

We moved to the village of Friston because it offered beautiful surrounding countryside, walks through peaceful areas of outstanding natural beauty, and the general tranquility and dark skies of an idyllic village, a place we had planned for a calming retirement. This has all changed dramatically and is set to get much worse. We were aware of the plans for a substation, but at an early public meeting we were shown drawings with a small rectangle in a huge field as the proposed site. Since then the actual size of the project with the associated additions has become apparent, and has grown well beyond what was projected to us, and is now encroaching on neighbouring villages and towns. Had the sheer size of it been truthfully announced originally, we are convinced that the public outcry would have been far greater, and Friston would not have been fighting the plans on its own initially. We feel this is a deliberate lack of transparency. The actual size of the substations, converter stations and cable trenching should have been obvious to residents of all affected areas right from the start, and even now due to the piecemeal approach of planning permissions people still aren't clear of the full projects size.

Aside from the surrounding devastation Sizewell C has caused, we now have the needless destruction of farmland and countryside in Friston itself. Trees

and hedgerows have been ripped up, wildlife has clearly been displaced and is now being seen close to human habitation. Footpaths have been closed. The noise in the village now of construction is invasive, and construction traffic is navigating unsuitable roads even though there are supposed to be restrictions in place to stop this. This shows a complete lack of empathy towards the locals.

Villagers' mental health is being affected because of the noise and disruption and the uncertainty of what is coming next, in fact we have lost a member of our community to suicide as a direct result. We have noise and air pollution from the construction so far, and we are set to get light pollution as the projects progress. This all has an effect on villagers wellbeing.

The risk to flooding is being increased and gets worse with each added on project. Taking away even more natural soakaways like fields and wooded areas could mean more water flowing into the village. You cannot mitigate for ancient woodlands. This area is reliant on farming and tourism. The more countryside you destroy, the less visitors we have coming to the area. We have already had it first hand from holidaymakers who have said they will not return as the devastation is too upsetting, and the increased traffic to reach the area is causing too many problems.

There is no escape for the locals either, we can't even sell up and move away if we wanted to because houses aren't selling. We have friends who want to move away because of the planned works, but they have been unable to sell their house in over two years that it's been on the market. We have seen huge areas of farmland that have been crop yielding for decades, taken over and destroyed forever. This lack of food supply will not be compensated for in other areas, farmland cannot be magicked out of nothing, new fields don't suddenly appear in our landscape, so where will the food come from in the future? It's all well and good excusing these power projects as helping the UK to be self sufficient, but if that is at the cost of food for the nation then that argument is null and void. The countryside that is being dug up and destroyed will never be replaced, and we cannot afford any more to be taken, we need our farmland. This is another logical reason that the offshore option is better, we keep our crop fields, our wildlife, our tourism, and our livelihoods. This small area is totally unsuitable for projects of this size, and as there are better, less damaging alternatives available, I urge you to do the right thing and deny this application.