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Even though i crossed out lots of what i wanted to say, I still ran out of time. So here is a whole lot more of my thoughts about SeaLink, as with most people up here I have a lot of [REDACTED] about simply getting around and the way, along with the animals, we dont know whats happening ..

This summer, the beach at Sizewell has had a rich layer of warm yellow sand. Its only recently that I realised it has been washed down from the eroding cliffs at Thorpeness, which lost 3 meters to the sea this year. I was walking there, looking at the Sizewell C cranes on the beach and met my neighbour. “Have you heard that bird? she said. “It goes on and on all blooming night and it won't shut up”. I recorded it and looked it up, it's a Nightingale, we have never had them in the trees here before. In fact there were about 6 nightingales calling each other, displaced from the 24,000 trees that have been cut down for Sizewell C. Ditto with the turtle doves.. my neighbour spotted 5 in the woods by her place. As for the deer.. seen at strange times looking really confused as more Harris fencing blocks their routes. You would not believe the increase in roadkill as the wildlife are pushed from pillar to post. Badgers, foxes, hares I went up an incline and was shocked to see 8 hooves sticking out of the verge.. they belonged to 2 massive Red Deer, killed by a car. These very rare birds and deer do not just live at Minsmere, they live across this area and their habitat is being systematically blown up, as is ours.

The cumulative impact of so many NSIP products in this area is totally overwhelming. We all spend our lives asking .. shall I go? Shall I stay? Lots of people are trying to go, it's too much.. It is already difficult for me to get out of the area I live in, even more difficult for friends and family to get INTO the area. The Traffic, the roadworks, the 30 mph speed limit across the area, the lack of clarity as to whether roads are closed at night all make getting around difficult. When all these projects are going on, when the council starts their £63 million upgrade to the A12 from Woodbridge to Ipswich, when they start building 800 houses and roundabout on the A12 at Saxmundham, when the whole 20 mile radius from Sizewell is having to travel at 30mph, when there are traffic lights every 500 yards and every road is clogged up with traffic at a standstill, what hope for the emergency services ferrying patients to hospital ? We have a small cottage hospital in Aldeburgh but we do not even have a small emergency service in this area and given what is going on, with the ageing population, we ought to have that at the very least.

Just coming home from Framlingham I had to take a 5 mile detour as the A12 was closed at Friday Street. Although Sizewell C has a works tracker that is useful it doesn't - and won't - show the roadworks for Scottish Power or National Grid. There is a website called “causeway one network” that registers all roadworks nationally but it's not very user friendly, even less so on the road with the terrible mobile network round here.

Last week we heard of yet another NSIP project in the area and of the County Councils plan to spend 63million pounds upgrade the A12. In reply to someone on Social Media who accused us of being NIMBYs, I posed the question “ What NSIPs are on your doorstep?” and “at what point are people allowed to say thats enough?” I then listed all of the projects recently completed and current that are on our doorstep.

Sizewell A

Sizewell B

Sizewell C + D

Greater Gabbard

Galloper

Scottish Power Anglia 1

Scottish Power Anglia 1 North

Scottish Power Anglia 2

Scottish Power Anglia 3

Suffolk Water Recycling, Transfer and Storage Project

Solar and Battery farms near Yoxford

62 Million upgrade to the A12

800 houses in Saxmundham with Giant Industrial buildings by the A12 and a new roundabout on the A12 above Saxmundham

Hundreds of new houses in Leiston, Framlingham and so on.

On top of all of those, possibly also Sealink, Lionlink - and Nautilus which at the moment has moved to the Isle of Grain.

We hear a lot in the press about how local NIMBYS are holding up the developments that are so necessary for the country to upgrade, modernise, move forward but we do not hear much about the way in which private companies like Scottish Power and National Grid have coshed local areas, manipulated and forced their way in - aided and abetted by government turning a blind eye to their flawed plans and obvious disinterest in local concern. I was glad to see an article in the Telegraph on Nov 24th “The Power companies cashing in on Miliband’s net zero blitz” which listed National Grids profits at £810 million. I hope that the inspectors will bear this profit level in mind when National Grid plead that the things that the inspectorate want from them cost too much to implement...National Grid have clearly managed to plead poverty to Ofgem - who have already advanced them 48% of the upfront costs already - but that doesn’t mean that the substation should go in Saxmundham!

It is really clear to me, from the way National Grid are piggybacking on the back of Sizewell C for information, accommodation and transportation that they are already saving a great deal of money by not having to do a lot of work investigating locally.

I would say its not too much to tell National Grid to move their plan to the Leiston Airfield, it would save them a great deal of money as they would not have to renovate the Benhall Bridge and, (with their close relationship with Sizewell C,) for most of the route from the A12 they could use the new haul road that Sizewell C is building south of Yoxford for all the HGVs and traffic.

