen other than cheapest. How dare you.

The hoverport is a unique environment, originally man-made and now in disuse, it's a precious space both for us and for the flora and fauna settled there. It's a peaceful and inspiring place, where the hard surfaces make it accessible for those who otherwise find it difficult or impossible to walk in nature and enjoy the coastal sands in the bay. Protected by SSSI status for the benefit of the many birds who visit and breed or overwinter here, this area is of global importance, environmentally, and deserves to be left in peace.

Green energy - yes. Destruction of greenery to facilitate it- no, especially not in densely built , minimally tree covered Thanet

The whole idea is disgusting. No consideration for the planet total arrogance.

It is disgraceful, and I consider criminal, to destroy our few remaining truly wild and beautiful areas of pristine countryside in this small island when there are obvious alternatives. You cannot put a value on these places and once ruined they cannot be recovered. These areas of countryside are of far more value to us, and future generations, than any benefits this misplaced converter station will provide. I am sickened by the thought that those elected to rule this country think so little of it.

It's Kents largest nature reserve and thanets most important. There must be alternative options chosen.

Please add any comments

Do not destroy what you cannot replace

I cannot agree that any disruption to Thanet's, and surrounding areas, remaining natural ecosystems can be a positive gain for current or future humans and other species. Preservation of this area is key for securing a place that makes the UK an improving guardian of nature. A place where human's well-being is supported by connection to nature. The price of everything and the value of nothing is lethal. I have been teaching botany at the Pegwell hover port since 2014. It is the only place that has Seablite and Goji berries growing plus a magnificent natural Sea buckthorn plantation; unmatched in the British Isles. This nature space is fully accessibility to the public which is invaluable and very rare. So

much public land has been sold off. I believe 2% of UK land remains for the public. We need this rare, historically pertinent and ecologically diverse land to be protected and not sold off to a Company looking for a cheap deal on land near to Europe.

The National Grids plans are totally detrimental for wildlife and humans.

Natural life in the area will be at risk or even destroyed. How can this be allowed!?

National Grid need to rethink their plans and choose a more suitable site. Unfortunately, they appear to hold the people of Thanet and their opinions in contempt.

They have already shown their lack of regard for our environment at works already carried out. This does not bode well for the future.

I do not want to see the hoverport used as a construction site. It is one of the rapidly declining wild areas, a wonderfully diverse space for nature and wildlife. The proposed destruction of Minster Marshes, and now this, will have such a devastating impact for the wildlife who live in these environmentally sensitive areas. And should it all go, there will be no going back; and our world will become still smaller!

The hoverport has been a significant part of my life since my move to the area in 1981. At that time the hoverport was coming to the end of its life with hovercrafts. It was amazing to reclaim the area as the port was dismantled. I taught my son to drive in the abandoned car park! As us locals reclaimed the area for walking, exploring, blackberry picking, it was clear that wildlife, migrating birds & over wintering birds were reclaiming the area. Spotting kingfisher, red shank & curlews became our family sunday challenge. We began to realise the space was a treasure trove & I have volunteered with KWT regarding the sad decline of over wintering birds in the area & I monitored sea birds & the disturbances they suffered from the every day activities of us people. Most of us locals understand the need for housing developments, energy structures & change. What we need from developers is a similar understanding that this coastal region is our home because of the beauty, the wildlife, the migrating birds, the over wintering birds, the walks, the wild spaces such as the hoverport. Many of us have struggled to protect the area from city visitors & tourists who read about the area in a sunday supplement & who dont understand the delicate balance in an environment. We realise that National Grid & Sealink are the current threat. They have been careless about the interests of the locals, careless about the existence of much valued wildlife which is treasured by us & immune to the complaints about the damage their last incursion in the area left. Please do not let there be any intrusion into Pegwell Bay & Minster Marshes. We need undisturbed habitats as we are losing so many species. We are one of the most wildlife depleted countries & us locals want to preside over the protection of this site. Surely theres an industrial site more suited to this monstrous development. Please put us locals & the country's wildlife & spaces before greater profit for National Grid. And I say that as a shareholder!

I feel that there is no excuse or reason to destroy such land that is home to so much wildlife and animal species. It is unbearable to think of such land being used for anything industrial. Many species are under threat of extinction altogether. Some are already declining. Once this area has been taken over by the 'Grid' it can never be returned to natural wildlife. I fear also that the human residents in the area will have their life compromised in a major way for ever.....

I often go birdwatching at the hoverport and take a birdwatching friend with severe mobility issues. He can access the site and enjoy the wildlife there all year round. He can't access Minster Marshes but I can and have benefited spiritually and mentally from seeing a wide range of species there including owls, harriers turtle doves and a variety of wildfowl and waders.

