From:
 South East Anglia Link

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South East Anglia Case Team National Infrastructure Planning

Submission

10/11/2025

Re Sea Link Project (SouthEast Anglia)

For seven years from 2018 myself the people Friston dedicated their time, energies and money fighting against the destruction of their village. As part of the campaign group SASES (Substation Action Save East Suffolk) the focus was on stopping SPR's building of the substation at Friston recognising that, if built, the substation would be the key point for several more major electrical energy infrastructure programmes, a factor not properly considered during the skewed planning process. This fear has now been realised. The village and surrounding area is now confronted by Lion Link, Sea Link and a vast solar farm all requiring the build of huge converter stations and cable corridors to enable connection to the UK high-voltage grid, plans initiated by National Grid.

The challenge to the SPR planning application came at not insignificant cost, financially, emotionally, physically and socially to those on SASES and the residents of the village. From 2017 to the present time, the outlook for the villagers of Friston has changed from one of stable rurality to one of unsettled concern. This insecurity has resulted in loss in health, financial security and tragically death by suicide. Facing even more years of disruption from the latest plans submitted by Sea Link is a distressing prospect and a bleak outlook for those who live in this tiny village. It is a cruel and unfair body that can look at the overall picture and contemplate even more destruction to this community. This Project must not be given the green light tothe go ahead the Inspectors must take into consideration the cumulative effect yet another large development will have on Friston adding further distress to an already dispirited community.

E C Thomas