I tried to contact National Grid to get some idea of how many people their project would bring into the area; I never get an answer, nobody to call so I had to look it up. Al says that each project supports 3500 jobs. Is that how many people are coming here for each project? Where on earth are the logistics for housing, feeding and transporting these people to site? The repercussions for us as well as a knock on for Sizewell C logistics are huge; We have heard nothing.

How on earth can National Grids consultations, with their closed ended questions be considered adequate consultation with local people?

We have had so many different but similar consultations we are dizzy but we are no longer confused and we are furious at the level of stealth and lack of consideration for the day to day lives of the people that live here - as shown particularly by Scottish Power and National Grid Ventures who do their best not to liase with us at all. It is quite clear that the site has always been considered for 3 projects and we have had to endure lookalike consultation after consultation which pretend to be totally separate projects, and which make the excuse that they are separate to excuse any examination of the cumulative effect.

If you really HAVE to put this SEALINK substation in the Sizewell area, co-located with 2 other 45 meter. high substations, lit at night with gantry and the usual fencing, WHY is being mooted for the highest piece of land for miles around, an open piece of land, separated by a narrow belt of trees from houses. Travelling along the road - from either direction- forces you to look straight into the field and at the substations. Nothing can improve the visuals of a 26 meter high structure in this position, let alone 3 of them. the area around the Leiston Airfield would be much better positioning, or even the other side of the road would be much less visible.

From a purely practical point of view, the B1119 is a main road out to the A12 for the 6000 residents of Leiston and workers at Sizewell A, B and C. Buses between Sizewell C's Southern Park and Ride and several Sizewell C sites use it, its a busy road. I don't know how many people Sizewell C expect to use the train but the bus will be making a stop in Saxmundham for people travelling from the station. Do the buses come over the Benhall Bridge?

The 4 way lights at the junction between the High Street (B1121) and Church Street (B1119) struggles to cope now.. Traffic leaving Waitrose and

the Tesco at the bottom of the hill is often backed up round the car parks; Traffic trying to leave the area from Sizewell is often backed up to the top of the hill. That's not likely to improve when they are building 800 houses in Saxmundham nor when the Sizewell C buses are shipping in thousands of people each day via that road. Presumably in order to beef up the Benhall Bridge to be able to take the transformers, that access to the A12 will need to be closed to traffic. This will seriously impact on all residents as well as workers at Sizewell C - the traffic fumes, the extra time needed to negotiate getting through Saxmundham, the extra traffic trying to avoid it by going through the countryside.... the repercussions are enormous.

Just a quick word about the A12.. I have noticed at night that every lay-by is full of parked HGVs and the big shopping complex at the Copdock interchange with the A14 is parked up with HGVs too.. the road is becoming quite dangerous.

We have done our best to tell you why this is not the right area for this Sealink project, or the other National Grid ones; we have done our best to show you in a hundred different ways how overwhelmed we are already by what is happening with the works for Sizewell C. At what point are National Grid, Scottish Power and all the other energy bandits going to turn their focus from the challenge of 'how can we force our way into this area' and 'how can we phrase a question to getting the answer we want' to looking at more practical options much closer to London.

What is clear from National Grid's latest newsletter, is that Sealink has been designed alongside Lion Link and yet, at the issue specific hearings in November, National Grid was unable to provide pictures of what the 2 substations would look like on the proposed site. The pictures were available earlier on, why, when you are considering the cumulative impact do they come without them? Also in this newsletter, National Grid say "With Sizewell C we are exploring the possibility of sharing their Park and Ride and accommodation facilities to reduce local impacts". That's an interesting idea when accommodation is already a huge issue in the area as are cars... again, by piggybacking onto Sizewell C's work they are saving a lot of money - if they do come here, please could the inspectors make a ruling that their contractors and workers are under the same codes of conduct locally as the Sizewell C workers and that they are enforced by Sizewell C (who would need to be paid by them)? Sizewell C have done a lot of work to make themselves acceptable to us and take our concerns quite seriously.. they have a multitude of rules that their workers have to sign up to which help ensure that we are not totally run over and that things like the carparks in Saxmundham train station are not filled by their workers cars. The Sizewell C office is very quick to deal with complaints about both their workers and

contractors but have no ability to control the conduct of workers for other projects. They are now making their HGV drivers have a notice in the front of their cabs indicating that they are working for Sizewell C because they have had to field a lot of complaints - HGVs speeding, cars speeding through Leiston and flicking V signs at parents crossing the road with prams - which on investigation are vehicles belonging to workers at other energy projects.

It is difficult to know what sort of information will help you to make a ruling but thank you for reading my thoughts. Im not an electricity expert, I do not pretend to understand the needs of the energy sector and though I support all that SEAS and SAND say it seems that this way has been decided on. I do think though that the siting of the substation just outside Saxmundham is really unnecessary, unwieldy, unsightly and is going to make problems for everyone, including all the workers at Sizewell C . I see how they save costs but the knock on of that is that everyone else's costs go UP as they're forced to accommodate National Grid choosing such an insane place.