This whole national grid rubbish is preposterous building on a massive conservation site like Minster Marshes is totally outrageous how much more of Thanet do you want to bloody take! The wildlife in this area is so full and so diverse that it needs to be allowed to grow and develop for years to come, go and encroach on another area and leave the marshes and all its inhabitants alone you've taken enough of thanet to fill up with rubbish, don't destroy yet another beauty spot enjoyed by a hell of a lot of people!!!!

National grid needs to explore renewable energy. Focus on campaigning for solar panels on every new build

It would be utterly devastating were this to go ahead. It is an area of VITAL importance for wildlife and biodiversity, for the people of Thanet and all those who visit the area. There is nothing 'green' about this plan.

Wildlife will not get a chance to recover from the disturbance. For them, the work proposed will be like the Gazan war - the area will be decimated. The area is unique and very important nationally, and probably internationally. Which other areas have been explored? There's a whole lot of land not doing much, quite close by, formerly known as Manston airport. That could be utilised, perhaps. I'm sure there is wildlife there too, but not so much, nor so special as in the former hoverport.

Yes, this is a favourite spot for fresh air and enjoyment of people and animals. It is typical that pleasure spots are being destroyed. The whole vision for our future is wrong. Battery cars are lethal. Making batteries ruins the planet. The works at this sight will not benefit us. Just some big corporation.

I have only moved to Minster 2 years ago but being able to walk through the marshes on a regular basis, with its wonderful wild life and scenery is something I would miss terribly, the area is totally unsuitable for the proposed development by National Grid

My interest is not as a local, but as an objective observer.

I consider our countryside and coastline as a public national asset to be protected at all costs, as a means to improving our leisure opportunities, our quality of life and mental and physical well-being. I spend my free hours walking & cycling in the countryside and coasts.

This element of the project looks likely to disrupt a delicate ecosystem which provides sanctuary for large numbers of endangered species. There has to be a better way!

I also consider our wildlife and biodiversity loss 70% in 50 years as a national crisis and potential to impact our food chain. This would have a far greater impact than an energy crisis, although both need to be avoided if possible.

My concerns are that NG are not taking a holistic enough stance in their appraisals.

Too many projects are oversized, with massive impacts on our natural environment. There needs to be a pause and reflect moment to look at alternative ways of generating and distributing energy, preferably at source, and using rooftop solar, brownfield BESS and minimising size of overland destructive pylons with their associated health risks.

PLEASE RETHINK!

I hope that the National Grid will take into consideration all the points made by the people of Thanet and that also by Sir Roger Gale. Thanet is already overwhelmed by the building of new houses. Our land is being [REDACTED] by concrete and the proposal by the National Grid will be if it goes ahead another nail in the coffin for our beautiful fields and wildlife and also our mental health.

I think it is appalling that these nature sites are being considered for industrial development. Nature and their habitats are being squeezed too aggressively and all in such quick succession (vast swathes of agricultural and green land for housing, roads and green energy parks, etc) all across Thanet, Kent and beyond; nature does not have the chance to breath or re-establish itself before the next development starts. Government needs to open its eyes and not allow this construction to take place on such crucial land for our wildlife. upllo

Here in Thanet we are faced with exceptional decrease of open spaces due to the amount of house building. The infrastructure was already struggling before building began. Local roads are currently regularly congested even before all the new developments are completed. The people of Thanet are feeling totally hemmed in already by a concrete jungle and taking away even more of our open spaces will impact on our health in the long run.

This is all separate from the destruction of nature areas, the wildlife is going to be decimated. My wife and I feel the seal population will come to harm and also the many bird species. Pegwell Bay and the Minster marshes are loved by so many people and wildlife alike.

No one agrees with the National Grid proposal.

Our wildlife is going to be obliterated and the marsh is no place for this proposal.

99% certain the Government will make sure this goes ahead regardless of what the Inspection Committee reports.

I think that covering places like marshland and other important beauty spots are very damaging to our disappearing countryside. Other ways such as putting solar panels etc onto buildings would be much more sensible

I am no longer physically able to access these areas, but in the past I have enjoyed their serenity, wildness and thriving birds and wildlife. They must be preserved for future generations to respect, enjoy and be thankful.

We in Thanet have had years and years of development which impacts our daily lives constantly. Pegwell and Minster marshes offers green spaces to relax walk and observe wildlife, it would be an absolute disaster in my opinion if this development is allowed to go ahead.

The location of the sea-link cables and pipe and pylons, sub station and holding of vehicles for maintenance on the hoverport site is all wholly inappropriate - when you consider this is a salt marsh with a thin crust which underneath is like 'blancmange' and it is a widely diverse and rich habitat for wildlife, bird life and human environment therapy. Please don't use the land in this way. Bird decline is serious in the UK and so is nature depletion. This land is a flood plain. Doh

Too much natural habitats are being ruined with many wildlife being evicted .
It's supposed to be the garden of England.
I love walking along here and seeing all the birds and wildlife.