

RICHARD BODEK

SUBMISSION TO PLANNING INSPECTORATE –
OPEN FLOOR HEARING Thursday 6th November 2025

NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION

APPLICATION FOR ORDER GRANTING
DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR THE SEALINK
PROJECT

My name is Richard Bodek and I live at North Warren – close to the proposed cable route of SEALINK heading across from Aldeburgh towards Friston & Saxmundam.

We moved here permanently in January 2020 for a quiet retirement phase of life in a rural setting with wildlife / moderate traffic / dark skies / closer to nature

We knew of Sizewell and Scottish Power schemes – but NOT the National Grid Schemes !

Of course we are here today to talk about Sealink it is impossible to consider this in isolation because of what is already happening on the Energy Coast – SIZEWELL & SCOTTISH POWER PLUS THE OTHERS in consultation and planning stages : SEALINK / LIONLINK / FRISTON POWERHUB / SUFFOLK WATER SCHEME FOR SIZEWELL

SO AM I BEING A NIMBY? – MORE LEARNED INDIVIDUALS THAN I TELL ME THAT I AM NOT BECAUSE I AM NOT SAYING DO NOT HAVE ENERGY SCHEMES – I AM SAYING THERE ARE ALTERNATIVE OFFSHORE SOLUTIONS AND BROWNFIELD INDUSTRIALISE SITES

AT A CONSULTATION MEETING IN ALDEBURGH I ASKED A NATIONAL GRID REPRESENTATIVE WHY OFFSHORE OPTIONS WERE NOT BEING LOOKED AT – HIS SURPRISING RESPONSE WAS THAT THEY HAD NOT BEEN ASKED TO LOOK AT SUCH OPTIONS !

My Observations are

CUMULATIVE IMPACT –

Suffolk Coastal MP Jenny Riddell Carpenter recently commented at Westminster :

“ A remarkable lack of co-ordination / no attempt to plan for cumulative impact / area of the country mostly served by B roads and country lanes / remarkable that developers are being allowed to bring forward these proposals when off-shore alternatives could easily have been considered”

TOURISM – major employer in this part of the world !

Visitors are already shocked by the Sizewell impact – will they come back again –

Tourism/ Hospitality is a major employer on the East Coast of Suffolk

TRAFFIC & TRAVEL

Thousands of heavy vehicle movements / Our roads are constantly being diverted / journeys are slower – it is stressful and constantly changing.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Existing energy schemes are already causing stress and anxiety – let alone the anxiety of what the next 2 or maybe 3 schemes will add.

Where we live is being changed hugely – and it feels like we have no control over it – it is being “ done to us”

It is genuinely depressing !

WILDLIFE

AONBs & SSIs being carved up

22,000 trees reportedly felled so far to build SizewellC

Of course new ones being planted to replace – but how long to become mature – assuming they are watered?

Wildlife being forced to move – deer being displaced / migration routes disrupted

Behind our own paddock – Turtle Doves return every year. Disruption threatens this “ at risk “ species.

Does anyone care ?

Rutting stags in the fields behind us – where will they go?

In conclusion – IT IS TOO MUCH IN ONE SMALL AREA !

PLEASE DO NOT GRANT APPROVAL FOR SEALINK
– THERE ARE BETTER ALTERNATIVES